



Department of
Youth & Community
Development



DYCD ANNUAL REPORT

2023



Mayor Eric L. Adams
First Deputy Mayor Sheena Wright
Deputy Mayor Ana J. Almanzar
DYCD Commissioner Keith S. Howard

ABOUT DYCD

The New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) supports New York City young people and their families by funding a wide range of high quality programs, including:

- Afterschool
- Beacon and Cornerstone Community Centers
- Discretionary Contracts
- Fatherhood
- Family Support
- Immigrant Services
- Literacy Services
- Neighborhood Development Areas
- Office of Neighborhood Safety
- Runaway and Homeless Youth
- Youth Workforce Development



MISSION STATEMENT

DYCD strives to improve the quality of life of New Yorkers by collaborating with local organizations and investing in the talents and assets of our communities to help them develop, grow, and thrive.

VISION STATEMENT

DYCD invests in a network of community-based organizations and programs to alleviate the effects of poverty and to provide opportunities for New Yorkers and communities to flourish.



YOUTH SERVED (FY23): 343,673
ADULTS SERVED (FY23): 80,066



DYCD Community Connect (1-800-246-4646 and 646-343-6800) is a resource and referral service providing assistance to New Yorkers in more than 180 languages.

Follow DYCD on Facebook, Instagram, and X (@NYCYouth)
YouTube and LinkedIn (@DYCDNYC) or visit our website at www.nyc.gov/dycd

Message From the Mayor



**Mayor
Eric Adams**

Dear Friends:

I am proud to join the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) in presenting the agency's 2023 Annual Report.

DYCD served a record number of young people and adults in Fiscal Year 2023, supported by this administration's historic investments in initiatives like the Summer Youth Employment Program, Summer Rising, and Saturday Night Lights. Public safety is a prerequisite to prosperity, and DYCD is helping to make NYC a safer city by being a major partner in the Blueprint for Community Safety, and overseeing the Office of Neighborhood Safety beginning this past year.

New York City's future depends on what we do for our young people today. I look forward to DYCD continuing its great work with youth and working-class New Yorkers in 2024 as, together, we build a more equitable city for all.

Mayor Eric Adams

Message from the Deputy Mayor for Strategic Initiatives



**Deputy Mayor
Ana J. Almanzar**

Dear Friends:

As the Deputy Mayor for Strategic Initiatives, overseeing the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD), I know firsthand how the agency's work profoundly impacts the lives of young people, their families, and the neighborhoods they call home.

From the Summer Youth Employment Program and Summer Rising to Saturday Night Lights and the Office of Neighborhood Safety, DYCD is well positioned to help the administration carry out its priorities of protecting public safety, rebuilding our economy, and making our city more livable.

The Adams administration is committed to continuing our historic investment in DYCD and its programs that enhance the lives of all New Yorkers!

Sincerely,
Ana J. Almanzar
Deputy Mayor for Strategic Initiatives

Message From the Commissioner



**Commissioner
Keith Howard**

I am proud to present the 2023 Annual Report of the New York City Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD).

DYCD celebrated several milestones this year: another record summer of jobs and afterschool for young people, a more robust runaway and homeless Youth Count than ever before, the opening of new Saturday Night Lights sites, and our agency now overseeing the Office of Neighborhood Safety and the city's Crisis Management System (CMS) and violence interruptor teams.

Mayor Adams and his forward-thinking vision have resulted in two years of incredible growth and unprecedented success for our agency and the city. I am proud that DYCD has served more youth and adults under this administration than any other—the result of teamwork, collaborating with other agencies, and breaking down silos. We are excited to provide New Yorkers with continued engagement, enrichment, and opportunity in 2024.

Please read on to learn more about DYCD's successes during the year gone by.

Keith Howard
Commissioner
NYC Department of Youth & Community Development (DYCD)

DYCD: Raising the Bar

The annual Mayor's Management Report (MMR) had great news about DYCD and our performance in Fiscal Year 2023. Among the highlights:



The number of young people served in DYCD-funded programs hit a record high of 343,673.



Summer Rising served 112,544 K-8 young people in the summer of 2022 – well above the target of 110,000.

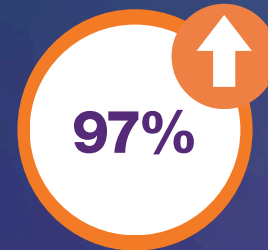


49,210 Youth



13,043 Adults

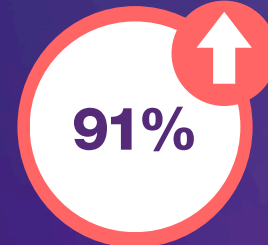
Beacon programs enrolled 49,210 youth participants and 13,043 adults, representing increases of 66 percent and 39 percent, respectively.



The utilization rate of Runaway and Homeless Youth Crisis Services Homeless Young Adults (HYA) Programs is 97 percent – exceeding the 90 percent goal.



Another record high: 28,491 Community Needs Assessments (CNA) collected – a 119 percent increase over the previous CNA in 2020.



DYCD gathered 19,351 overwhelmingly positive participant satisfaction surveys, an increase of 91 percent over Fiscal 2022.

DYCD in '23

Another Record Summer

The Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) provided 100,000 jobs and other paid opportunities to NYC young people aged 14-24 for the second straight summer. Summer Rising, a partnership with NYC Public Schools, enrolled 115,000 young people from kindergarten through eighth grade with academic and enrichment activities.

Bigger and Brighter Saturday Night Lights

Seven new Saturday Night Lights sites opened in 2023 (bringing total to nearly 140) to offer even more programming on Saturdays, a day when young people are typically vulnerable to trouble. DYCD worked with our community partners to secure new volleyball equipment at the Staten Island Broadway YMCA, replacing buckets weighed down with cement to secure poles that held up the net. To date, nearly 300,000 meals have been served to the community at SNL sites.

More Jobs for Young People

The expansion of the year-round Work, Learn and Grow (WLG) program to 7,000 slots maximizes opportunities for youth in six precincts noted in the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force as high crime areas. DYCD also launched SYEP Pride, which connected 3,500 young people who identify as LGBTQIA+ with paid supportive, welcoming summer jobs and career experiences. This year we received a \$1.7 million Building Pathways to Infrastructure Jobs Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to develop a workforce development training program for out-of-school and out-of-work young people. In partnership with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), an electrical pre-apprenticeship initiative for 50 young adults will launch in summer 2024. The initiative is part of [Pathways to an Inclusive Economy: An Action Plan for Young Adult Career Success](#).



Agency Highlights

DYCD in '23



Exposing Youth to Unique Career Paths

DYCD partnered with the federal Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the NYC Department of Veterans' Services on the Sea Cadet initiative. As part of this pilot, middle and high school students learn about maritime/military service and gain valuable skills. Chef Afolayan, the owner of Buka New York, reached out to DYCD to donate his experience and expertise to a city afterschool program. He met with young people—some who may be future culinary stars!—at two DYCD-funded Cornerstone programs: Marcus Garvey in Brooklyn operated by the Research Foundation of the City University of New York, and Drew Hamilton run by the Children's Village. The purpose was to introduce young people to Nigerian culture by way of its cuisine, including a tasting of fufu, pounded yam, and jollof rice.

Improving Public Safety

DYCD added the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) to its portfolio in 2023, with public safety activations in all five boroughs. Outreach included supporting hundreds of Staten Islanders in the wake of youth violence on the borough's North Shore, and Crisis Management System (CMS) teams helping to make J'ouvert and the West Indian Day Parade in Brooklyn the safest in recent memory. ONS plays a major role in carrying out "A Blueprint for Community Safety," announced by Mayor Adams in July.

Keeping Young People Safe

The "Subway Surfing Kills - Ride Inside, Stay Alive" multi-channel public information campaign was launched in partnership with DYCD, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, NYC Public Schools, and the New York City Police Department (NYPD). The campaign was created by New York City teenagers in a peer-to-peer effort to deter this dangerous behavior among young people.

DYCD in '23

Summer Safety

Commissioner Howard presented a proclamation on behalf of Mayor Adams at a National Night Out event hosted by NYPD PSA 9 at Ravenswood Playground in Astoria, and dropped by a gathering in Harlem. Our Community Development staff organized events in most of the 41 Neighborhood Development Areas (NDAs). DYCD tabled and handed out agency information at each of the Summer Streets activations in all five boroughs.

Giving Youth Voice

In collaboration with the First Deputy Mayor's Office and NYC Public Schools, DYCD hosted six youth townhalls to discuss strategies to stop violence in the NYPD precincts with the highest incidents of gun violence (the 40th, 42nd, 44th and 47th precincts in the Bronx and the 73rd and 75th precincts in Brooklyn). More than 900 youth engaged in breakout group discussions on the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force strategies, and their collective ideas were shared with the administration in developing the Blueprint for Community Safety.

Improving Youth Literacy

DYCD Reads connected afterschool providers with NYC Public Schools to the City's NYC Reads initiative. In partnership with ExpandedED, we will share new tools to strengthen literacy in afterschool and community center programs.

Teaching STEAM

DYCD and City College of New York (CCNY) piloted a program where students from CCNY-School of Education, School of Engineering, and School of Architecture were trained to facilitate Building the Future and Coastal Resiliency, two experiential STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) curricula for middle school afterschool program participants. Program sites included Thurgood Marshall Academy for Learning and Social Change, Drew Hamilton Community Center, PS/MS 123 Mahalia Jackson, MS 391 The Angel Patri School, and Dos Puentes School.



Agency Highlights

DYCD in '23



Beautifying the Public Realm

DYCD led the renovation of the Van Dyke Playground Basketball Courts in Brownsville, Brooklyn. The court is in the 73rd Precinct, one of the six priority precincts identified by the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force. The renovation included resurfacing, repainting, and new rims and backboards. In a few short weeks, DYCD worked with the NYC Parks Department and the Department of Transportation to ensure improved lighting was installed in and around Dr. Green Playground in Brownsville, Brooklyn—addressing years of concerns locals had about inadequate lighting and feeling unsafe walking around at night.

More Outreach to Runaway and Homeless Youth

DYCD collected a record number of responses for the 2023 NYC Youth Count, a point-in-time census of sheltered and unsheltered young people. The 3,422 surveys represent a 334 percent increase since the 2022 Youth Count, and a 157 percent increase from 2019, the previous high prior to the start of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Finding Homes for Young Adults

Housing Navigators at DYCD-funded Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Drop-in Centers helped more than 550 young people sign leases for their own apartments.

Addressing Mental Health

RHY Drop-in Centers provided mental health support for 1,019 youth and young adults in Fiscal Year 2023. As part of National Mental Health Awareness Month, DYCD and Vibrant Emotional Health co-hosted the eighth annual Healing the Hurt Conference, focusing on strengthening communities amid challenges with trauma, violence, and mental health.

Listening to the Needs of New Yorkers

DYCD collected a record 28,491 Community Needs Assessments (CNA), a 119 percent increase over the previous CNA in 2020. The surveys help inform service and funding priorities in the city's neighborhoods most in need.

DYCD in '23

Building Community Outreach

DYCD is using Cornerstone centers and other convenient locations in all five boroughs to create “satellite” offices. The first one opened at Johnson Community Center in East Harlem, and Ingersoll Houses and the High School for Civil Rights in Brooklyn followed.

Supporting Immigrants

DYCD and our funded community-based organizations, in collaboration with NYC Health + Hospitals, launched English language classes for asylum seekers at five Humanitarian Emergency Response and Relief Centers (HERRCs).

Engaging Youth through Sports

DYCD launched partnerships with three renowned city sports teams. The New York Mets connected young people to career panels, gave a tour of the Major League Baseball Commissioner’s Office, provided an afterschool trip to Citibank headquarters, and threw a scavenger hunt at the Jackie Robinson Museum. The First Pitch partnership with the New York Yankees provided an opportunity for young people to create social messaging murals that were featured at Yankee Stadium and Bronx Borough President’s Office. The New York Knicks hosted basketball clinics at Saturday Night Lights programs with franchise legends interacting with young people.

