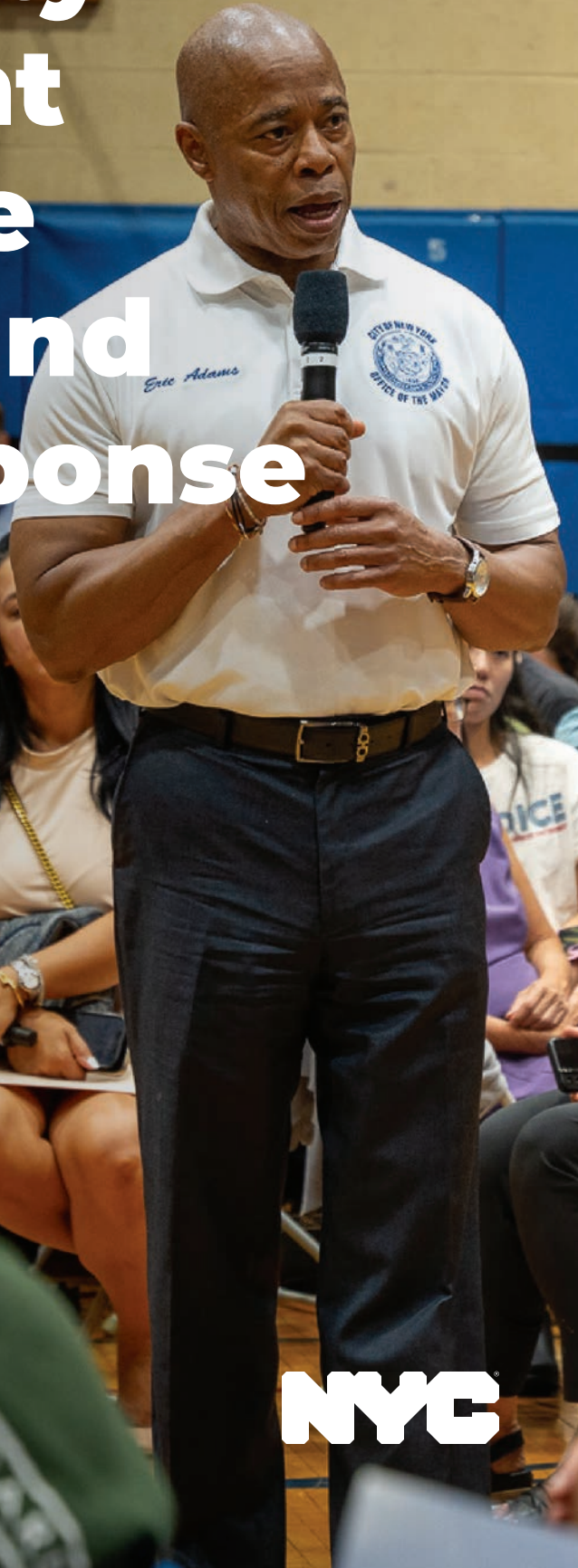


Commission on Community Reinvestment & the Closure of Rikers Island Mayoral Response

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION TASKFORCE



NYC

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KEY DRIVING FORCES

- **Policing**
 - Identifying alternatives to arrest, and the adverse impact of youth being on probation and that experience on entry into carceral settings.
- **Criminalization**
 - Decriminalizing behaviors are better addressed outside the criminal justice system.
- **Systemic Racism**
 - Analyzing how systems (education, policing, health care, housing, employment, etc.) fail in their effectiveness and delivery because of racism and drive mass incarceration.
- **Poverty**
 - Providing access to work and living wage income, housing, health services, and education to greatly reduce mass incarceration and reincarceration rates.
- **Mental Health/Substance Use Disorders**
 - Providing necessary health services that address addiction and behavioral health.

CONTEXT FROM THE COMMISSION'S 2021 REPORT

The closure of Rikers Island followed by the establishment of borough-based jails as an alternative stemmed from 3 basic principles shaped by the communities of NYC:

- Resizing the carceral system to accommodate fewer people.
- Modernizing and co-creating well designed facilities that are safe and growth-focused.
- Shifting cultural norms inside of jails whilst fostering community connections and accessibility to services.

