

SOLUTIONS

- NYC funds programs that help connect young people to employment trainings, paid internships and careers.
- Expanded Men's Training places students in internships at businesses in the manufacturing and transportation sectors, solid and growing areas of employment.
- Executive Order 151 increases access to jobs by directing city agencies to remove the question about criminal history from the first step of a job application (except for public safety jobs).
- The CUNY Fatherhood Academy helps young fathers finish high school and plan for college.
- YMI partners with NYCHA Community Centers, where fathers gain parenting and life skills while participating in fun activities that foster engagement between dads and their children.
- Using the latest research and input from experts, the Dept of Health & Mental Hygiene crafted a set of best practices guidelines for clinics to be more teen friendly and accessible.
- NYC successfully lobbied for passage of the Close to Home law, which granted the city custody of youth held in detention facilities upstate. These youth returned with support services to be closer to their own families and communities.
- The Department of Probation has launched innovative programming focused on building a network of community organizations to provide opportunities, resources and services for young people.
- YMI helped to revise schools' disciplinary codes, adopting alternate dispute resolution trainings while expanding access to mentors, initiatives that have led to a 22% reduction in school suspensions in the 2012-2013 school year.
- 40 schools are implementing Culturally Responsive Education (CRE), specifically training teachers to better address the needs for thousands of young Black and Latino men.

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The Young Men's Initiative is building for a successful future: optimizing city and private resources to increase access to opportunities for better education, health, employment and engagement so Black and Latino young men can take their rightful places as leaders in their families, communities and our city.

YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE

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NYC YOUNG MEN'S INITIATIVE

OPPORTUNITY ACCESS

The Young Men's Initiative (YMI) is a comprehensive public-private partnership to direct innovative city programs and services to level the playing field for Black and Latino young men. An unprecedented \$43 million annual investment, YMI is funded through a combination of city funding and generous contributions from Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Campaign for Black Male Achievement at The Open Society Foundations. Far too many Black and Latino young men are economically challenged, out of school, unemployed or trapped in the criminal justice system. Targeted education, employment, mentoring and health resources help ensure that young men in NYC develop their full potential.

CHALLENGES

employment

health

justi

cation

educ

ENGAGEMENT

Despite NYC's improving economic outlook, Black and Latino young men are often disproportionally unemployed or underemployed. These young men have had limited access to paid internships, job training and career counseling—opportunities that lead to stable employment.

Many become fathers without the education, employment and skills needed to succeed as parents. Early fatherhood can damage prospects of receiving a high school diploma and higher education, compounding the challenge of providing economically for children. In turn, these children will be at a greater risk of living in poverty and achieving poor educational outcomes.

Young men in trouble with the law have historically found themselves in upstate detention centers, far from their families, schools and communities. This contributes to poor outcomes: an 81% recidivism rate, annual detainment expenses over \$250,000 per capita and the immeasurable cost of broken families and hopes for the future.

Black and Latino young men are the least likely to complete high school, due in part to high absenteeism, a disproportionally high rate of suspensions and low expectations. Those who do graduate are among those with the lowest degrees of career and college readiness critically important factors in today's economy.