Other activations included:

- Soccer: Leading up to the 2026 FIFA World Cup, the DYCD Soccer League features youth competing in international-style tournament play. More than 7,000 young people from Beacon, Cornerstone and COMPASS programs were served this year by the partnership of DYCD and the US Soccer Foundation to give young people the resources to learn soccer and healthy lifestyle fundamentals. DYCD also partnered with Street Soccer USA to host a soccer tournament in Times Square for 300 youth.
- Pickleball: Young New Yorkers had the opportunity to learn all about pickleball as the NYPD activated five locations citywide through its Sports unit.
- Basketball: DYCD hosted its culminating Championship Games for the DYCD Basketball League. Over seven weeks, 65 teams competed in a citywide league. Finalists in each division (middle school boys, middle school girls, high school girls, high school boys) competed to win the championship title.
- Tennis: With the U.S. Open in town, Commissioner Howard joined Mayor Adams, Deputy Mayor Almanzar, and other government leaders at City Hall to host young people from NYC and across the country as part of the USTA Excellence Program.



Agency Highlights

DYCD in '23



Growing Future Leaders

The “We Trending” event was a powerful and energized gathering highlighting youth resources and financial empowerment. DYCD, NYC Service, and Young Future Leaders joined Mayor Adams and Commissioner Howard to address nearly 300 young people on hand in search of support, connecting with their peers, and picking up pointers from an esteemed panel of influencers.

Timely Contract Registration

DYCD has registered 99 percent of Fiscal Year 2024 contracts, helping community-based organizations fund their programs and provide high-quality services.

Connecting to Faith-Based Organizations

DYCD hosted networking events to make faith-based organizations aware of contracting opportunities with the city, and promote the application period for City Council discretionary contracts. Workshops included a Fundraising Symposium, Cash Flow for Small Nonprofits, Becoming a Faith-Based Nonprofit, and Recruiting Board Members to Small Nonprofits.

Supporting Parents

The Community Moms and Dads event was hosted at Gracie Mansion for the first time to celebrate 27 parents, as well as caregivers who provide inspiration and support to families and communities while also dedicating their time and energy to the physical, social, and emotional well-being of New York City. Meanwhile, Dads Take Your Child to School Day Fatherhood events took place at more than 70 locations throughout the five boroughs, with an additional 200+ activations at PIVOT schools.

Encouraging Healthy Living

The annual Spring Into Health campaign is designed to promote health insurance and healthcare access at DYCD-funded programs. This year, ninety-three events were held throughout the five boroughs, with more than 11,000 participants, 600+ vendors and partners, sixty-two DYCD-funded programs, and thirty-one Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NABs) attending.

DYCD in '23

Connecting to Minority- and Women-owned Businesses

DYCD participated in NYC Small Business Services' Meet the Agency Webinar, to provide NYC M/WBE-certified participants with an overview of the best practices needed to work with the City of New York and agencies like DYCD. We also attended the New York Women's Chamber of Commerce ContractHER Procurement Fair, which connected women-owned M/WBE-certified firms—especially those owned by women of color—to city and state agencies and other contractors for potential opportunities.

Celebrating Hip Hop 50

The Step It Up finale was held at the Apollo Theater, featuring young people sharing social messages through dance performances. This year's theme was Stop the Violence/Honoring the 50th Anniversary of Hip Hop. For the first time, Step It Up was a marquee event under the Mayor's Cup, managed by the NYC Mayor's Office of Sports, Wellness and Recreation. Beats, Rhymes & Relief, in partnership with DYCD, launched Battle Champs, a 50th Anniversary of Hip Hop celebration in Times Square - Duffy Square. The three-day extravaganza united the city to celebrate the five elements of Hip Hop (Emceeing, DJing, Breakdancing, Graffiti, and Knowledge).

Partnering with Greek Letter Organizations

DYCD worked with several chapters of the historically Black Greek-letter "Divine Nine" organizations to develop partnerships with our funded providers. Workshops included College/Career (Resume Development, College Tours, Assistance with College applications); Life skills; Financial Literacy; Civic Engagement; and Health and Wellness. They also supported Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) tours that enabled 100 students to visit fifteen schools in five states.



DYCD in '23



Bridging Generations

My NY Story is a 10-week project-based learning initiative that encourages younger people and older adults to learn from one another, foster positive intergenerational relationships, and build community. The culminating event showcased the power of these relationships, as well as our partnership with NYC Aging and MENTOR New York.

Going Green

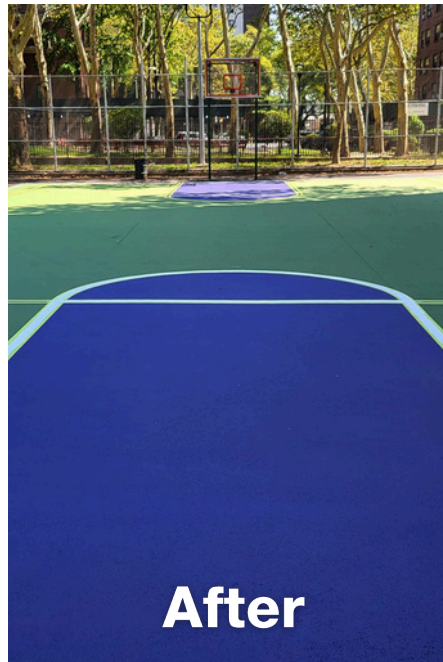
DYCD joined Mayor Adams and other agency partners to celebrate Climate Week and launch “Hertz Electrifies New York City” – a partnership that will help advance the city’s vehicle electrification efforts, and create good-paying jobs in the green economy. DYCD partnered with Hertz for the first time this summer through our Workforce programs. The company hosted two Learn & Earn interns at JFK Airport, where the young people honed their customer service skills while learning about the company’s mission and vision. Additionally, two SYEP participants from D75 schools interned this summer with NYC School Bus Umbrella Services (NYCSBUS), a leader in the city’s efforts to electrify school buses. SYEP participants were placed with Lime and Lyft, exposing them to the company’s efforts to bring electric scooters and cars to consumers through ride sharing. Other worksites included FLO, an electric vehicle charging infrastructure company.



DYCD: Bringing Enhancements and Safety to NYC's Public Realm

VAN DYKE BASKETBALL COURTS

The Van Dyke/Brownsville community asked for it, and we delivered! DYCD was proud to cut the ribbon on renovations to the Van Dyke Playground basketball courts in Brownsville, Brooklyn. This means young people and other residents won't have to walk blocks just to find a place for recreation. It keeps youth safe, engaged, and having fun – right in their own backyard. In May, Commissioner Howard met with Van Dyke residents to hear their safety concerns, and immediately reached out to Parks, DOT, City Hall colleagues, and the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force to get the project going. Over the next several weeks, DOT's Roadways crews milled and paved the nearly 2,000-square-foot space with 323 tons of new asphalt, and Parks applied a complete coverage, durable sports coating to seven courts, and installed new basketball rims.



DR. GREEN PLAYGROUND

We are proud that one of our community and cross-agency partnerships has paid off with a huge quality of life improvement for residents living around Dr. Green Playground in Brownsville, Brooklyn. For years, locals have been trying to get lighting around the park improved, so they can feel safer walking around the area at night. In a matter of just a couple of weeks, DYCD was able to work with the Parks Department and the Department of Transportation to get the lights turned on. When Mayor Adams vows to “get stuff done,” DYCD delivers.

Celebrating Fatherhood & Motherhood

Dads Take Your Child to School events organized by DYCD took place at more than 70 locations throughout the five boroughs, with an additional 200+ activations at PIVOT schools. Our marquee event in East New York, Brooklyn, brought nearly 100 young people, fathers, and father figures to the Pink Houses Cornerstone Community Center. Joining Commissioner Howard at the podium were NYC Gun Violence Prevention Czar A.T. Mitchell, and Hector Cuevas of host provider CAMBA. Then it was a short walk for dads and kids to the Brooklyn Scholars Charter School, where they were greeted with a “high five,” and an assembly featuring Principal Roxanne Thomas, and Real Dads Network Founder and CEO Derek Phillips.



The Community Moms and Dads gala was held at Gracie Mansion. Emceed by WABC-TV Eyewitness News anchor Shirleen Allicot, “The Thread that Makes Us Stronger” honored 27 parents/caregivers who provide inspiration and support to families and communities. Jacqueline Ebanks, executive director of the New York City Commission on Gender Equity, received the prestigious Ambassador Award. Remarks were provided by Mayor Adams; physician, author, and television host Dr. Ian Smith; Christiane Pendarvis, former Co-president and Chief Merchandising and Design Officer for Rihanna’s apparel line, Savage x Fenty; and Mayor’s Office of Equity Commissioner Sideya Sherman.

DYCD’s Fatherhood initiative teamed up with the New York Mets and St. Louis Cardinals to host a special Father’s Day chat with Mets pitcher David Robertson and Cardinals outfielder Jordan Walker. The conversation focused on the importance of fatherhood, and the dads and kids got to enjoy the game afterward.

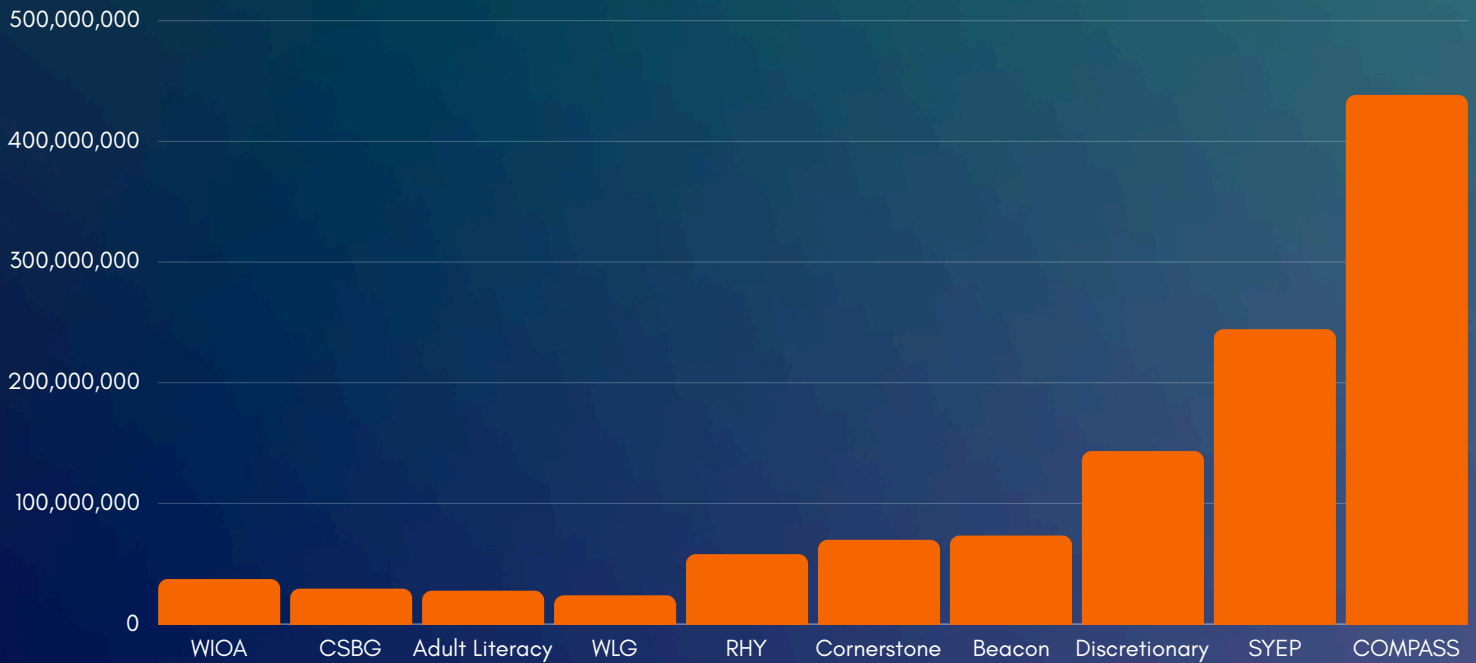


DYCD Fiscal Year 2023 Financials



CTL	\$ 896,541,551
Federal (Inclusive CDBG)	\$ 150,329,289
CSBG	\$ 9,724,071
WIOA	\$ 696,037
Federal - Other	\$ 141,985,052
Total Budget	\$ 1,199,276,000

DYCD Fiscal Year 2023 Financials



WIOA	\$ 37,341,774
CSBG	\$ 29,388,449
Adult Literacy	\$ 27,667,224
WLG	\$ 23,850,346
RHY	\$ 57,954,697
Cornerstone	\$ 69,837,244
Beacon	\$ 73,396,936
Discretionary	\$ 143,373,019
SYEP	\$ 244,381,084
COMPASS	\$ 438,489,675

CSBG amount does not include the funding that is shown in SYEP (\$12.9M) and Adult Literacy (\$585K). WIOA amount does not include the funding for SYEP (\$2.9M)

Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS)

In 2023, the NYC Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) began overseeing the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), which manages the city’s community violence intervention work.