Our focus remains on community reinvestment principles to effectively reduce incarceration rates, influence fairer policies and advocate for restorative justice.

FOCUS AREAS

- Employment/Entrepreneurship
- Youth
- Housing/Homelessness
- Health

VISION

Prevention, Intervention, reentry

MISSION

Engage in the process of equitable reinvestment for justice-involved and justice-impacted communities.



UTILIZING EXISTING STRUCTURES FOR STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

The Gun Violence Prevention Task Force has historically adopted a multi-dimensional approach as it targets the reduction and prevention of gun violence. With similar sentiments shared through the Commission's Guiding Principles, the acquisition of such framework would be instrumental in the execution of agency recommendations.

Early Intervention

Increase early educational, housing, health, jobs and recreation support and opportunities for youth using data to focus efforts on those with the most need.

Housing

Increase supply of and access to transitional, supportive & permanent housing and improve housing quality.

Community/Police Relations

Cultivate strong relationships of mutual trust between police agencies and the communities they serve to maintain public safety and ensure effective policing.

Community Vitality

Improve physical infrastructure – parks & playgrounds, community centers, vacant land, abandoned buildings, stores & services.

Employment & Entrepreneurship

Increase the number of and access to quality jobs that provide economic security for those who need it most, including youth, formerly incarcerated New Yorkers and those who are justice-involved.

Navigation & Benefits

Connect New Yorkers to government benefits and multi-system navigation support, with a focus on families and those who are justice-involved.

Trauma-Informed Care

Ensure appropriate mental health crisis response and increase mental health support for youth, young adults, and those with a diagnosed mental illness.

EMPLOYMENT/ENTREPRENEURSHIP RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Removal of all legal barriers that prohibit individual with convictions from obtaining employment and/or professional licenses

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- The Clean Slate Bill was passed and is awaiting a signature from the governor. This bill ensures that criminal convictions will be sealed after 3 years for misdemeanor convictions and 7 years for felony convictions.
 - DOC will invest in transition planners who will be assigned to each general population housing area and at intake at a higher frequency to ensure consistent assistance to navigate reentry challenges and establish a foundation for long-term stability. Transition planners stationed at the facility's intake will serve as a crucial point of contact prior to discharge, mirroring a hospital model for a seamless transition to the community. Transition planners will facilitate reentry workshops, assist in resume development, and support individuals transitioning to state prisons.
 - \$99.1 million to target opportunity and skills training for young New Yorkers and justice-involved individuals to give them pathways to sustainable, well-paying jobs has been invested by the Gun Violence Prevention Taskforce (GVPTF).

2. Investing in multi-generational education/training centers and initiatives in the communities most impacted by incarceration; and such centers and initiatives must focus on stable career pathways.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- (NYCPS/WKDEV) Continuing the Bridge program, a collaboration between CUNY and NYCPS to provide support to graduating seniors as they transition to college and career pathways at CUNY and beyond to focus on STEM and Green Industries.

- To address a pattern of increased gun violence and gun crimes during summer months, the Blueprint for Community Safety proposed the launch of an unprecedented expansion of the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP), resulting in the increase in program slots to serve 100,000 youth aged 14-24. SYEP is designed to introduce and prepare youth for the workforce, to help youth explore career interests and acquire positive work habits and skills, and to provide supplemental income. During the summer of 2023, DYCD furthered SYEP's expansion with 95,563 young people served, representing a five percent increase over the previous summer. DYCD worked in collaboration with sister City agencies to ensure the goal of 100,000 youth served citywide. To reach as many youth as possible, DYCD extended the application and lottery periods, prioritized youth who reside in NYCHA housing in the lottery and expanded non-lottery opportunities to at-risk youth. This year, DYCD released the participant and worksite applications in January, the earliest ever, to allow provider organizations to enroll increased numbers of at-risk youth. DYCD is running targeted recruitment events across priority precincts throughout the application period, working with CMS groups, NYCHA developments as well as Cornerstone community centers.
- The SYEP expansion included partnerships with businesses and corporations across the City, who worked with SYEP providers to offer a wide variety of in-person employment and educational experiences, as well as virtual and hybrid (combination virtual and in person) opportunities. The program offered innovative professional internship, educational opportunities and civic engagement experiences at a total of 17,203 sites.
- The Blueprint for Community Safety included the largest Mayoral investment ever in Work, Learn and Grow (WLG), a year-round extension of SYEP to serve 7,000 youth. WLG offers young people ages 16 to 21 an opportunity to strengthen work readiness skills, explore careers, earn college credit, and receive guidance on postsecondary education options. 2,226 participants or 1/3 of enrolled youth reside in or attend public school in the six priority police precincts identified in the Blueprint. For the first time this year, CMS providers also had the opportunity to participate in WLG with 19 CMS groups enrolling over 330 participants.
- Advance & Earn is an innovative training and employment program for young adults from the ages of 16 to 24. Advance & Earn helps young adults develop their career pathways with employer-recognized trainings, classes towards credentials and certifications, paid internships, and comprehensive High School Equivalency (HSE) test preparation. Advance & Earn received an additional \$6M in FY24 to expand the number of out of school, out of work young people that can be served, with a focus on recruitment from the six priority precinct areas.
 - In FY24, Advance & Earn received funding for 300 additional slots to be targeted for justice involved young people. 234 young adults were enrolled within the six GVPTF priority precincts out of a total 1,119 young people citywide that were enrolled in Advance & Earn in FY24 compared to 183/905 in FY23.

