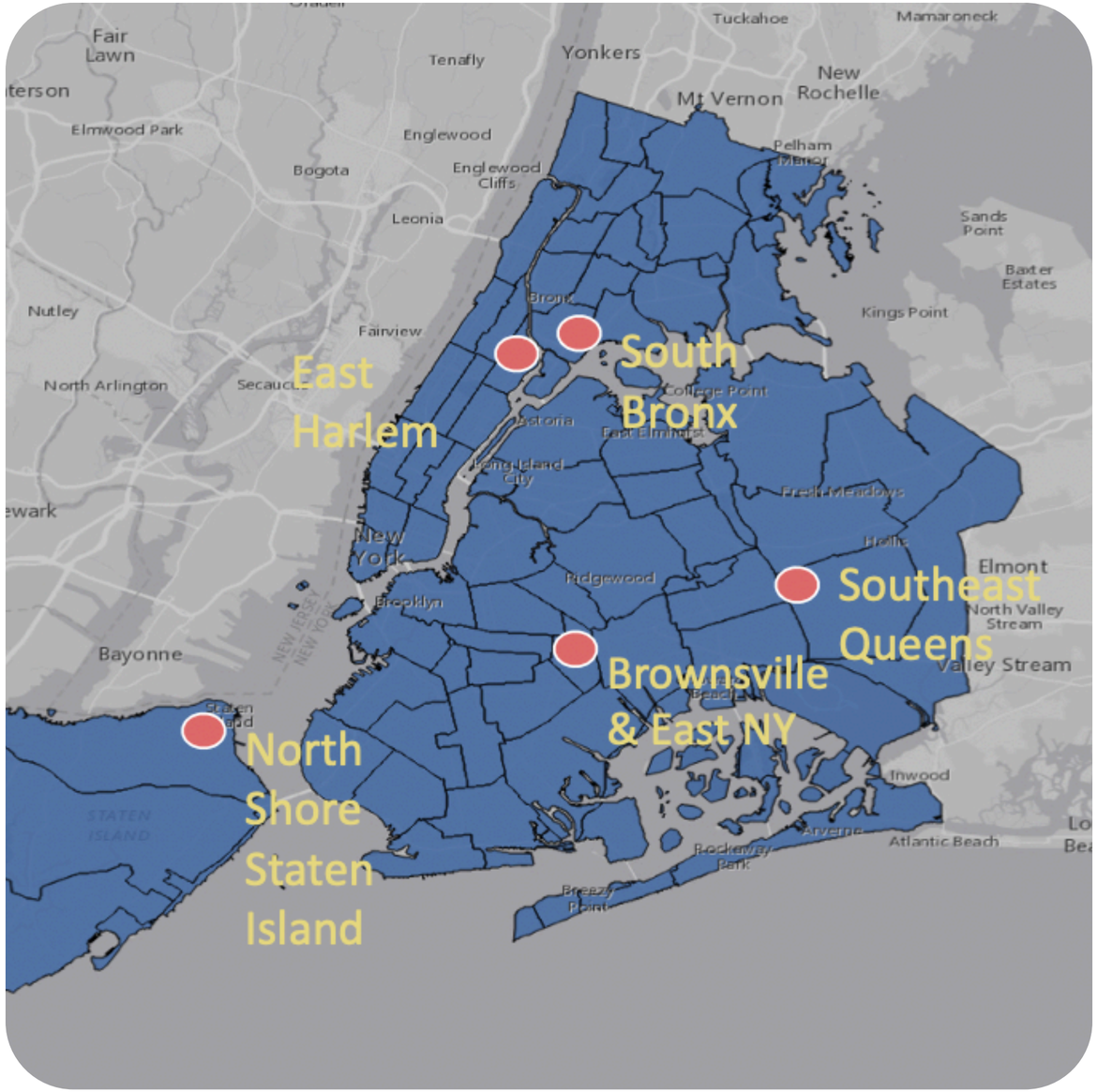


ADDRESSING DISPARITIES AMONG YOUNG MEN AND BOYS OF COLOR

Since 2011, the NYC Young Men's Initiative has worked to address disparities among young men and boys of color in education, employment, health, and justice, by developing and championing policies, programs and partnerships that holistically support the success of young people throughout New York City



