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MAYOR ROGERS ANNOUNCES SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT & ENRICHMENT PROGRAM

With summer quickly approaching, Mayor Riley H. Rogers announced the initiation of an ambitious program aimed at helping youth throughout the South Suburbs.

The "50/20 Youth Employment and Enrichment Program" will provide jobs and life-skills training for 50 young people between the ages of 16 and 24.

"If the youth don't have anything to do, they will find something to do, and it might not always be good, so we want to provide them with as many positive things to become involved in as possible," said Mayor Rogers.

The "50/20" program offers 20-hour per week summer jobs to fifty youth. The Village of Dolton invested $80,000 in the "50/20" program and many business owners, political leaders and civic organizations have expressed their desire to support the program in a variety of ways. Additional funding from community partners will enable the program to grow in a way that will impact even more youth and their communities in the future.

"Many times, youth programs only target those who are considered the high achievers, however this program also provides opportunities for youth who are often considered 'at-risk.' They deserve to have access to resources and training that will benefit them as well," Mayor Rogers added.

Youth involved in the program will receive training in civic leadership, job skills and conflict resolution. Additionally resources will be available through a variety of community-based organizations and several companies are providing internship opportunities.