The Office of Neighborhood Safety is comprised of the Crisis Management System (CMS), the Mayor’s Action Plan for Neighborhood Safety (MAP), Atlas, and the Precision Employment Initiative. CMS is a partnership of organizations—including a network of residents, credible messengers, and community leaders—that mediate community conflicts, connect young people aged 16 to 24 most at risk of gun violence to mentorship and risk reduction plans, and mobilize the community to promote peace and shift norms around the use of violence. It is comprised of a street outreach and violence intervention model, with wrap-around services that improve quality of life, address trauma, and promote peace among those most affected by violence, while also ensuring historically disenfranchised New Yorkers have access to opportunities needed to thrive.

Teams of “violence interrupters”—typically credible messengers who have turned their lives around—engage individuals most likely to be involved in gun violence. The teams work to deescalate disputes before crises or violence erupt and connect high-risk individuals to extensive networks that provide job training, employment opportunities, mental health services, and legal services to increase the likelihood of long-term violence reduction.

DYCD is uniquely equipped to integrate this work, based on its proven track record of community programming, existing presence in CMS communities, a long-standing relationship with the New York City Police Department, robust agency data collection, and demonstrated capacity to pay out contracts expeditiously. This shift also enables DYCD to integrate community violence intervention programming into the existing programs we run, providing a more coordinated suite of services to New Yorkers who are at risk of gun violence.

DYCD’s leadership will help ensure the continuation of programs that have a positive impact in an expanded number of targeted communities. Newer and emerging community-based providers will also have an opportunity to engage in city contracting and provide direct services to New Yorkers who need them the most.



“DYCD is excited to oversee the Office of Neighborhood Safety and integrate violence intervention organizations into our larger network of community partners. This record investment will create new partnerships, encourage the sharing of space and expertise, and expand the mission of our brave violence interrupters into even more communities. Together, we can elevate our work in addressing youth safety, mental health, community engagement, and family trauma. I thank Mayor Adams for his confidence in DYCD as we align with our community partners to make New York City safer for everyone.”

– Commissioner Keith Howard

2023 Activations: Labor Day Weekend, Brooklyn

Thanks to the hard work of our Crisis Management System (CMS) teams during the Labor Day weekend, we had one of the safest West Indian Day Parade and J’ouvert celebrations in city history.

The Office of Neighborhood Safety couldn’t have done it without our partnership with the NYPD, NYC Gun Violence Prevention Czar A.T. Mitchell, and Faith-Based Advisor to the Mayor Pastor Gil Monrose.



Commissioner Howard and the CMS teams met with the NYPD’s 70th Precinct prior to the festivities to help ensure a coordinated public safety effort. The Commissioner represented DYCD as one of the celebration’s Cultural Ambassadors.

2023 Activations: Staten Island North Shore

In response to the deaths this year of several young people, DYCD and ONS brought together mobile trauma units and other resources on the ground on Staten Island’s North Shore. Partners provided young people with safe passage, resources, and one-on-one discussions. Additionally, therapeutic mental health services were available at select schools, including grief and bereavement counseling, and conflict mediation. The activation also included a visible presence at public schools and public housing complexes in “hot spots” across the North Shore and South Beach. True 2 Life, Atlas, and community groups connected with hundreds of New Yorkers through mobile vans and direct contact with young people in schools. A longer-term plan is being developed to identify high-risk youth and situations before a crisis happens; provide a forum to coordinate a sustained public safety and crisis management strategy; and active the network of ONS and DYCD providers to integrate and amplify the impact of services.



ONS On the Street

DYCD Neighborhood Strategies hosted orientations with Crisis Management System/Cure Violence providers in nine NYPD precincts (Bronx 40, 42, 44, 46, 47; Brooklyn 73, 75; Staten Island 120; and Queens 101). To build on these initial orientations, meet and greets were held for all DYCD-funded programs in those catchment areas. This was a groundbreaking effort to bring our community partners together across program models, and to facilitate intentional collaboration across all organizations who serve children, youth, families, and adults within the same communities.

The Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) supported the Battle Royale Hip Hop event in Times Square this summer. The three-day event ended with no incidents of violence, thanks to the hard work of our partners, including the NYPD, LIFE Camp, the NYC Parks Department, Times Square Alliance, and Gun Violence Prevention Czar A.T. Mitchell. There were dozens of appearances by hip-hop legends, and DYCD had a huge presence at the event with a billboard, tabling, and on-stage appearances.

When 7-year-old Kamari Hughes was fatally struck by a tow truck near Fort Greene Park in Brooklyn, ONS worked with our Mayor's Action Plan (MAP) partners at Whitman Houses for a sidewalk and street public safety walkthrough. Following a double homicide in East Flatbush, Brooklyn, the 67th Precinct Clergy Council (God Squad) responded and provided supports to the affected family. In addition to temporarily relocating the family while waiting for more permanent housing, the God Squad connected them to resources to cover food and clothing.

The ONS team is working with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to help promote the Family Reentry Program among our Crisis Management System (CMS) network. The program provides individuals recently released from incarceration or who have been in the community for less than three years with the opportunity to reunite with their families living in public housing for a temporary two-year period. During the program, participants work with organizations who help them with various services such as securing employment, continuing their education, and obtaining benefits. After successfully completing the program, participants can request to be added to their family's lease permanently.

The CMS Hospital Reponder Program identifies violently injured victims that are at risk for retaliatory or future violence, and works with them and their families and friends to help prevent future violence, and to provide referrals to other resources that can help with stabilization and safety.

The Atlas program is expanding services to adult men at the highest risk of gun violence through an adaptation of the READI Chicago model, a holistic 12-month cognitive behavioral intervention and transitional jobs program for men 25 and older. READI Chicago found a 64 percent reduction in shootings and homicides among participants.

ONS is working with CMS providers to ensure they receive Violent Incident Response Training (VIRT). The training helps prepare participants in the event of violent encounters, and gives them tools so they can provide "safe passage" for members of their community.

DYCD created directories for a series of meetings with Cure Violence groups and DYCD-funded programs that highlight available services in NYPD police precincts most impacted by violence.



ONS In the Press

Commissioner Howard chatted with host Dean Meminger and Gun Violence Prevention Czar A.T. Mitchell on NY1 about DYCD's work in community safety.



ONS By the Numbers

Over

\$140M

Over \$140 million invested in community public safety initiatives in which there was a record \$86M invested in the NYC Crisis Management System.

Over

750

Over 750 high-risk young adults participated in functional family therapy in which 93% had no new safety incidents since joining the program.

5,683



5,683 high-risk youth enrolled in ONS workforce programs

Over

20K

Over 20,000 NYCHA residents engaged in our NeighborhoodStat program which is a participatory process to bring safety solutions to their neighborhoods.

RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH (RHY) SUCCESS STORIES

HOUSING NAVIGATION

“While working, ‘YG’ saved most of her funds from cash assistance, and was able to finally move into her own apartment and live independently.”

“YG” came to the Rising Ground Drop-in Center because they needed help with housing and job support, especially as a parent to a young son. “YG” got a job working as a medical secretary, and thanks to the work of Rising Ground’s Housing Navigators, they secured a housing voucher. After searching for a more permanent place to live, “YG” moved into their new home in the summer of 2023. In all, Housing Navigators have connected more than 500 young people to more stable housing!

MENTAL HEALTH HUBS

“These interventions continued to assist me as I returned to school, gained part time employment, and was approved for supportive housing.”

“RG” had a history of three psychiatric hospitalizations while residing in her former Transitional Independent Living (TIL) program, working full-time, and attending school. Her third and most recent hospitalization resulted in her losing her job, dropping out of school, and becoming homeless again. Rising Ground’s Visions Project mental health initiative worked with “RG” this year to better understand her diagnosis, and structure empowerment sessions to manage her symptoms using psychoeducation. “RG” is now on the road to self-sufficiency and more permanent housing.

FINANCIAL LITERACY

“Mylik learned how to save and budget his money for bills, food, and items for his new apartment.”

Mylik, a native of Louisville, Kentucky, moved to New York City and was placed in Project Hospitality’s Transitional Independent Living (TIL) program. As part of the program’s Budget and Credit financial literacy workshops, Mylik learned new skills around healthy spending habits, maintaining a good credit score, saving money, and setting up a budget. As a result of being connected to this life-changing knowledge, Mylik has a new job, moved into a new apartment, and is better able to support himself financially.



ROSE'S STORY: FROM HOMELESSNESS TO HOPE

While a student at Queensborough Community College, Rose Torcel had to leave her family home, and the school connected her to DYCD's Runaway and Homeless Youth services. She would eventually transfer to Hunter College, where she obtained her bachelor's and master's degrees in social work. After aging out of her RHY program at age 21, she was referred to a rapid rehousing program. Rose was able to move into stable housing: an apartment with a lease in her own name. In addition to working as an advocate and navigator at Sheltering Arms, Rose secured a managerial position with Rising Ground. She remains there today—proudly helping others as they transition into a life of stability and independence.

See more of Rose's story:



AN RHY SITE GROWS IN THE BRONX

This past July saw the re-opening of Rising Ground's 20-bed Crisis Services Program, for male identified youth aged 16-20, in a new location in the Bronx. The location is in a residential area that is easily accessible by train, and contains a computer room, fitness room, outdoor basketball area, and planned youth operated garden. Citywide, DYCD funds 50 Crisis Services and Transitional Independent Living (TIL) residential programs, providing 813 beds for youth and youth adults.

DYCD-funded Crisis Services programs provide emergency shelter and crisis intervention services for young people between the ages of 16 and 20, or between the ages of 21 through 24 for Homeless Young Adult (HYA) sites. These voluntary, short-term residential programs provide emergency shelter and crisis intervention services aimed at reuniting youth with their families or, if family reunification is not possible, arranging appropriate transitional and long-term placements.

TILs provide homeless youth between the ages of 16 to 20, or between the ages of 21 through 24 for HYA sites, with support and shelter as they work to establish independence. Youth may stay in the Transitional Independent Living facilities for up to 24 months. Services offered at TILs include:

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS • VOCATIONAL TRAINING • JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE •
COUNSELING • BASIC LIFE SKILLS TRAINING • MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES • HOUSING
REFERRALS AND PLACEMENT • FAMILY REUNIFICATION ASSISTANCE**



RHY: THE YEAR IN NUMBERS



RHY Crisis Services Programs served 1,827 youth, representing a seven percent increase over Fiscal 2022.



RHY Transitional Independent Living (TIL) Support Programs served 1,133 youth, a three percent increase over Fiscal 2022.



In Crisis Services Programs

The percent of youth reunited with family or placed in a suitable environment reached 79 percent in Crisis Services Programs and 87 percent in TIL Support Programs.



In TIL Support Programs

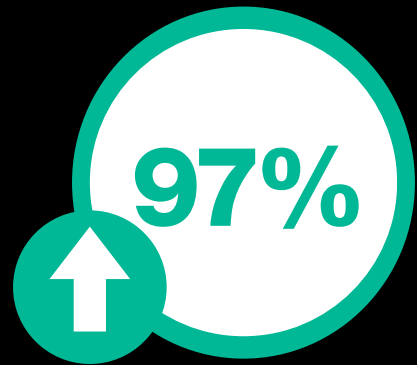


A total of 2,231 youth received case management services at Drop-In Centers, a 16 percent increase over Fiscal 2022 as more young people sought permanent housing support, mental health services, and financial coaching.



