

Partnership between Fort Street Church and Ruth Ellis Center Continues

Fort Street recently hosted an event that acknowledged and celebrated the completion of a six-week summer internship for LGBTQ teens. This program, conducted by the Ruth Ellis Center, included structured sessions on financial literacy, employment coaching, African American history, professionalism, meditation, and problem solving.

The Center's goals include providing an intensively supportive first-time employment experience that combines informed care with typical work environment expectations and the practice of transferable skills that LGBTQ youth of color can use as they move forward in their education and work.

Often these teens find themselves in a position where they have nowhere to go to find supportive people and programs. The Ruth Ellis Center fills that need, especially when their world is filled with judgment and rejection.

Judging by the reaction of the youth when they were called up individually to receive their certificate of completion, this internship experience provided a beacon of light in their lives. It was also evident that the supportive efforts of the Ruth Ellis Center staff made a definitely positive impact on the lives of these teens.

Fort Street's Member Development Committee is proud to continue it's outreach with the Ruth Ellis Center.

Submitted by Kathy Payne

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