

PLEDGE FORM 2026

We need your help to build the workforce of the future and close the employment gap.

The Empowerment Network and City of Omaha, in collaboration with community partners, provide opportunities for youth and young adults to gain valuable job training, work experience, career exposure, life skills training, and leadership development during the summer and throughout the year. Step-Up Omaha recruits, trains, and places Omaha youth and young adults ages 14 to 21 in meaningful career exploration, internships, and employment opportunities that benefit both participants and employers.

We are working to connect 700 to 800 youth and young adults to opportunities this summer and beyond. Employers and partners include nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, government agencies, small businesses, and large corporations. Your investment helps strengthen Omaha's talent pipeline and creates real opportunities for young people to build confidence, skills, and career readiness.

Here are four ways you can invest in this initiative:

- ▶ Hire participants and provide a high-quality work experience.
- ▶ Provide paid work experience opportunities that are fully or partially subsidized.
- ▶ Sponsor participants financially if you are unable to host them directly.
- ▶ Make a general financial contribution to support the initiative.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

<i>Name</i>	<i>Organization</i>
_____	_____
<i>Title</i>	<i>Department</i>
_____	_____
<i>Work Phone</i>	<i>Cell Phone</i>
_____	_____
<i>Address</i>	<i>Email Address</i>
_____	_____
<i>City</i>	<i>State / Zip</i>
_____	_____
<i>Primary Contact for Follow-Up</i>	<i>Best Time to Reach You</i>
_____	_____

Organization Type:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-profit | <input type="checkbox"/> Education / School | <input type="checkbox"/> Government Agency |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business | <input type="checkbox"/> Foundation / Funder | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Has your organization previously participated in the Step-Up Omaha program? **Yes** **No**

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Age Group	Current Program Structure
Ages 14–15	Career exploration and job-readiness track. Participants remain at their assigned training partner site for the full 9-week program and earn a stipend of \$10 per hour for 20 hours per week.
Ages 16–21	Two weeks of work-readiness training followed by seven weeks of worksite placement. Participants earn a \$10 per hour stipend during the first two weeks and \$15 per hour during weeks 3–9, for up to 20 hours per week.

Approximate sponsorship values based on the current program model:

Sponsorship Option	Per Participant	Examples
Ages 14–15 Career Exploration	\$1,800 each	5 = \$9,000 10 = \$18,000 25 = \$45,000
Ages 16–21 Work Experience / Employment	\$2,500 each	5 = \$12,500 10 = \$25,000 25 = \$62,500

PLEDGE OPTIONS

1. We will hire participants through Step-Up Omaha and pay them directly.

Number of positions: _____

Type of position(s): _____

Preferred age group(s): _____

Hourly rate: \$ _____

Work schedule / shift(s): _____

2. We are unable to host participants directly, but we would like to sponsor youth and young adults.

Ages 14–15 sponsorship amount: \$ _____

Ages 16–21 sponsorship amount: \$ _____

Total sponsorship commitment: \$ _____

3. We would like to make a general financial contribution toward the initiative.

Contribution amount: \$ _____

4. Please contact us to discuss the Step-Up Omaha initiative and partnership options.

Recommended organizations or businesses we should contact:

Additional notes:

Return completed form to: Step-Up Omaha c/o The Empowerment Network, 2401 Lake Street, Suite 110, Omaha, NE 68110

Email: info@stepupomaha.com **Phone:** (402) 502-5153

Checks payable to: The Empowerment Network **Memo:** Step-Up Omaha

A Partial List of Current and Past Participants, Contributors, and Sponsors

100 Black Men	American Family Insurance	American National Bank
Aqua-Africa	AT&T	Bank of the West
BDM Windows	Bellevue University	Bemis Center
Benson Plant Rescue	Big Mama's Kitchen	Black Bottom Biscotti
Blue Cross Blue Shield	C. B. Washington Branch Library	Charles Drew Health Center
CHI Health	City Sprouts	City of Omaha
ConAgra Brands	Cox Communications	Creighton University
Dairy Queen	Davis Companies	Douglas County Treasurer's
ENCAP	Family Housing Advisory Services	First Data
Habitat for Humanity	Heartland Workforce Solutions	Hilton Hotels
Holland Foundation	Holy Name Housing	Hope Center for Kids
Jimmy Johns	Kaplan University	Kelly's Detail
KETV	KMTV	Life Care
Lindsay Manufacturing	Lozier Foundation	Max I Walker
Methodist Hospital	MCC	Mutual of Omaha
National Park Service	OEDC	Obama Foundation/MBK
Omaha Fire Dept.	Omaha Minority Community Dev. Corp.	Omaha Police Department
Omaha Public Schools	Omaha Star	Omaha Steaks
Peter Kiewit Foundation	Physicians Mutual	Pinnacle Bank
Salem Baptist Church	Salvation Army	Security National Bank
South Omaha Business Association	Taco Johns	Turning Point
UNMC	UPS	Union Pacific
Urban League of Nebraska	Weitz Foundation	Wells Fargo Bank
Walgreens	Woodmen Life	