In Crisis Services Programs

The utilization rates for youth beds increased in both Crisis Services Programs (81 percent compared with 72 percent in Fiscal 2022) and TIL Support Programs (75 percent compared with 73 percent in Fiscal 2022).



The utilization rate for HYA Crisis Services Programs rose to 97 percent, a five percentage point increase over Fiscal 2022 based on more youth served and longer length of stay.



DYCD's Street Outreach Program made 13,395 contacts, a 22 percent increase over Fiscal 2022 as the provider engaged in new and innovative ways of finding locations where young people are gathering to conduct their outreach.

YOUTH COUNT 2023: BIGGER & BETTER

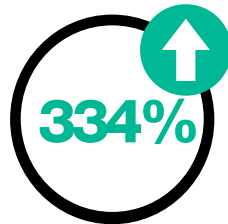
In 2023, DYCD made the Youth Count a bigger priority than ever before, launching a citywide marketing campaign and engaging our community partners in getting the word out and collecting a record number of surveys. Support came from our provider partners, elected officials, advocates, and other NYC agencies.

3,422 surveys were collected 2023



Over 2019

(Pre-pandemic high)



Over 2022

From January 25 to January 27, 2023, young people were surveyed about their respective sleeping situations on January 24, 2023.



Young people learned about DYCD-funded RHY services

In addition to the value of gaining information about where youth stayed overnight, the increase in the number of surveys means that more than 2,000 more youth learned about DYCD-funded RHY services.

Because we collected more surveys, the Youth Count identified significantly more young people needing services.

	YC22	YC23	Increase	% Increase
Unsheltered	16	43	27	169%
Unstable	231	560	329	142%

Thank you to everyone who made this unprecedented effort a huge success. We look forward to working together on the 2024 Youth Count!

SHINING A LIGHT ON RHY

DYCD and Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) provider staff decked out in green for National Runaway Prevention Awareness Month's "Wear Green Day" to bring attention to the issue of youth homelessness. As part of the citywide observance, City Hall, Bronx County Courthouse, and Staten Island Borough Hall were lit up green.

"Light the Night" events were held in New York City and around the country to raise awareness of youth homelessness, and engage individuals and communities. This included resource fairs, sleepouts, candlelight ceremonies, walks, open mic, and more.

DYCD hosted the RHY Open Mic at Trinity Commons Community Center. Young people had the opportunity to express themselves through spoken word, poetry, and music.

As part of DYCD's observance of National Runaway and Homeless Youth Month, more than two dozen young people in RHY financial literacy programming visited the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and participated in workshops about finance, interest rates, inflation, and the economy. In partnership with the Department of Consumer and Worker Protection, DYCD has implemented a financial empowerment program of financial coaches at each of the drop-in centers. Using a tailored financial counseling model to meet the unique needs of youth aged 14 through 24, these specially trained coaches meet one-on-one with young people, host clinics, and participate in drop-in center functions and team meetings. The goal is to give young people the financial literacy and life skills they need on the road to self-sufficiency.



RHY THROWING STRIKES

DYCD RHY program youth got together for a night of bowling and fun! RHY Unit staff were on hand to welcome youth from our Drop-in, Crisis, and Transitional Independent Living (TIL) programs who met up at Bowlero in Times Square to bowl, enjoy pizza, play arcade games, and have fun together on the last night of National Runaway Prevention Month/RHY Month.



SATURDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Saturday Night Lights (SNL) offers free high quality sports programming at more than 130 locations across the five boroughs, during a time of the week when crime traditionally spikes. The program aims to young people, build trust between law enforcement and communities, and help enable youth to develop the skills, knowledge, and meaningful relationships necessary to reach their fullest potential. For a location near you, visit the [Saturday Night Lights website](#).



FALL 2023 KICKOFF



Mayor Adams joined DYCD, the NYPD, NYC Gun Violence Prevention Czar A.T. Mitchell, provider Good Shepherd Services, and dozens of young people from the community for the launch of the Fall 2023 season of SNL at the Prince Joshua Avitto Community Center in East New York, Brooklyn. The center, located in one of the six priority precincts identified by the Gun Violence Prevention Task Force, is named in memory of 6-year-old Prince Joshua “PJ” Avitto, who was murdered across the street in 2014.



Check out the Saturday Night Lights public service announcement created by filmmakers Matthew Ross (*Wu-Tang: An American Saga*, *Frank & Lola*) and Alan Bibby, and featuring 17-year-old SNL participant Zaire Washington.

THANK YOU TO OUR SNL PARTNERS

The Manhattan District Attorney hosted a culminating event at Basketball City to celebrate Saturday Night Lights. Some 600 young people enjoyed a day of group activities, poetry, dance performances, recreation. The NYPD was also on hand to build positive relationships with young people, and raise awareness about the dangers of gun violence.



For Black History Month, DYCD partnered with New York Mets and Major League Baseball to host a career panel for youth in Far Rockaway, Queens. More than 40 Saturday Night Lights participants from the Beach 41st Community Center, The Church of God, Redfern Community Center, Ocean Bay Community Center, and Rockaway Y came out. They heard from members of the Met's Black Professionals and MLB Black Employee Resource Group to discuss exploring careers in sports.



In partnership with the NYPD, and sponsored by the First Responder's Children Foundation, DYCD organized an event at the Major Owens Center for all SNL Brooklyn programs. Four hundred participants were invited for a fun, interactive day of sports tournaments and drills led by NYPD officers.



THANK YOU TO OUR SNL PARTNERS



The Mets and Citibank offered a two-hour, after-school trip to Citibank Headquarters followed by a Scavenger Hunt at the Jackie Robinson Museum.



Youth got the opportunity to hear first hand from a panel of talented Citibank professionals and learn about the importance of financial literacy.

The Mets and MLB also offered high school aged youth a tour of the MLB Commissioner's Office and a speed networking session with MLB and Mets officials. This was an excellent opportunity to expose youth to career development in sports and to have direct access to corporate professionals.



THANK YOU TO OUR SNL PARTNERS

The Mets and DYCD held a career exploration panel at the Rockaway YMCA for 60 middle school and high school youth to hear from the Los Mets Employee Resource Group about careers in sports. Special thanks to our community partners at the Queens Borough President's Office for supporting the event.



As part of the Susan Crown Exchange's Million Coaches Challenge, The Center for Healing and Justice Through Sport worked with the Laureus Sport for Good Foundation to offer training to coaches so they better understand ways that sports can drive social and emotional learning. They offered trainings in Sports-Based Youth Development 101 that teaches coaches how to create environments that prioritize skill development, meaningful relationships, and a positive team culture. This training will allow coaches to take away tangible strategies to make their practices more engaging and inclusive.

The Jr. NBA Conference powered by Under Armour was a full day event in Upper Manhattan connecting all levels of the youth basketball community - coaches, educators, referees, parents, administrators, event operators and other youth sports professionals. Workshops, panels and thought-provoking presentations were aimed at developing youth through basketball. Thanks to the partnership, NYPD Youth Coordinating Officers and SNL coaches got the opportunity to participate for free.



PLAYING WITH THE PROS



In partnership with the YMCA of Greater New York and the Junior Knicks, Saturday Night Lights gave young people the opportunity to run drills with NBA legends, including John Starks, Marcus Camby, Charles Smith, and Tim Thomas.



Participating Sites:

Castle Hill YMCA, Bronx
Long Island City YMCA, Queens
Broadway YMCA, Staten Island
Flatbush YMCA, Brooklyn
Madison Square Garden, Manhattan

SERVING UP AN ACE ON STATEN ISLAND



At the Staten Island Broadway YMCA, young people are enjoying new volleyball equipment at their weekly Saturday Night Lights gatherings. DYCD worked with our SNL partners and the Y to make sure they were able to order and receive a new setup, better serving the nearly 100 youth participating in the program. Previously, a makeshift court used buckets of cement and poles to secure the net. It worked for a while, but it was time for an upgrade the young people deserve.

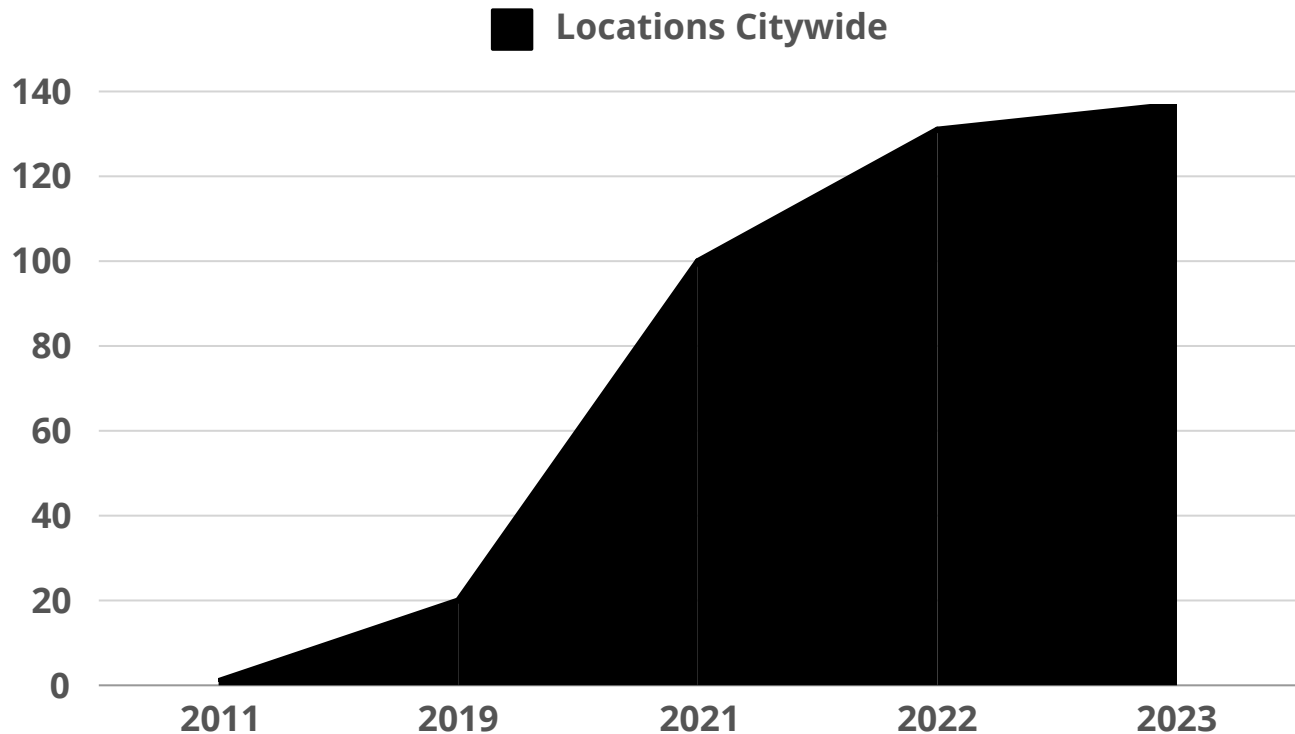


Photo: Staten Island Advance


Staten Island Advance

SNL BY THE NUMBERS

Saturday Night Lights began in 2011 with a single program in West Harlem, eventually expanding to 20 sites by 2019. Under the leadership of Mayor Adams, SNL grew from 100 locations to nearly 140 beginning in 2021, providing even more opportunities for thousands of young people to stay safe and engaged.



