CAREER DISCOVERY INITIATIVE

CHARTING THE PATH FROM HIGH SCHOOL TO CAREERS

Many students struggle to connect what they learn in the classroom with a meaningful career after graduation, either because they aren't aware of what careers are out there or because they don't see people who look like them in those fields. **32% of young people won't attend college**, and programs like this give them the opportunity to explore career options. Each year, Menomonee Valley Partners works with businesses to connect **300 high school students** to meaningful careers through several initiatives:

- **Valley Career Days** bring junior high and high school students to various businesses in the Menomonee River Valley to tour manufacturing and STEM workplaces and learn about opportunities with business practitioners.

- **Young Women in STEM** provides young women in high school with one-on-one mentorship from women currently working in STEM in the Menomonee River Valley and encourages them towards STEM careers.

- **Service Learning Opportunities** host high school students at various companies in the Menomonee River Valley, where they spend a week working with IT professionals and creating projects about what they learned to share with their classmates.

The initiative partners with Milwaukee schools and Menomonee River Valley businesses to:

- Build awareness of jobs in the Valley and develop a workforce pipeline
- Highlight women and people of color in positions at Valley companies
- Help students connect in-class learning to careers
- Support teachers with access to career-oriented experiences

Contact Catrina@TheValleyMKE.org to learn how you can get involved.

*U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

*https://edsource.org/2015/survey-most-high-school-students-feel-unprepared-for-college-careers/83752