

JA 4E FAIR FOR CENTRAL INDIANA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

GRANTEE

**JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT
OF CENTRAL INDIANA**

INVESTMENT

\$5,000

- + Improves Quality of Life
- + Increases Talent Retention
- + Increases Talent Development
- + Increases Workforce Development
- + Engages Business to Positively Impact Communities
- + Connects Talent
- + Encourages Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- + Promotes Inclusive Programming
- + Supports Regional Collaboration
- + Supports Discovering Career Pathways for Students

Project Overview: Through experiential learning programs that combine engaging curriculum with hands-on experiences for K-12 students, Junior Achievement of Central Indiana (JA) educates and inspires young people in the areas of work and career readiness, employability/life skills, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy, building the skillsets and mindsets needed to pursue and achieve their dreams.

The Economic and Community Development Council invested \$5,000 to support the JA 4E Fair. The JA 4E Fair is an interactive work-based learning experience for high school students that exposes teens to four post-secondary pathways (Employment, Enrollment, Enlistment, and Entrepreneurship). JA 4E Fair helps students find their next steps in life by bringing together information about colleges, careers, military service, and entrepreneurship opportunities in central Indiana. Students will explore their future pathways through classroom curriculum, followed by a one-day experience at their school that allows them to examine their interests and talents.

Employment: Students have direct access to 35+ local employers who are looking to hire high school students immediately following graduation. Employers share applications for open positions, company salaries, interview students for open positions, and provide access to their site for more information.

Enrollment: Students explore what it takes to enroll and pay for an Indiana-based college or university in addition to learning about trade programs and certification courses for continued education.

Enlistment: Students discover enlistment opportunities in one of the branches of the US military.

Entrepreneurship: Students learn to transform their ideas into concise, effective, and actionable plans from local entrepreneurs. Students develop a mindset that enables opportunity identification, innovation, and value creation. They learn the principles, strategies, and skills through the experiences of others and apply them to their own lives.

A unique aspect of JA high school programs is that the curriculum and on-site experience is embedded in the school day, therefore ensuring access for all students. Furthermore, students, nor schools pay for the materials and resources provided.