NEW LOCATIONS IN 2023: 7

Mo Better Jaguars Football, Betsy Head Park, Livonia and Strauss Streets, Brooklyn

New York Junior Tennis League Cary Leeds, 1720 Crotona Avenue, Bronx

NYSluggers Foundation Baseball Academy, 728 E. 136 Street, Bronx

The Children's Aid Society, Frederick Douglass Center, 885 Columbus Avenue Manhattan

Wiz Kids Books B4 Basketball, Cornerstone Academy for Social Action, 3441 Steenwick Avenue, Bronx

Wiz Kids Books B4 Basketball Bronx Alliance Middle School, 3750 Baychester Avenue, Bronx

Wiz Kids Books B4 Basketball JHS 144 Michelangelo, 2545 Gunther Avenue, Bronx



OVERVIEW

Summer Rising is a collaborative effort between New York City Public Schools and the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD). This program is offered free of charge to K-8 students in New York City.

Participants in Summer Rising have the opportunity to engage in a variety of academic and enrichment activities throughout the day, in a safe and supportive environment, with snacks and lunch. This includes field trips, arts-related activities, and outdoor recreation. The programs are planned and implemented in partnership with school principals and community-based organizations (CBOs).

Summer Rising expanded on the network of DYCD-funded CBO providers that offer school year and summer services through COMPASS and Beacon programming, increasing the total number of K-8 youth served in the summer, and expanding on the services offered.

Summer Rising ran from July 5 through August 18, operating Monday to Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Investment, Impact, Innovation



\$150M

Total DYCD Summer Rising Budget



147K

Total Applications



115K

Total Enrollment

INVESTMENT

Summer Rising 2023 builds upon the significant expansion of summer programming in New York City from 2022. The aim was to provide academic reinforcement, promote social and emotional development, and enhance physical well-being for approximately **110,000 elementary and middle school students**. This year, a greater emphasis was placed on active and project-based learning for all students, alongside a career-focused component for middle schoolers.

Students in kindergarten through eighth grade enjoyed access to both academic and enrichment activities throughout the day. These included field trips, art projects, and outdoor recreational pursuits. The programs were organized collaboratively by school principals and community-based organizations. The environment was carefully curated to be safe and nurturing, with staff members who were trained to address the social and emotional needs of the children.



We must turn these school buildings into sanctuaries of full development of the personhoods of our children and that's what we're doing.

- Mayor Eric Adams

PROGRAM SNAPSHOT

115,662

Youth Served

—

123

Community-Based
Organizations

—

695

Community-Based
Programs

—

373

Public School Buildings



Program Model - Student Day from 8am-6pm

Morning (8am – 12pm)	Staff Certified Teachers, Paras, CBO Staff + SYEP Part. (<i>Elementary</i>)
---------------------------------	---

Content:

- Project-Based Learning
- Focused academic blocks
- Interest-driven projects, high quality curricula, differentiated math and reading interventions, small group tutoring

Staff CBO Staff + SYEP Paras (Based on IEP after 2:30pm)	Afternoon (12pm – 6pm)
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Content:

- Project-Based Learning
- Enrichment + Recreation
- Focused enrichment blocks
- Comic book club, drama, yoga, community service, visual art, STEAM, sports, cooperative games, step

SUMMER RISING STAFF CREATED WELCOMING ENVIRONMENTS

28

Middle School Program Days

280

Middle School Program Total Summer Hours

329

Programs for Middle School Youth



33

Elementary School Program Days

330

Elementary School Program Total Summer Hours

385

Programs for Elementary School Youth

200,000

Total Programming Hours Across All Summer Rising Sites

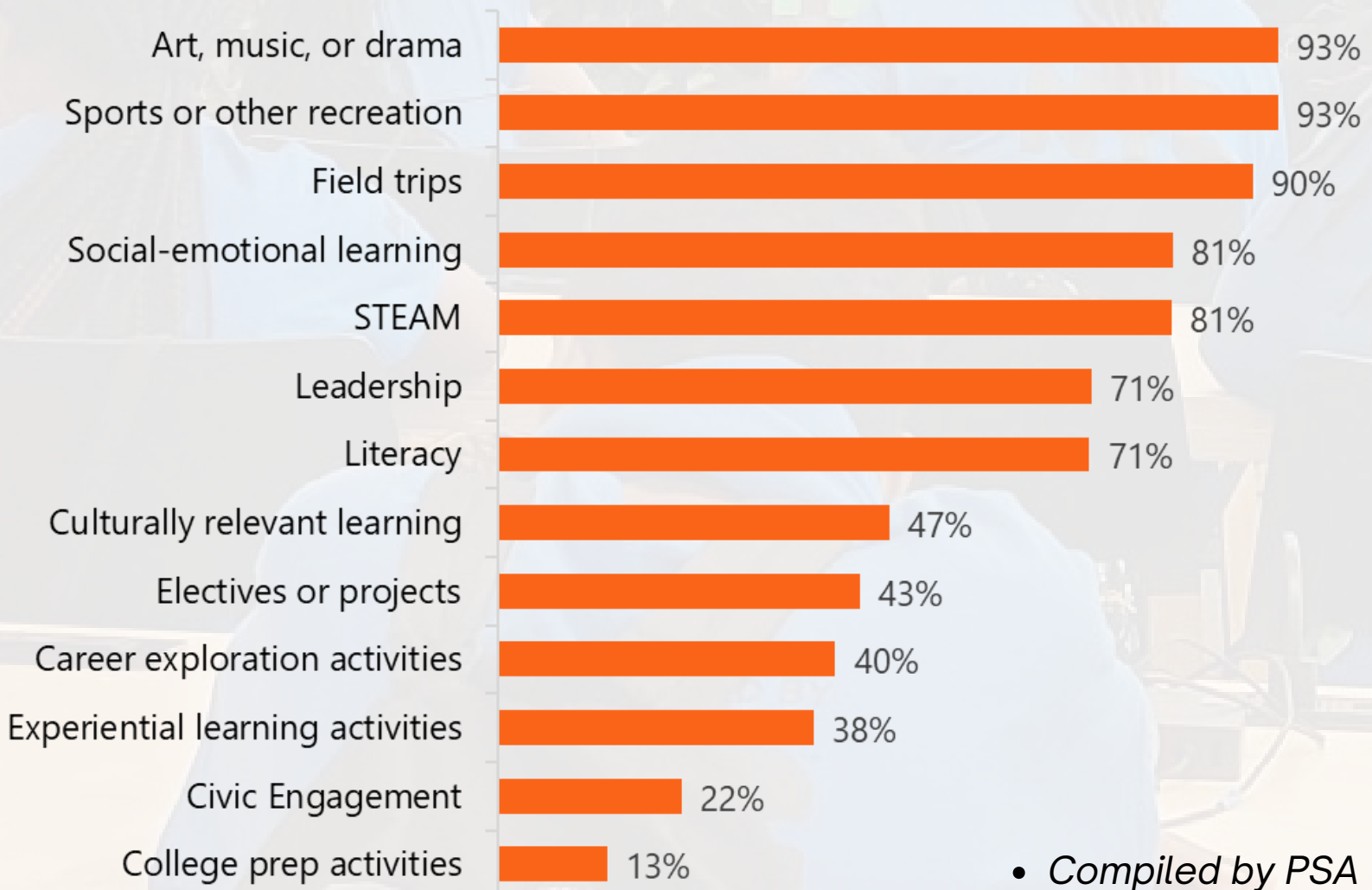
Site directors reported that they were most proud of...

- **Creating a safe environment for learning and growth:** “[I was most proud of] creating an environment where students felt a sense of belonging and enjoyed the enrichment activities.”
- **Relationships built on site among participants:** “Our students have made remarkable progress in Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) and creating long-lasting friendships.”
- **The flexibility, determination, and resiliency of their staff:** “I am most proud of my staff being so flexible and handling all the challenges that arose with professionalism and displaying excellent teamwork skills and also providing their best to the participants.”
- **The relationships between the DOE and CBOs:** “I’m most proud of how the collaboration/relationship between CBO/DOE staff became stronger and significantly purposeful as we focused on the students we serve.”

• *Compiled by Policy Studies Associates (PSA)*

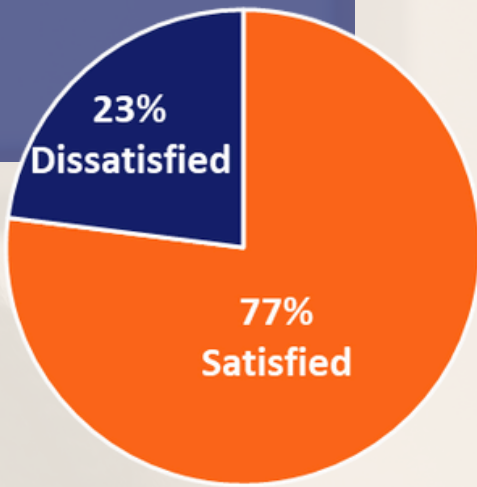
SITES OFFERED A WIDE RANGE OF ACTIVITIES

- Site directors overall agreed on the balance of time spent on academics (73% reporting “just right”) and enrichment (81% reporting “just right”)
- 82% of respondents reported that programming aligned with student and family interest
- Elementary-only sites were more likely to offer literacy, while sites serving middle school were more likely to offer leadership, college prep, and career exploration



• *Compiled by PSA*

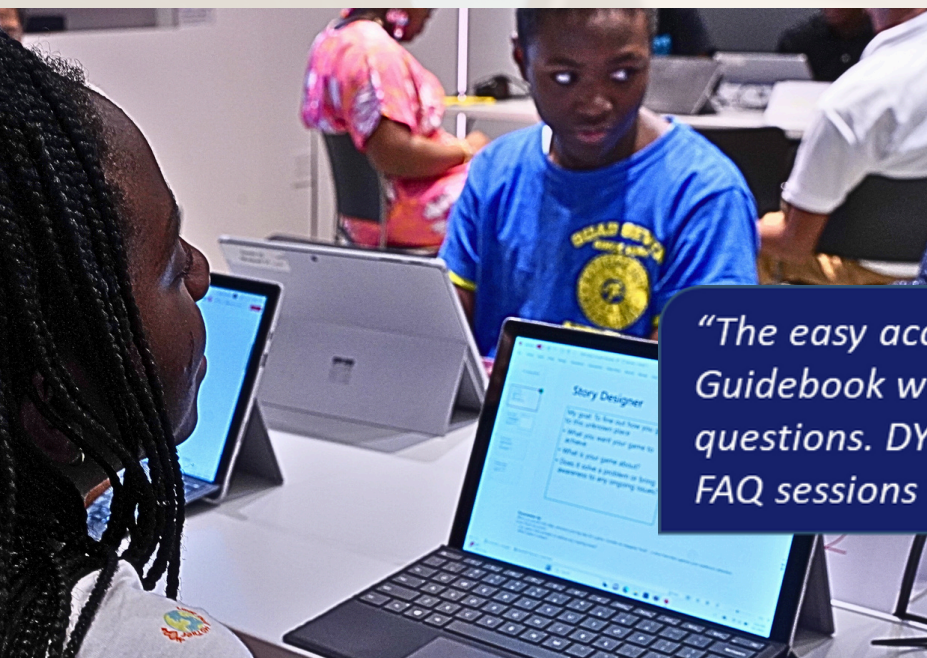
Satisfaction with Summer Rising Resources



“The meetings with DYCD prepared us for what to expect and helped with pre-planning. I only ask that we start those earlier.”

Satisfaction with supports and resources provided for Summer Rising 2023:

- **77%** of directors were satisfied with the resources and materials
- **73%** reported satisfaction with external resources & and community partnerships
- **74%** agreed that they had the resources, time, and support to fulfill their program responsibilities



“The easy accessibility of the Operations Guidebook was great for quick answers to my questions. DYCD's Youth Services Webinars and FAQ sessions were great.”

- Compiled by Policy Studies Associates

IMPACT

Sites provided access to supports beyond academic and enrichment opportunities

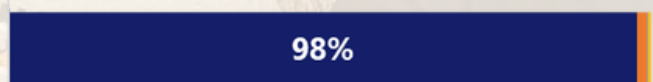


Of those who reported providing referrals “all” or “most” of the time, the most common referrals were for **behavioral health (52%)**, **mental health (51%)**, and **food (51%)**.