YMI Priority Neighborhoods

6 priority communities

- South Bronx
- East Harlem
- North Shore Staten Island
- Brownsville
- East New York
- Southeast Queens

OUR NETWORK OF PROGRAMS

- Adolescent Health
- Advance and Earn
- CUNY Black Male Initiative Ambassadors
- CUNY Fatherhood Academy
- DYCD Mentoring
- Jobs Plus
- Juvenile Detention Tutoring
- Literacy Leaders (previously **Sound Partners**)
- NYC Men Teach
- My Brother's and My Sister's Keeper Youth Council
- NeON Photography
- NeON Works
- Student Success Centers (previously **Peer 2 Peer Initiative**)
- Public Health Career Exploration
- Rap Sheet Clean Up

+ more to come!

NYC YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE

PUBLIC HEALTH CAREER EXPLORATION

OVERVIEW

PHCE is a paid 10-week internship where participants are paired with a mentor to work on a public health project. Participants learn about the science of improving health and safety in our communities. They also have the opportunity to attend weekly information sessions on public health concepts, career building skills and future career options in this field.

Eligibility:

- Between 16-24 years old
- Interested in learning about public health while earning a stipend of up to $3,500
- Available for at least 11.5 hours per week; 10 hours per week for in-person work/activities and 1.5 hours for the weekly virtual information sessions

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

October - November

POPULATION SERVED

Young people ages 16-24 living in Central Brooklyn and the South Bronx

JUVENILE DETENTION TUTORING

OVERVIEW

Bard Prison Initiative provides tutoring services at Crossroads Juvenile Center, and Children's Village provides tutoring services at Horizon's Juvenile Center. Tutoring is offered in person. Each tutoring session lasts an hour, and the tutors work with a set number of students each month. Both vendors, Bard Prison Initiative and Children's Village collaborate with Passages Academy administrators and social workers as well as the Division of Youth and Family Justice's case management team to do transition planning for the students in anticipation of students' next steps based on their adjudication status. Bard Prison Initiative conducts tutoring in two modes:

- Group Tutoring- done in the classroom
- One-on-one with GED
- One-one- tutoring with high school seniors

Children's Village offers one- on one tutoring to:

- GED students
- Students on the traditional High school track with Regents Preparation

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Rolling

POPULATION SERVED

Youth at Horizon and Crossroads secure detention centers

NEON WORKS (+ EVAL)

OVERVIEW

NeON Works provides youth and young adults with the opportunity to acquire the knowledge, skills, and experience that prepare them for success in the workplace. Participants can access both online and in-person programming.

NeON Works is one of the programs offered at NeON sites. NeON Works seeks to create supportive, youth-centered learning environments by implementing a ‘one-size-fits-one' model that prepares young adults for the world of work and cultivates participants’ agency in determining their own futures.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Rolling

POPULATION SERVED

People on probation and other residents in the seven communities where NeON sites are located.
In FY24, 924 new clients were served. 101 clients were hired into jobs, 63 clients took part in internships, and 25 utilized job training and placement services.

