Who: Youth, Amiyah Brown, Semaj Merryman, Daniel Herrera, and Priscilla Hernandez, were supported by Compton YouthBuild Leadership Development Coordinator, Derrick Ayson.

What: The team developed and led a 6-hour workshop on safety in the workplace at their local adult school.

What worked: Using activities from the YWLA academy and youngworkers.org website helped the team plan their workshop. After the workshop, they received a lot of positive feedback from their participants.

What we’d change: The team would spend more time practicing and speaking in front of a group. The team would also brainstorm potential challenges beforehand.

“The YWLA has taught me that we have laws to protect us and gave me enough knowledge to share to other teens who don’t know what to do who have been harassed or those who don’t have proper training. I would love to do this again so more people my age know.”

- Amiyah Brown
Who: Youth, Valeria Elizalde, Enrique Molina, Kevin Torres, and Andrea Sanchez, were supported by Garfield High School teacher, Erica Huerta.

What: The team led a presentation about safety in the workplace.

What Worked: The YWLA helped the teens have a clearer idea of what they would like to do with the project and the stipend allowed the group to prepare for their project.

What We’d Change: The team would begin implementing their ideas as soon as possible after YWLA.

“It is really important for young workers to know their rights, especially in the workplace where your only goal is to make money. The YWLA is the place for you to understand those rights and absorb a lot of information about young workers working.”

- Kevin Torres
Who: Youth, Gisselle Ruiz, Maria Cuentas, Catalina Perez, and Lindsey Hashimoto, were supported by North Monterey County High School staff, Araceli Cuentas and Felicia Nance.

What: The team created a workshop for working teens. They invited 71 students with work permits to do a presentation that used the “Are You A Working Teen?” factsheet and activities such as Hazard Mapping, Jeopardy, Find the Hazards, and the Work Permit Quiz.

What Worked: The team used activities from the YWLA and the young worker website (youngworkers.org) to plan their workshop and used their stipend to purchase prizes for participants. Meeting frequently helped ensure that the project was executed properly.

What We’d Change: Even though the team provided their participants with the “Are You A Working Teen” factsheet, next time they would do a 5-minute presentation on it to emphasize its importance.

“The YWLA was a great experience. My favorite part was that I was able to grow as a leader as well as learn about workers’ rights. As a young worker, this learning experience has led me with a more open mind.”

- Maria Cuentas
Who: Youth, Denise Hernandez-Garcia, Jaime Hernandez-Garcia, Cecilia Medina, and Cassandra Navarro, were supported by Norte Vista High School staff, Monserrat Torres Garcia.

What: The team developed and led a presentation for their NoVi Dreamers Club about young workers rights in the workplace, and included a pre and post workshop survey.

What Worked: The participants were engaged in the presentation, and the pre-post surveys worked well.

What We’d Change: The team would schedule the workshop at a time when there are not conflicting activities.

“I got there as an empty book and left with 1000 pages of knowledge.”

-Jaime Hernandez-Garcia
Santa Ynez School
Santa Ynez, CA

Who: Youth, Lukas Jared, Jennifer Ruiz, Valentine Valentine, and Oscar Rodriguez, were supported by Santa Ynez School teacher, Ronnie Tow.

What: The team conducted a workshop for two grade levels in their Avid class by passing out the “Are You A Working Teen” factsheet to the students one day and then the next class period led a presentation on the information. Their presentation included a pre-post assessment, icebreakers, and a game of Jeopardy.

What Worked: The Jeopardy game and icebreakers engaged participants.

What We’d Change: The team would pick a larger classroom, so there would be more space.

“The academy was an amazing experience, because I got to meet new people and learn about young workers rights on the job.”

-Oscar Rodriguez