3. Investing in entrepreneurship programs and small businesses, including nontraditional opportunities.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- (SBS) Offering financial education courses for individuals interested in entrepreneurship.
- (SBS) Utilizing tax credits in new industries contingent on 15% being reinvested back into communities.
- In Fiscal 2024, July through October, the ACS' Fair Futures Program served 3,303 young people ages 11–26, a 22 percent increase from 2,716 during the same period in Fiscal 2023. Through Fair Futures, ACS connects young people to services, programming, and opportunities that help them achieve their educational, career, and housing goals and successfully transition from foster care to permanency or independent living. (PMMR)
- In January 2023, NYCHA announced that 36,103 apartments, across 137 developments, were being renovated, are under construction, or are in the community planning and design process through NYCHA'S Permanent Affordability Commitment Together (PACT) program. Once complete, these renovations will improve the quality of life for more than 76,000 NYCHA residents and address \$7.2 billion in capital needs through building upgrades. (MMR)
- Alongside reforms to help more clients in shelter access and utilize CityFHEPS rental assistance, the administration committed new funding to increase Department of Social Services (DSS) staff. This includes additional staffing dedicated to voucher processing to speed up and increase the rate of housing placements. (MMR)
- Staff have already been on-boarded or in the process of being hired. This includes personnel to increase the presence of Human Resources Administration (HRA) staff in Housing Court to ensure eligible clients potentially facing eviction can get quick access to financial assistance that will allow them to stay in their homes.
- In June 2023, the city issued emergency rules to remove the 90-day length of stay requirement for the CityFHEPS rental assistance program for individuals and families in shelters. The rules expanded the number of New Yorkers in shelters who can now access city-funded rental assistance. Effective immediately, families and individuals in a shelter will have expanded access to city-funded rental assistance and expedited connections to permanent housing. (MMR)
- ACS and DYCD coordinate with City Agencies and partners to help vulnerable youth, including you in foster care, to connect with housing resources. Each agency dedicated support focused on outreach to youth, including foster youth with housing needs, and Runaway and Homeless Youth Services.

4. Ensuring people who are detained/incarcerated have access to fair labor wages and benefits.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- (DSS, HRA) Funding has been secured to focus on clients who have incarceration history for HRA's new Pathways to Industrial and New Construction Careers (PINCC). HRA's program in coordination with Consortium for Worker Education and CUNY to provide clients with the education, training, apprenticeship, and other skills necessary to obtain and maintain good paying jobs in the industrial and construction sectors.
- Invest in vocational and hard-skills training, and GED and college programs, for individuals who are detained/incarcerated.

5. Invest in vocational and hard-skills training, and GED and college programs, for individuals who are detained/incarcerated

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

DOC will invest in supplemental educational programming to ensure the provision of basic literacy, numeracy, general education diploma preparation, and English Language Learner services and college readiness, as well as tutoring for people in custody.