CIVILIAN COMPLAINT REVIEW BOARD (CCRB) MEDIA CAMPAIGN

OVERVIEW

The New York City Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) is an independent agency. It is empowered to receive, investigate, mediate, hear, make findings, and recommend action on complaints against New York City police officers alleging the use of excessive or unnecessary force, abuse of authority, discourtesy, or the use of offensive language. The Board's investigative staff, composed entirely of civilian employees, conducts investigations in an impartial fashion. The Board forwards its findings to the police commissioner.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

N/A

POPULATION SERVED

Citywide public awareness campaign

RAP SHEET CLEAN UP

OVERVIEW

Legal providers “Community Service Society” and “Youth Represent” assist clients by pulling their rap sheets, investigating potential errors, and working with the courts and other system stakeholders to make the necessary corrections for individuals, both, on probation as well as community residents citywide to educate them on why this is an important issue that impacts their life trajectories; how to speak to prospective employers and others about their criminal histories (or lack thereof) and to clean errors –as identified- on their rap sheets.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

N/A

POPULATION SERVED

NYC Residents with Rap Sheet Errors

CREDIBLE MESSENGER JUSTICE CENTER SCHOLARSHIP

OVERVIEW

Application
The deadline for the scholarship application for the Credible Messenger Scholarship is one month before the City University of New York (CUNY) application deadline.

Selection
A selection committee reviews the applications for the Credible Messenger Scholarship, which comprises the Scholarship Coordinator, a Supervisor Parole Officer, and a Parole Officer. This selection committee selects the awardees, and the Scholarship Coordinator notifies them of their award.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

N/A

POPULATION SERVED

18 and above with justice-involvement/lived experience. Demonstrates an impact in a New York City youth community, specifically in reducing at-risk behavior among youth and recidivism among probationers

ADVANCE AND EARN (+ EVAL)

OVERVIEW

A training and employment program that currently includes five provider organizations offering seven programs covering education and sector-specific work training. The goal of the program is to provide participants with the skills and credentials to secure a job or pursue higher education.

The program offers three tracks:

1. Pre-HSE: For young people without a high school equivalency (HSE) who also read below a 9th-grade level. Literacy and math instruction prepare these young people to move onto the HSE track.
2. HSE Prep: For young people with a 9th-grade reading level or above. Participants receive additional academic instruction, work towards a High School Equivalency credential, and participate in a paid internship.
3. Advanced Training: Allows participants with an HSE to work in a paid internship while receiving additional occupational and work readiness training relevant to their sector of interest.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Rolling

POPULATION SERVED

Young people ages 16-24 and authorized to work in the U.S. but are not currently working or enrolled in school.

In FY24, there were 1055 enrolled participants, 261 were placed in internships, and 159 attained an advanced training certification.

JOBS PLUS

OVERVIEW

Jobs-Plus is an evidence-based program designed for public housing residents.

The Jobs-Plus model has three components:
1. Employment-related services
2. Strategies for promoting work within the community (“community support for work”)
3. Financial services and incentives to reward work (“make work pay”)



ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Rolling

POPULATION SERVED

Specific NYCHA developments

NEON PHOTOGRAPHY

OVERVIEW

Offers photography workshops both in-person and online. Participants receive professional photography training in classes designed to introduce them to the elements and history of photography, as well as a range of technical skills and the art of visual storytelling.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

POPULATION SERVED

Probation Clients

NYC MEN TEACH (+ EVAL)

OVERVIEW

Men Teach provides academic and financial supports to participants so they can enter the NYC teaching workforce. Program participants may receive monthly metro cards, free certification exam practice tests and other financial incentives, as well as access to a dedicated program counselor who will help with advisement and academic supports. Participants also convene for a seminar focused on culturally-responsive education.