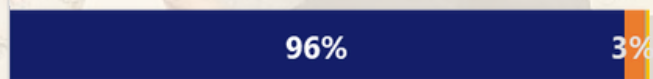
- *Compiled by PSA*

Site directors reports of how often each statement is true

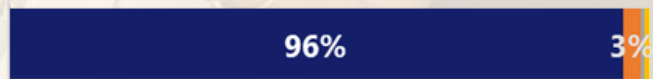
Students have an adult they can talk to about a problem.



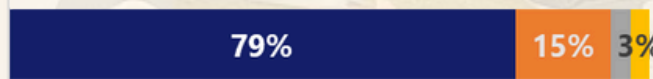
At least one adult regularly checks in with each student about how they're doing.



Students have access to a space that is both emotionally and physically safe.



Students receive mental health and wellness supports.



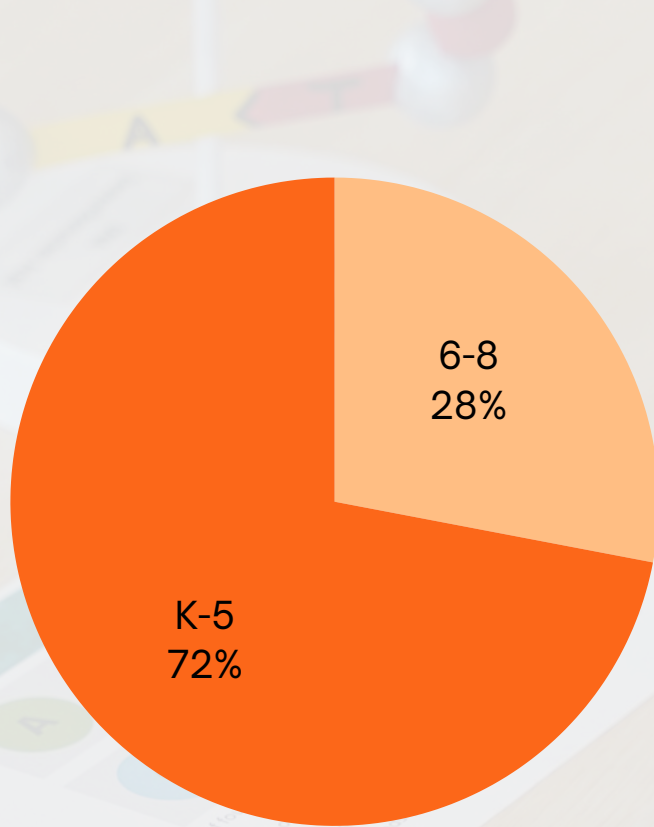
Students have access to referrals and resources for other needed services.



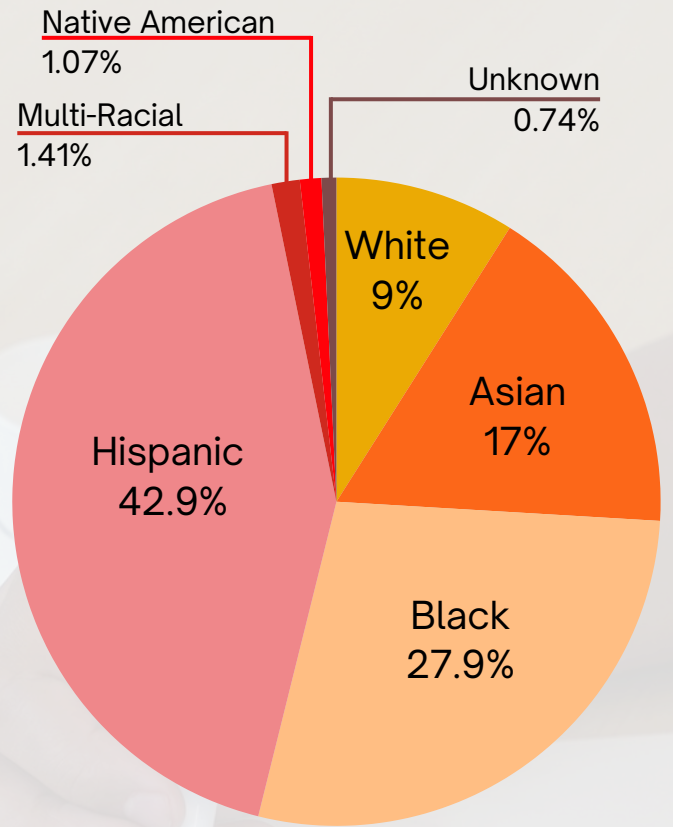
■ Most or all of the time ■ Some of the time ■ Not at all ■ Not sure

- *Compiled by PSA*

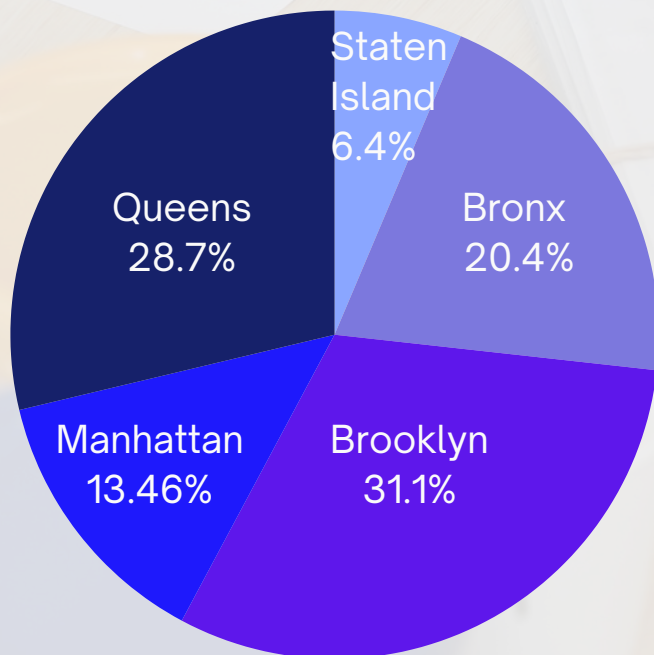
DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT



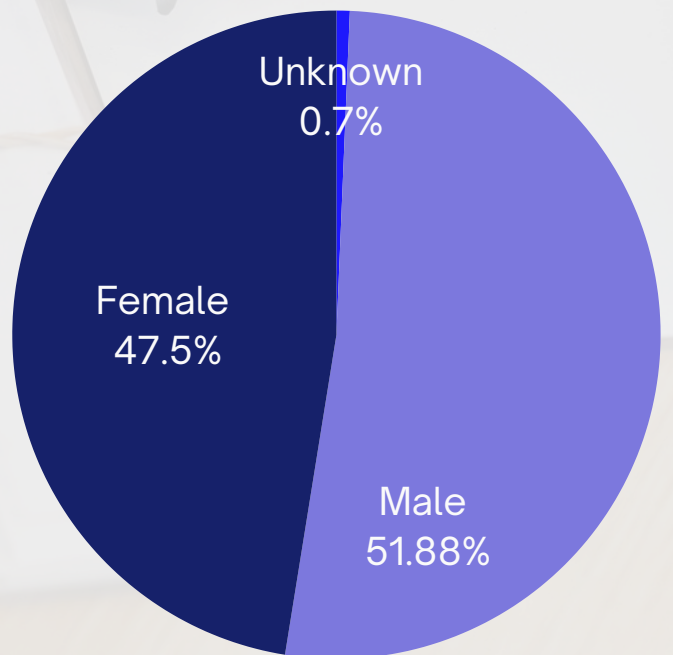
Grade Band



Race/Ethnicity



Boroughs



Gender



Strong evidence of program readiness in support of new arrivals to the City of New York. Staffing structures/classroom structures were situated to accommodate English Language Learners (ELL) at various stages of programming. This included Peer to Peer support with translations, facilitation in English and spoken language, and identifying staff to meet language needs.





Parent Testimonial

Thank you for taking good care of my son and providing him with an amazing summer! Each day, He eagerly joins the program, knowing that you have exciting activities in store for him – from the AMC movie and water day to the scholar dollar store, shout-outs, and the Urban Air trampoline park. He can't stop talking about the incredible fun he had recently.

This program has been giving him a big boost in terms of everything! He is noticeably more confident about himself. Just yesterday, as he showed me the school supplies you provided, he confidently stated, "I think I'm ready for fifth grade."

81%

of Site Directors reported offering **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)**

- Sites serving elementary students were more likely to offer SEL than those serving only middle school (84% V. 73%, respectively)

99%

of Site Directors reported that Summer Rising benefitted participants by **improving their social and emotional skills.**

64%

reported that programming incorporated **trauma-informed and/or behavioral and mental health supports**

- *Compiled by PSA*



EXPLORING FUTURES

Exploring Futures was introduced in the Summer of 2023, specifically developed for middle school students to facilitate early career exploration aligned with their individual interests and passions. This program aimed to serve as an effective tool, exposing students to a wide array of career paths in the workforce industry, enabling them to navigate and explore fields that may have otherwise been unfamiliar to them.

32,280
Served

263
Programs

Site director reports of benefits of Exploring Futures

Students learn about careers connected to their interests

96%

3%

Students have opportunities to reflect on their values, interests and strengths

96%

3%

Students set goals for their future

94%

3%

■ Benefit ■ Not a benefit ■ Not sure

• Compiled by PSA

COMPONENTS TO EXPLORING FUTURES



Career Exploration

Programming consisted of classroom activities that engage students in exploring their interests, with a focus on careers in STEM.

Components:

- Utilizing a provider-led Hats and Ladders curriculum
- Expansion of STEM programming in collaboration with Expanded
- Implement Career Exploration Curriculum led by a community-based organization (CBO) components that aligns with the desired outcomes
- Diversify programming with extensions into various career fields.

Career Exposure



External activities that provide students with exposure to a wide range of career options, particularly those in STEM fields. Participating sites **chose one of the following events:**

- CUNY Explorers: Visits to CUNY campuses where students engage in hands-on activities, many of which are focused on STEM subjects.
- Career Panels with Professionals: Interactive sessions where students can learn from and engage with professionals from various careers.
- Career-Connected Field Trips: Enhancing existing field trips by incorporating career-related components.
- Workplace Tours: Opportunities to visit local businesses, enabling students to connect their classes/activities to real-world work environments.

HATS & LADDERS.®



Five-hour blended Career Exploration curriculum

Specifically designed for middle school learners



In-App Activities

Career Thinking, Profile Building, & Career Exploration



Online Training & Educator Dashboard

Participant reports & implementation support



“Keeping NYC Cool” Career Panels

Live virtual discussions
featuring NYC-based STEAM
professionals in July



Exploring Futures: Career Exposure Events

During the Summer Rising program in 2023, middle school sites crafted career-connected extensions by organizing Career Exposure Trips that focused on the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). These events were designed to offer students the opportunity to explore potential career paths and gain early exposure to professional opportunities. Programs were given the freedom to choose and tailor their offerings to best suit the needs of their students and meet the objectives of career exploration.

126

career exposure
trips

1K

Students that
attended STEM
related trips

2.4K

College Exploration
VISITS

15

Technology, arts &
manufacturing
career exposure
Visits

5,000

NUMBER OF STUDENTS THAT ATTENDED
CAREER EXPOSURE TRIPS

Participant Testimonial

“

“[Exploring Futures] opened my eyes to the different things I could do. I still really want to be a surgeon, but if being a surgeon doesn’t work out, now I know there’s other things to do!”

”

Featured Events



Career Exposure Events: Community walks, Career Panels, Pfizer School of Science, CUNY Explorers, Louis Armstrong House Museum, Microsoft Experience Center, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Lincoln Center

Students created a **plan to launch their own businesses**- an eyelash business and a convenience store. Participants shared their business considerations (e.g., budgets, locations, materials, and hiring) and visions. A participant shared, “[Exploring Futures] opened my eyes to the different things I could do. I still really want to be a surgeon, but if being a surgeon doesn’t work out, now I know there’s other things to do!”