- (DOC): Beginning in FY23, the Department secured a new provider for tablets to allow for an expansion of capabilities that could be offered. The Department began distributing new tablets in the fall of 2022 and completed distribution Department-wide in early 2023.

HEALTH RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Strategically reinvest city, state, federal dollars.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- DOHMH has invested funds into the re-procurement of their Clubhouses.
 - (DOHMH, H+H) Utilize local, state, and federal resources to improve community-based mental health services.
- DOHMH has launched Care, Community Action, their citywide mental health plan, which includes a campaign to promote the use of 988, the national mental health crisis lifeline.

2. Enhance the existing network of health care and facilitative services to connect and keep connected to health care, marginalized residents in disproportionately burdened neighborhoods of the city to prevent avoidable involvement with the criminal-legal, shelter and emergency systems. We recommend a requirement for community systems to be more responsive to patient needs and focused on health outcomes.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- (DOHMH, H+H) Redirect existing ambulatory structures to focus on populations most at risk for CLS involvement.
- DOHMH continues to fund and oversee Forensic ACT teams to provide outpatient mental health treatment to people with SMI and CLS involvement. Expansion of the IMT program is underway with 5 RFP's.
- (DOHMH, H+H) Improve training to include trauma and resilience-informed care, racially aware training, and harm reduction.

3. Invest in youth-focused prevention and alternatives to incarceration and detention

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- (NYCPS, DYCD, SBS, WKDV) Investing in initiatives that target after school, employment, and health system literacy for youths
- (MOCJ, DOHMH, YMI, DSS, ENDGBV) Increase crisis intervention capacity through Cure Violence organizations. [i.e., Youth Prevention Programs, Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (RAPP), Early RAPP, and Hospital Based Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs).]
 - Community Policing Model - Partnership of precinct #73 and local cure violence organizations (YMI)

4. Invest in Street Outreach, Service Referral, and Crisis De-escalation by engaging with persons that are experiencing street homelessness and connecting them to services that minimize interactions and touchpoints with the CLS, ultimately preventing (re-) incarceration.)

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- Behavioral Health Emergency Assistance Response Division (BHEARD) pilot has successfully expanded to 31 precincts across the city. B-HEARD partners with EMTs/ Paramedics and mental health clinicians to respond as a team to 911 mental health calls that do not have violence or weapons as the primary concern. The teams work with individuals to understand their needs, de-escalate, and, whenever possible, speak with their family members and the individual's current clinician to determine the best path forward.
- (DHS): Invest in deploying peer-led crisis response teams.

5. Investing in innovations that can be scaled to meet the community's needs and address gaps that exist.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- (DSS, NYCHA, HPD): Reduce or eliminate barriers to and disruptions in public assistance such as food assistance, housing assistance, Medicaid.

6. Invest in community training and messaging.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES: N/A

GENERAL MARCH 2024 HEALTH UPDATES:

- As part of the GVPTF, \$95.27 million to bolster mental health resources for young people and others with a diagnosed mental illness and ensure appropriate crisis response to those suffering from mental health episodes.
 - The city has invested \$63.8 million to help New Yorkers access public benefits they deserve and provide better assistance to justice-involved individuals and families navigating benefits programs through the GVPTF.
- B-HEARD - the Behavioral Health Emergency Assistance Response Division, an interagency collaboration between the New York City Fire Department (FDNY) and NYC Health + Hospitals with oversight from the Mayor's Office of Community Mental Health (OCMH), - is part of New York City's commitment to treat mental health crises as public health matters - not public safety issues. B-HEARD teams are operational in 6 out of 6 GVPTF precincts as of October 2, 2023. (PMMR)
- Hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIPs) aim to reduce the risk of readmissions for violent injuries among patients who are admitted to the hospital following non-fatal assault. (PMMR)
 - HVIPs operate from the premise that there is a unique opportunity to contact and effectively engage victims of violent injury while they are recovering in a hospital.
 - These programs recognize the critical importance of supporting the health and broader social needs of violence survivors. They combine the efforts of medical staff with trusted community partners to provide safety planning, social services, and trauma-informed care.
- In the first four months of Fiscal 2024, the Department continued to enhance the City's Citywide Crime and Quality-of-Life Enforcement Initiative by implementing borough-wide CRTs. These teams are actively addressing quality-of-life crimes and community complaints within each borough. (PMMR)
 - This initiative expands beyond 911 calls and includes proactive engagement with offenders who commit violations that lead up to an act of violence—whether on the streets, in the transit system, or in the City's public housing developments. For the first

four months of Fiscal 2024, the Department's combined efforts resulted in an overall decrease of shooting incidents by 28 percent.

