**Carol Rivchun**

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Carol Rivchun is President of Youth Opportunities Unlimited, a 28 year old non-profit organization that designs and implements workforce preparation services for at-risk youth, ages 14-24, in-school and out-of-school, in the cities of Cleveland, East Cleveland, and in pockets of poverty around Cuyahoga County. Last year Y.O.U. provided services to over 4,500 youth, providing summer jobs and programs that motivate youth to stay in school through to high school graduation. The organization has won the prestigious Annisfield Wolf Award. Over the years, almost 150,000 youth have been placed in jobs and received the employability skills they need to be successful in the world of work. These youth have earned an estimated $43 million in Northeast Ohio.

In business and non-profit circles Carol is a well-known facilitator, consultant and featured speaker. She has received the Northern Ohio Live Rainmakers Award, Woman of Achievement Award from the YWCA; the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Award from Israel Bonds, and is in Beachwood School’s Distinguished Alumni Gallery of Excellence.

Carol had been at the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, first spending 8 years in COSE, the Council of Smaller Enterprises, then 5 years as Vice President of Marketing and Communications. While at COSE, she worked with the board and hundreds of volunteers to build the Small Business Development Center, providing free counseling and training programs for start-up and expanding businesses: the Strategic Planning Course, COSE’s Entrepreneurship Conference, the Business Planning Course, and COSE’s Sales Training Program. Under Carol’s leadership COSE’s education programs grew to become one of the largest and best know schools for entrepreneurs in the U.S. at that time. With professors from Baldwin-Wallace and The Ohio State University, she wrote the textbook *Women-Owned Businesses* (Praeger 1989). She is an adjunct Field Instructor of Case Western Reserve’s Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences. .

Carol Rivchun has bachelors and masters degrees from the University of Michigan. Current boards: Vice Chair of the Board of the Jobs for Ohio’s Graduates, a statewide organization; President of the United Way of Greater Cleveland Council of Agency Executives; a member of United Way’s Board of Trustees and Executive Committee; she serves on the board of the Jewish Federation of Cleveland.