Exploring Futures EVENTS

Partnerships included: Pfizer School of Science, Louis Armstrong House Museum, Brooklyn Navy Yard, Microsoft Experience Center and Lincoln Center

Outcomes:

- Enhance **self-awareness** regarding their interests, passions, and values, and recognize how these factors can guide decision-making and foster a sense of empowerment while exploring career paths.
- Establish **connections** between personal interests, school experiences, and potential careers.
- Investigate **various employment opportunities** in diverse sectors, including those related to STEM fields as well as roles requiring leadership and entrepreneurial skills.
- Through a **culminating summer project program**, students can reflect on their objectives, aspirations, and potential career interests to develop outcomes aligned with the goals of the activity.





OTHER EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

- New York Stock Exchange
- Summer Streets
- Guest Speakers from Snøhetta Architect Firm



A special thank you to all of our CBO Providers and special partners that helped make this a memorable Summer Rising:

- New York City Public Schools
- Mayor’s Office of Talent
- ExpandED
- Hats & Ladders
- Policy Studies Associates (PSA)

AND NOTEWORTHY RECOGNITION TO SUMMER RISING CBO DIRECTORS & PROGRAM STAFF!



Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP)

The Summer Youth Employment Program began 60 years ago as part of nationwide effort in 1963 to address unemployment and inequality for young people in major cities like New York.

Originally, SYEP was a small lottery-based program managed by many different agencies. It came under the authority of DYCD in 2003.

In the years since, it has transformed into a large-scale initiative serving young New Yorkers from every corner of the city, offering paid work experiences across dozens of industries for participants to explore.

As we celebrate SYEP's 60th anniversary, DYCD looks back with pride at the program's rich history and its impact on the lives of generations of New Yorkers.



"Hiring youth is good business."

[Click Here to Read More](#)
[Click Here to Read More](#)



"The overwhelming majority of enrollees believe they had helped themselves and the community."

New York Times, 1977
[Click Here to Read More](#)



60

Some of these youngsters will be looking for temporary summer jobs. But getting those jobs may be the difference between being able to go back to school or not going back.

Almost a million of them will be trying to find their places in life, trying to become independent, self-sufficient.

If we fail them, it will mean that we are failing our future."

*- President Lyndon B. Johnson
Youth Opportunity Campaign
1966*

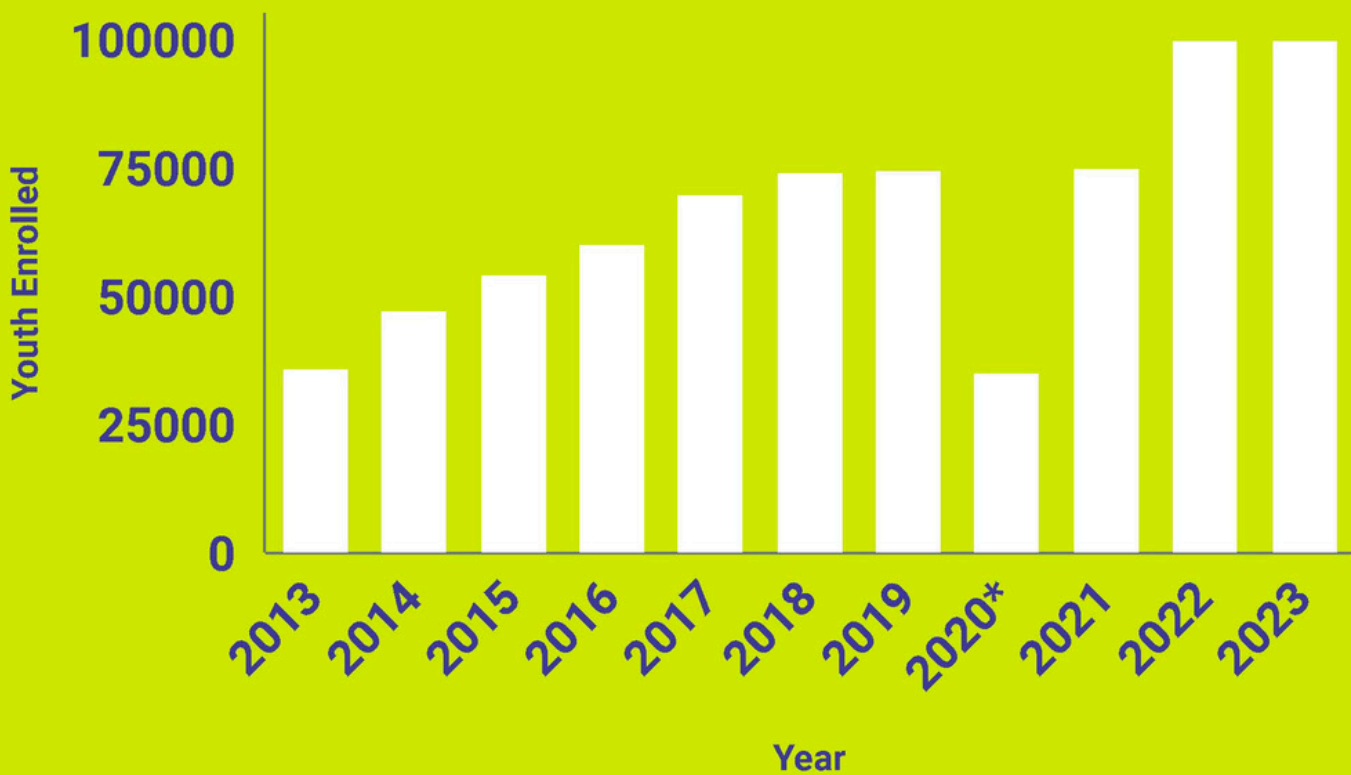


Growing Impact on NYC



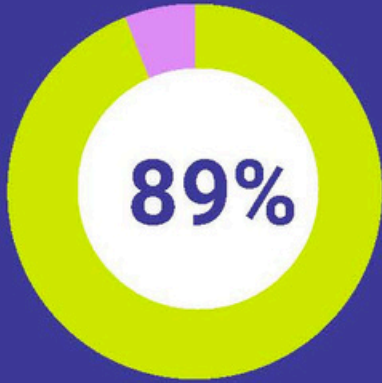
Today, New York City's Summer Youth Employment Program is the **nation's largest and longest continually operating youth workforce program.**

For the second summer in a row, 100,000 youth received **life changing paid opportunities** thanks to a **record investment** by Mayor Eric Adams and the dedication of **SYEP community and employer partners.**

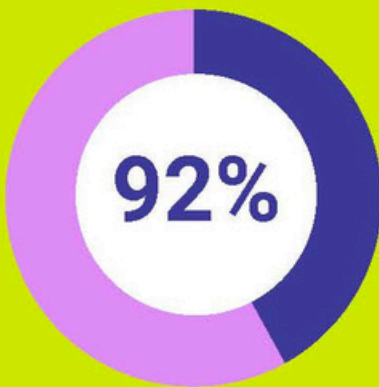


* Program scaled down due to COVID-19 pandemic

Overwhelming Satisfaction



of participants surveyed were **satisfied or very satisfied** with their overall experience with SYEP



of Younger Youth were **satisfied or very satisfied** with their overall project-based learning experience



“

I was in an environmental justice Project-Based Learning site and learned about how the environment affects our daily lives. I understood that there are many ways we can **keep our community beautiful**. My favorite part was [going] to a local park in the Bronx and [painting] the benches and handball court. I pass by this park on my way to school, and I will have a **sense of pride and accomplishment** every time I see the work I did this summer to make the community better.”

-Liz G.
SYEP Participant



Expanding Accessibility

IN LANGUAGE



Paper application & marketing materials in **nine different languages**.



In-app translation services for pre-employment training.



AND ON THE GROUND

DYCD offered **free MetroCards** to participants for their summer jobs.

Less money on transit, and more money in participants' pockets.



Meeting Young People Where They Are

Tailored experiences for youth with barriers to employment:

15,851

Young people from communities at highest risk of gun violence

13,557

NYCHA residents

4,245

Youth with disabilities

509

Youth served through CURE Violence

4,058

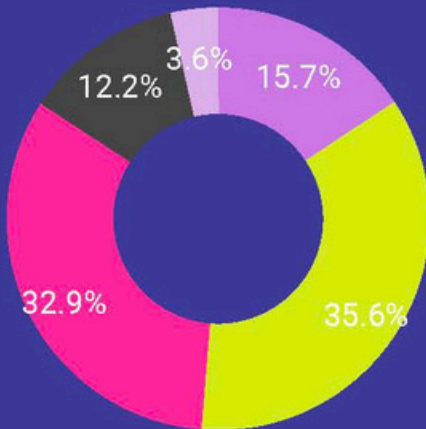
Young people in the **SYEP Emerging Leaders Program**, which provides specialized experiences for youth who face certain barriers to employment:

- justice involvement
- experiencing homelessness
- in foster care
- disabled and attending a District 75 School



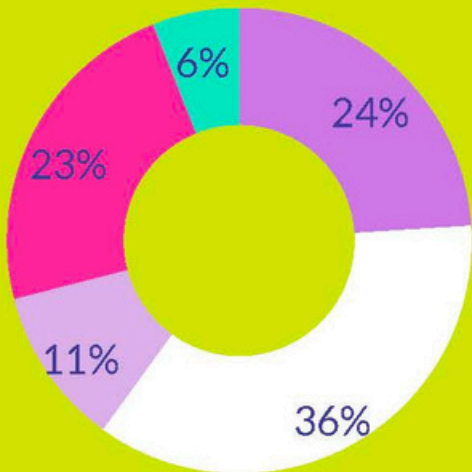
Demographics Breakdown

Ethnicity



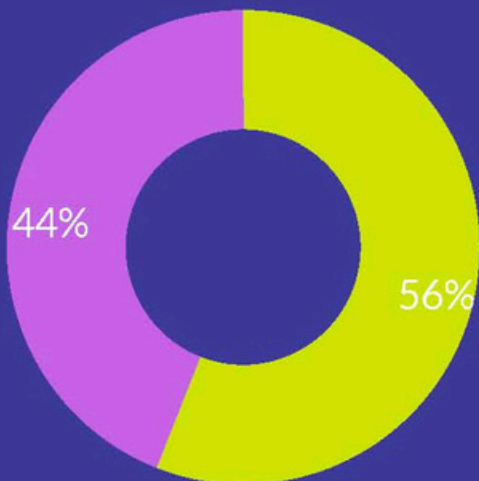
- Asian (15.7%)
- Black (35.6%)
- Hispanic (32.9%)
- White (12.2%)
- Other (3.6%)

Borough



- Bronx (24%)
- Brooklyn (36%)
- Manhattan (11%)
- Queens (23%)
- Staten Island (6%)

Gender



- Female (56%)
- Male (44%)



The Novel Nook

“ [Our young people] went above and beyond with a novel idea for their **project-based learning*** assignment.

These SYEP Younger Youth participants drew up a business plan and presentation for their aptly named bookstore, The Novel Nook... The group members created merchandise for their bookstore! They hand-painted tote bags, each of which was stocked with handmade business cards, stickers, and notebooks...”

- Chinese-American Planning Council

* SYEP participants ages 14-15 explore career opportunities and positively impact their communities through paid summer projects.



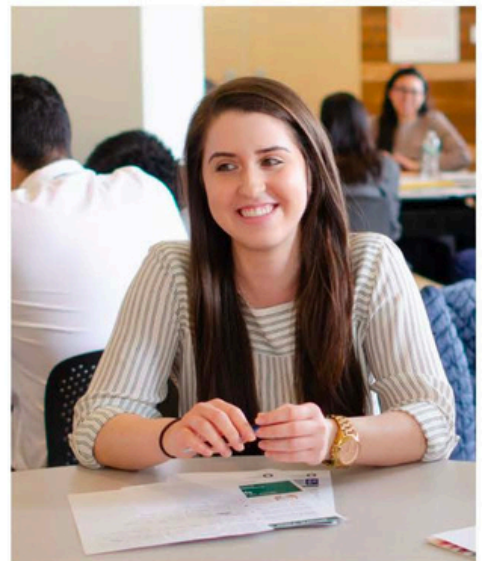
Connecting Summer Jobs to School-Year Learning

21,455

Participants enrolled in CareerReady SYEP

CareerReady SYEP works with school and CBO staff to align the SYEP experience with high school academic learning.