ENROLLMENT PERIOD

School year/calendar, depending on pathway

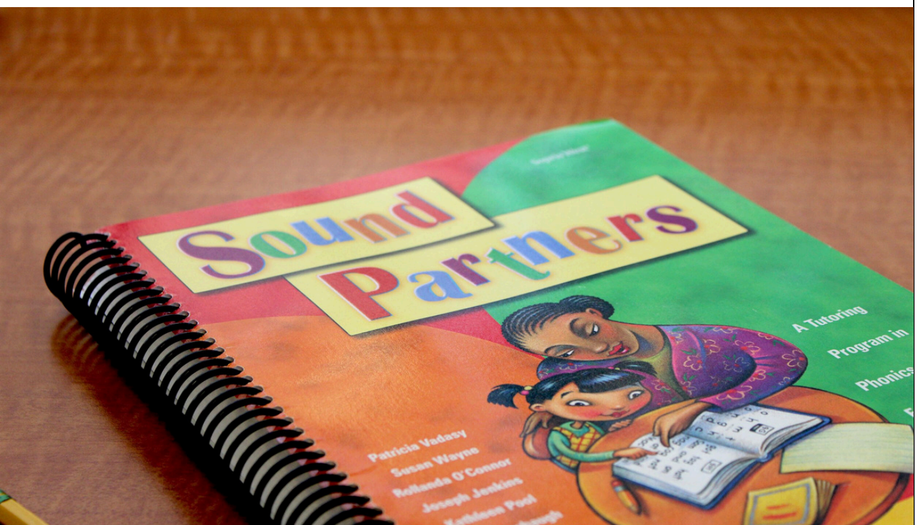
POPULATION SERVED

4000+

LITERACY LEADERS

OVERVIEW

Literacy Leaders is an early childhood literacy tutoring and school staff development program that employs an evidence-based curriculum.



ENROLLMENT PERIOD

School year calendar

POPULATION SERVED

1st and 2nd Graders

STUDENT SUCCESS CENTERS

OVERVIEW

A model for delivery of high quality advising and meaningful work-based learning experiences to students in NYC public schools including: Near-peer advising, School-CBO Partnership, economy of scale, pathway-aligned work-based learning experiences, and more.



ENROLLMENT PERIOD

School year calendar

POPULATION SERVED

High school students

CUNY FATHERHOOD ACADEMY

OVERVIEW

A free program designed to promote being a great dad and provide support to unemployed and underemployed dads with their educational goals, as well as getting new and better jobs. The program serves dads through education, employment, and personal development. CFA provides a variety of academic and personal support, including GED preparation classes, tutoring, individualized counseling, parenting seminars, financial incentives, and job preparation.

CFA offers two program tracks: HSE Prep and College Prep. Additionally, college and career readiness workshops are offered to prepare dads for college enrollment and identify a career path. Attaining a High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma, enrolling in college, increasing family time, and getting a new or better job are all essential goals for the dads enrolled in the CFA.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

Rolling

POPULATION SERVED

Dads ages 16-30

DYCD MENTORING

OVERVIEW

DYCD Mentoring, formerly known as Cornerstone Mentoring, is a group mentoring program that engages middle and high school youth who reside in NYCHA communities and surrounding areas.



ENROLLMENT PERIOD

School year calendar

POPULATION SERVED

Middle and High school youth

MY BROTHERS AND SISTER'S KEEPER YOUTH COUNCIL

OVERVIEW

The My Brother's and Sister's Keeper Youth Council (MBSKYC) formerly known as Mayor's Youth Leadership Council (MYLC) program engages 20 youth to work with different networks of borough-based youth groups, youth advisory boards, and other youth councils throughout the City.

ENROLLMENT PERIOD

School year calendar

POPULATION SERVED

Middle and High school youth

BMI AMBASSADORS

OVERVIEW

As a CUNY-wide initiative, CUNY Black Male Initiative's mission is to increase, encourage, and support the inclusion and educational success of students from groups severely underrepresented in higher education, particularly African, African American/Black, Caribbean, and Latino/Hispanic males.

CUNY BMI's vision is to create model programs throughout the University that are intended to provide additional layers of academic and social support for students from populations severely underrepresented in higher education. BMI program activity is expected to be institutionalized and absorbed into academic departments and student affairs offices throughout the University.

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ENROLLMENT PERIOD

School year calendar

POPULATION SERVED

Severely underrepresented students in higher education, particularly Black and Hispanic males

CONTACT & LEARN MORE

Websites

nyc.gov/ymi

linktr.ee/nycyoungmen

Socials

Instagram and X: **@NYCYoungMen**

Linkedin and Facebook:
NYC Young Men's Initiative

General Inquiries

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