- Notably, there were 191 fewer victims of gun violence in Fiscal 2024, a 31 percent decrease when compared to the same reporting period in Fiscal 2023. Additionally, major felony arrests increased 10 percent, and quality-of-life summonses increased by 69 percent.

HOUSING/HOMELESSNESS RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The combination of federal, state and city rental assistance programs should be sufficiently funded to meet the need to cover all those experiencing homelessness in the City regardless of what system they are in and to prevent homelessness.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- Currently, CityFHEPS, a rental assistance supplement to help individuals and families find and keep housing, is available to eligible households in DHS, HRA, and DYCD shelters, as well as eligible ACS families and households at risk of shelter entry in the community.
- CityFHEPS is currently the largest city-funded rental assistance program in the nation. DSS continues to make enhancements to the program to connect more New Yorkers in need to stability – including lifting the 90-day rule, expanding the use of CityFHEPS statewide, as well as investing in staffing, process, and training improvements
- Alongside reforms to help more clients in shelter access and utilize CityFHEPS rental assistance, the administration committed new funding to increase Department of Social Services (DSS) staff. This includes additional staffing dedicated to voucher processing to speed up and increase the rate of housing placements. (MMR)
- Staff have already been on-boarded or in the process of being hired. This includes personnel to increase the presence of Human Resources Administration (HRA) staff in Housing Court to ensure eligible clients potentially facing eviction can get quick access to financial assistance that will allow them to stay in their homes

2a. Increase funding and add to the supply of supportive housing instead of reallocating the existing 15,000 units

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- Program 1- Project Based Vouchers Priority status (HPD): HPD issued a request for proposal to award project based vouchers. Currently homeless and senior households are prioritized. (HPD)
- Program 2 - Justice Involved Supportive Housing (JISH) (DOHMH): Scattered-site supportive housing program focused on homeless individuals with behavioral health needs who have history of cycling through the criminal justice system and shelter system.

2b. There is a need for increased access to housing opportunities for foster youth and seniors

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- In Fiscal 2024, July through October, the ACS' Fair Futures Program served 3,303 young people ages 11–26, a 22 percent increase from 2,716 during the same period in Fiscal 2023. Through Fair Futures, ACS connects young people to services, programming, and opportunities that help them achieve their educational, career, and housing goals and successfully transition from foster care to permanency or independent living. (PMMR)
- In January 2023, NYCHA announced that 36,103 apartments, across 137 developments, were being renovated, are under construction, or are in the community planning and design process through NYCHA'S Permanent Affordability Commitment Together (PACT) program. Once complete, these renovations will improve the quality of life for more than 76,000 NYCHA residents and address \$7.2 billion in capital needs through building upgrades. (MMR)

3. Justice Involved Supportive Housing (JISH) service funding is too low and takes too long to receive.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- N/A

4. Increase efforts to support Moving On initiatives.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- (HPD, HRA) This program has been funded by Robin Hood with CSH providing the training and technical assistance. HPD and OMB agreed to fund this program with Federal HOME ARP grant funds.

To strengthen the ability of these particularly vulnerable populations to use vouchers for permanent housing, more resources are needed for the enforcement of source of income discrimination laws. This will be especially necessary if the amount of vouchers in use increases as the need for enforcement will be greater to make these vouchers effective.

5. Increase the Empire State Supportive Housing Initiative (ESSHI) Services & Operating Funding. High property costs in New York City and metropolitan areas are straining providers' service budgets.

ESSHI is a State-funded and operated program. The City encourages ESSHI increase the services rate to \$35,000 per unit in NYC and \$30,000 in the rest of the State and set the rent at the HUD FMR.

