



HAMILTON COUNTY, TENNESSEE

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY MAYOR

WESTON WAMP

For Immediate Release

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Hamilton County Secures \$248,000 to Expand Youth Employment Program

HAMILTON COUNTY, TN (June 25, 2025) — Hamilton County has been awarded \$248,113 by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development to expand its growing Youth Employment Program. The funding will support paid internships and job placements for local students and young adults beginning this summer.

“Youth employment programs have proven to be effective in preparing the next generation for the workforce,” said Hamilton County Mayor Weston Wamp. “We’re grateful for the state’s continued commitment to youth across our state, and proud to be the only county government in Tennessee providing valuable job experiences to high school and college students through this program.”

Last year, Hamilton County’s Youth Employment Program connected more than 130 students—from high schools, colleges, and universities across the county—with real-world work experience, distributing over \$270,000 in wages. Participants can earn up to \$3,500 in the program while developing career skills that last a lifetime. Hamilton County remains the only local government in Tennessee participating in the Governor’s Youth Employment Initiative as an employer—making the program a model for youth workforce development across the state.

Administered by Hamilton County’s Department of Economic and Community Development, the program is driven by partnerships with local employers, educational institutions, and county departments. Internship opportunities span sectors including Development Services, Health, and Economic Development.

Hamilton County is working to recruit young people ages 16–24 for part-time, paid internships up to 25 hours per week. Participants will receive job coaching, résumé support, and workplace readiness training. Local employers are encouraged to join the effort and will be reimbursed for youth wages.

To get involved or apply, email Jennifer Thurman at JThurman@hamiltontn.gov.