YOUTH FOCUSED RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Invest in Healthy Start initiatives

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- (DOHMH, NYCPS, ACS) Support new parents for the first year through evidence-based initiatives like having in-home parenting and other in-home supports such as quality child-care services with referral to quality developmental interventions when developmental delays or emotional or learning difficulties are suspected through programs such as Early Intervention (DOHMH), New Family Home Visiting Initiative, Nurse Family Partnership (DOHMH), Expanding Access to Subsidized Child Care (ACS).
- (NYCPS) Continue the baby bonds like Save for College. The NYC Kids RISE Save for College Program provides families, schools, and communities with a way to work together to save for their children's futures. It's a scholarship and savings program designed to make college and career training more accessible and achievable for all NYC public school students, starting in kindergarten—regardless of their family's income or immigration status. Every kindergarten student enrolled in an NYC public elementary school (including participating charter schools) automatically receives an NYC Scholarship Account invested in a 529 plan with a \$100 initial deposit.
- Equitable investment in systems (education, health, and employment).

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- **School-based Health Centers (DOHMH)** Provides medical (including age-appropriate reproductive health, some schools include eyeglasses and dental), mental health (including harm reduction strategies), counseling and health education as it relates to medical and reproductive issues. (DOHMH)
- **NYC Teens Connection (DOHMH)** New York City Teens Connection provides at risk youth with evidence-based sex education programming and formal linkage to quality, teen-friendly clinics. (DOHMH)
- **School Mental Health Program (DOHMH)** Provides Mental health resource coordination and connects schools to access to providers onsite. Includes targeted level clinical services to address diagnosed mental health concerns, but also provides preventive level services through selective and universal level of services. Each school is assessed for needs and collaboratively creates the best plan for addressing level of need. Investment and expansion of the selective and universal (preventive) services lead to early identification and intervention. (DOHMH)
- **Nursing Program - (OSH)** Office of School Health employs over 2,000 nurses to serve DOE schools (including District 75), charter schools and non-public schools. It also provides full-time nurses to almost 400 severely disabled students. School nurses provide medication administration, case management for chronic diseases, health education,

screening, assessments and referrals for clinical and mental health issues, urgent care and nursing procedural services to students. (DOHMH)

- **OSH School Physician** Provides medical supports physical examinations, chronic disease management, medication orders for select in school medications. (DOHMH)

2. Invest in two-generational models to support young people and their families.

MARCH 2024 UPDATES:

- ACS knows that children and families thrive best when they have the support and resources they need. ACS plays a role in providing these supports to families, along with many other city and state agencies and nonprofit providers. They are committed to ensuring that families have this support, regardless of which agency provides them. ACS focuses on leveraging concrete resources, stakeholder relationships, and community and family strengths to drive toward greater equity and social justice, reduce disparities and disproportionality – including in the child welfare system – and create conditions that enhance well-being for families, children and communities. At the end of last year, ACS announced a plan to expand from 3 Family Enrichment Centers (FECs) to 30 FECs over the next three years and released an RFP for the first 9 additional Centers. The FECs aim to leverage family and community strengths to bolster social connectedness and access to supports, which all families need to thrive and build resilience. Investing in families and communities will set children up to succeed. ACS also funds childcare assistance to approximately 46,500 children through child care vouchers supported by the federal Child Care Block Grant, as well as other federal, state, and city funds. This childcare assistance is available to families with child welfare involvement, families in receipt of public assistance who are employed or engaged in work activities, and eligible low-income families.

3. Scale and correctly resource Next STEPS Transformative Mentoring Program

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- The Next Steps program was discontinued due to low participation. Participants were transitioned to other MAP mentorship programs.

4. Wraparound Service-Delivery Models

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- NeON Works (YMI): Workforce Development initiative for young adults that are/are not under community supervision.
 - Jobs, educational degrees, certifications, and vocational training through supported connections (YMI)
- Neighborhood Opportunity Network (YMI): Network of community based centers
 - Within 7 neighborhoods with large concentration of people on probation (YMI)
- CUNY Fatherhood Academy (YMI):
 - Education, work readiness and parenting program for young adult fathers. (YMI)

- Project Pivot is a program that gives students access to additional resources to help them reach their full potential. New York City Public Schools is collaborating with community-based organizations to connect with young people at pivotal moments in their development. Project Pivot will offer counseling, mentoring and learning opportunities through recreational outings, sports and arts programs. Community-based organizations will go into schools to not only support the students but engage them in strategies that build up violence-intervention and prevention techniques. (PMMR)

5. Quality Spaces for Young People

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

- Parks has 36 Recreation Centers that serve on average 3M visitors a year and 142K members including ~80K youth (using data from 2019 before they closed due to the pandemic). These centers also provide after school and summer camp opportunities for youth. They are also in the process of building 5 new rec centers with DDC that will enable them to serve additional populations:
 - Tremont and Soundview in the BX, Flatbush in Brooklyn, the North Shore in SI, and Jamaica in Queens. As part of this development process, we conduct robust public input sessions with each community, including engaging young people about their interests.
- DYCD: Comprehensive community centers located in NYCHA developments. 99 Cornerstones operate citywide.
- DYCD operates Beacon Community Centers, which are comprehensive community centers located in DOE schools, serving people of all ages. There are 91 Beacon Community Centers operating citywide with 1,200 participants per center. (MMR)
- Beacon Community Centers offer a safe place to engage in recreational activities, discover new interests, acquire skills, and find opportunities to contribute to the community, guided and supported by program staff. FY2023 saw a 65.66% increase in enrollment compared to FY2022.
- \$8.64 million has been invested by the city in public spaces, including parks, playgrounds, and community centers to make neighborhoods safer and more vibrant. (PMMR)

6. The City should invest in community-based navigation initiatives, hiring navigators from the communities they serve, to help make social services more navigable

MARCH 2024 UPDATE

- Community Crisis Response Initiative (YMI)
- Providing grants to 27 local CBOs for mentoring, arts and culture, youth empowerment and experiential learning opportunities to young people throughout the City. (YMI)

7. Intervening at the earliest point when a young person is in contact with the justice system

MARCH 2024 UPDATES

ACS envisions a New York City where children and families are supported. Where young people get the support and opportunity they need, and never come into contact with the justice system in the first place. When they do, ACS supports the success of young people in our juvenile justice system:

- Expand Fair Futures – a program currently serving foster youth ages 11-21 who receive support from coaches, tutors and specialists – to youth in the juvenile justice continuum and to young people up to the age of 26.
 - Youth in Close to Home and Detention will be targeted for the Fair Futures expansion. The youth will be paired with a coach to provide them with coaching, tutoring and/or educational advocacy and support Youth in Detention work with Credible Messengers as do youth in at ACS' Children's Center, a residential facility. Credible Messengers are available to all youth in detention.
 - Credible Messengers: ACS will expand Fair Futures to the juvenile justice system and there are Cure Violence Credible Messenger mentors in our juvenile detention system (Funding is \$700k)
- Expand career readiness, internship, vocational training, college access, and employment initiatives for older youth in or exiting detention placement.
- Provide young people in Detention and juvenile justice placement with opportunity to develop skills and further their education.
- Improve educational outcomes for children and youth in detention, juvenile justice placement and foster care by continuing our collaboration with the NYC Public School's District 79/Passages, and working with the NYCPS new Foster Care Unit and with juvenile justice/foster care agencies.
- Re-procure the NYC juvenile placement system and increase the available education, mental health, substance use, housing and workforce supports and resources for youth.
- Re-procure Alternatives-to-Detention programs – which prevent youth from being detained while a juvenile delinquency case is pending – in attempts to ensure that youth return for subsequent court dates, avoid re-arrest and are served by staff with youth expertise.
- ACS is also working to scale internship, vocational training, and employment initiatives for older youth in or exiting foster care or juvenile justice detention or placement. This will include new services to introduce youth to career exploration, vocational education and training, school (including higher education), labor market readiness, and life skills.
- **Atlas** is an alternative-justice and functional family therapy program run through the Office of Neighborhood Safety. The mission of Atlas is to improve public safety and to enhance the capacity of Community Based Organizations (CBOs) to serve system-

impacted people who are at the highest risk of violence. Atlas partners with trusted CBOs to provide a suite of services including family therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, opportunities for employment and education, and additional free and voluntary resources to people with open or recent court cases residing in the community. (PMMR)

- Atlas improves the vitality and safety of a community by strengthening the capacity of local organizations and elevating community-driven public safety solutions. As of October 2023, 415 youth were served by the Atlas program and of those 415, 176 were new cases.