Over 4,000 students had the opportunity to earn academic credit for their SYEP participation.



SYEP Pride

At his **2023 State of the City** address, Mayor Adams launched SYEP Pride to intentionally connect **LGBTQ+ youth and allies** to unique career exploration opportunities through industry-leading companies/organizations and their employee resource groups, along with placements at diverse worksites that offer support from LGBTQ+ employees and allies.

3,500

SYEP Pride participants matched with worksites committed to supporting LGBTQ+ youth and their allies

84%

Participants surveyed who asked for even more SYEP Pride programming next year

“ Participating in SYEP was unequivocally an outstanding experience. This program not only contributed significantly to my professional growth but positively impacted my personal life. **Without a doubt, I would wholeheartedly continue my journey with SYEP.**”

- Cupid, SYEP Pride Participant



Career Exploration Event Hosts

- Louis Vuitton
- Alice Austen House
- The Stonewall Inn
- Playbill
- Related
- Disney's New Amsterdam Theatre
- ABC News
- New York Historical Society
- LGBT Historic Sites Project



SYEP Pride Employer Partners

- Kirrin Finch
- Equality New York
- SESAC Music Group
- Company Gallery
- Oliver Agency
- LGBT VC
- Caribbean Equality Project

BUSINESS & FINANCE



- Citibank
- Federal Reserve of New York
- Harlem Business Alliance
- Bloomberg
- Blackrock
- BNY Mellon Pershing

TECHNOLOGY



- Experis
- The Information Lab
- Mirror Technologies
- Black Women Talk Tech
- Google
- America on Tech

MEDIA & ENTERTAINMENT



- Reel Works
- Simon & Schuster
- SAG-AFTRA
- Paramount
- A+E Networks
- IAC Inc.

TRANSPORTATION



- Lyft HQ
- Lime
- Hertz
- FLO
- JetBlue
- New York City Transit

MANUFACTURING & MAKERS



- Unilever
- Brooklyn Navy Yard
- Uncommon Goods
- City Boy Coffee
- Prynt Studios LLC
- New York Embroidery Studio

HOSPITALITY & TOURISM



- SUMMIT One Vanderbilt
- One World Observatory
- Yankee Stadium
- Great Performances
- Hudson River Park
- New York Botanical Garden

Key Employer Partners

2023

Diving into Success

During SYEP 2023, young people got into the water to explore careers in the blue economy with **new employer partners** including:

- Rising Tide Effect
- NYC Parks Aquatic Centers
- Commonpoint Queens Aquatics



Careers in Healthcare

Healthcare is one of the most in-demand industries for SYEP participants.

They asked. DYCD delivered.

This summer, participants interned with:

SBH Health System	26
NYC Health & Hospitals	275
Columbia University Irving Medical Center	67
Mentoring in Medicine	161
Maimonides Medical Center	211

...and many more.

Making Headlines at Maimomides

SYEP Participant **Sirei Jace** worked in the Hematology/Oncology Unit as a patient companion, providing emotional support and helping keep patients fed, cared for, and safe. He went above and beyond for a patient at the end of life, holding his hand and being there for the family. **Sirei made the last few days of the patient's life easier.**

Sirei received a Special Recognition Award for his above-and-beyond service this summer.

Click here to read more



That's the most important part of SYEP. That message from us—we think you're special. We're finding a place for you to get to know what work is like and how rewarding it can be.

- Ninfa Segarra, SYEP 1965 Participant
Senior Vice President, SBH Health System
Former NYC Deputy Mayor



Summer with the City

SYEP participants had more opportunities to explore careers in public service than ever before.

53

Participants received an offer or second round interview at SYEP Job Fair

30

New York City Council offices hired SYEP participants

24

Public Service Pathways events hosted for participants

"IT'S IMPORTANT FOR ALL CITY AGENCIES TO PROVIDE ACCESS."



-ANGEL FAMILIA

NYC
Department of
Youth & Community
Development

1,000

Internships in law enforcement across the NYPD



[Click here to read more](#)



Several City agencies leveraged their partnerships to help us build stronger verticals in key industries.

- **300+ internships** with 16 members of the **Department of Cultural Affairs'** Cultural Institutions Group.
- New employer partnerships in **publishing** through the **Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment**.
- The **Department of Small Business Services** leveraged their network to recruit **70+ Minority & Women Owned employers**.
- Targeted engagement with **nonprofit leaders** through the **Queens Borough President's Office**.



[Click here to learn NYPD Officer Angel Familia's \(SYEP 2014\) story.](#)

Need a Lyft?

DYCD partner Lyft offered **free** Citi Bike® memberships to SYEP participants.

20,000

Citi Bike® rides taken by SYEP participants

Nearly **700** young people opted into the program and attended training sessions with Lyft and Citi Bike®.



“ Having a Citi Bike® membership this summer opened up so many possibilities. As an intern with the Department for the Aging, I relied on Citi Bike® to visit sites quickly and easily across NYC neighborhoods.”

- Kimora Jones,
SYEP Participant



“ What makes SYEP special is that it allows employers to tap into **schools** and **communities** such as the CUNY and SUNY systems to discover **new pipelines** and talent pools outside the traditional recruiting process.

- Jayne Chen,
Community Engagement
Specialist at Lyft

Employer of the Year: Con Edison

Con Edison has been a strong supporter of SYEP for many years. The company **hosted two Career Exploration events** at their nine-acre Learning Center this summer, giving tours of Con Edison operations and having employees share their professional journeys with participants. Con Edison also returned as a worksite this year, **opening their doors to more SYEP interns than ever before** and for the first time since prior to the pandemic. Young people supported the work of multiple departments, including **Steam Operations, Central Engineering, Construction, as well as System and Substation Operations.**

**SUMMER
YOUTH
EMPLOYMENT
PROGRAM**

NYC
Department of
Youth & Community
Development



**"SUMMER YOUTH FOR ME WAS A TRANSITION
FROM A YOUNG GIRL TO A YOUNG ADULT."**

“ These programs really allow kids to learn early on how important it is to work hard, to have responsibilities, to give back—not only to your community but to your family.”

**- Elvimar Rivas, Senior Specialist
Con Edison Steam Division
SYEP 1997 Participant**

Exploring a Sustainable Career Pathway

“ *The students that walk through our doors are inspired, informed, and excited before they leave. We can see that our efforts have altered the trajectory of some of their lives.*”

**- Frank Cuomo
General Manager
Con Edison**

Con Edison is joined by leaders across the City in building talent pipelines for green jobs.

FLO hosted SYEP participants for the first time this year, providing their intern with exposure to the growth of electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

SYEP participants also had the opportunity to intern with two shared and electric vehicles companies—Lyft and Lime. At Lyft, interns joined the company's community engagement efforts, and with Lime, supported e-bike and e-scooter maintenance work.





Career Exploration Series

Career exploration events provide SYEP participants with a **deeper understanding** of themselves, their career interests, and the current professional landscape.

DYCD partnered with **industry leading organizations** to offer dozens of career exploration events, including office tours, career panels, and work-readiness workshops for **more than 4,000 attendees**.

Confidence Building

Networking Opportunities

Exposure to Diverse Industries

*New in 2023: DYCD launched **Exploring Futures**, providing college and career exploration opportunities for middle school students in the Summer Rising program.*

Careers in the Arts at Lincoln Center
Celebrating 50 Years of Hip Hop with Queens Public Library Tour of Sirius XM
Resume Workshop with Simon & Schuster DCAS Skill Building Workshop for Public Service Careers Finance and Tech at the MasterCard Hub Tenant
Tours at the Brooklyn Navy Yard ABC News Office Tour Behind-the-Scenes at Nordstrom Louis Armstrong Museum
Tour Careers at Roku Careers in Gaming at Microsoft Con Edison Career Day

70+

career exploration events hosted by employer partners to enhance the work experiences of our young people

Worksites by the Numbers

Sector



■ Private (35%) ■ Public (19%)
■ Nonprofit (46%)

Workplace



■ In-Person (75%)
■ Virtually (9%) ■ Hybrid (16%)



97%

of employers would recommend hiring youth through SYEP

53%

of participants received an offer to return from their employer



Work-Readiness Training

Since 2019, DYCD has partnered with Hats & Ladders to create a more comprehensive experience for young people embarking on SYEP.

This year, DYCD launched **Flex Powerskills** to support participants' social emotional learning.



“ [It showed me that] I should find a job that matches me personally. I’m glad I took the personality test to learn more about myself...”

70%

signed up for Direct Deposit after financial literacy training

90%

satisfaction with Hats & Ladders content

90%

learned about a career of interest on Hats & Ladders



...that pipeline of developing tomorrow's cultural workforce is the thing that I'm really excited about, because it's such an amazing industry to have a career in and be able to be the bridge that connects our local young people with really amazing career opportunities."



-Jessica Vodoor
President and CEO at Snug Harbor



Click here to read more

Sarrah-Jeen Exilas: From Program Participant to Program Director

“IN MY TIME AT SYEP I LEARNED HOW IT’S REALLY IMPORTANT



TO SPEAK UP FOR MYSELF AND FOR OTHERS.”

-SARRAH-JEEN EXILAS



At 16 years old, Sarrah-Jeen Exilas had not yet realized the power of her voice.

A returning SYEP participant, Sarrah-Jeen had been placed at the office of City Council Member Charles Barron. This placement would ultimately shape her career trajectory and define her passions.

As part of her internship, Sarrah-Jeen sat in on press conferences, toured the neighborhoods in her community, and **learned about all the gears behind the scenes that make the city run.**

Today, Sarrah-Jeen is both a community advocate and a community leader. She is the Summer Youth Employment Program Director of Queens Community House. She spends her days working with NYC young people and helping them find *their* voices.

Sarrah-Jeen is a shining example of the lifelong and rippling impact SYEP has on young people and on our city.

Today's Internships for Tomorrow's Leaders

Ladders for Leaders, the capstone experience within SYEP, provides high-achieving young people with 30 hours of pre-employment training and access to competitive internships with leading companies.

1,700

Ladders students hired in finance, tech, marketing, and more.



I was able to make **meaningful relationships** with the people around me because it is no longer networking when a person truly wants to help you."

- Jeffrey Gomez
2023 Participant

LADDERS EMPLOYER FEATURE:

The Real Estate Board of New York

REBNY galvanized 15 member firms to hire more than **75 Ladders for Leaders** interns.

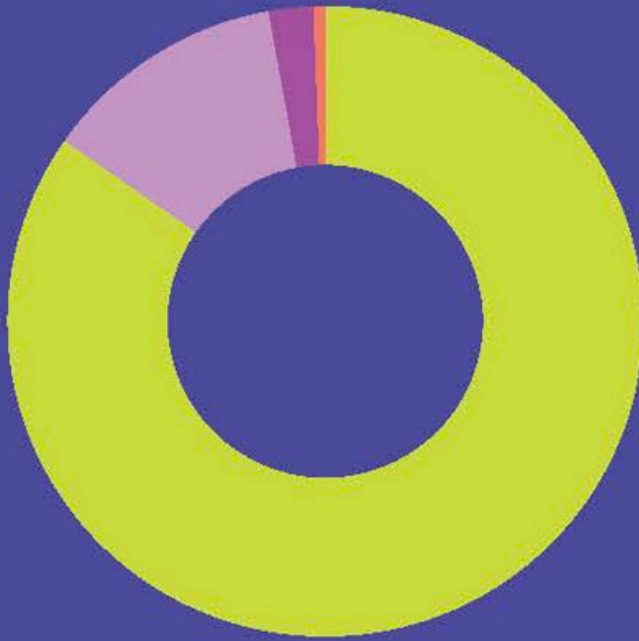


Exploring Careers in Real Estate

850+ young people worked in the real estate industry through SYEP & Ladders for Leaders.

Participating companies included: SL Green, CBRE, Rudin Management, Cushman & Wakefield, Durst, Newmark, Vornado, and more.

Funding



■ CTL ■ State ■ Federal ■ Other/Private



\$210 Million

total funding

City Tax Levy (CTL)

\$176.5 Million

State (TANF funding)

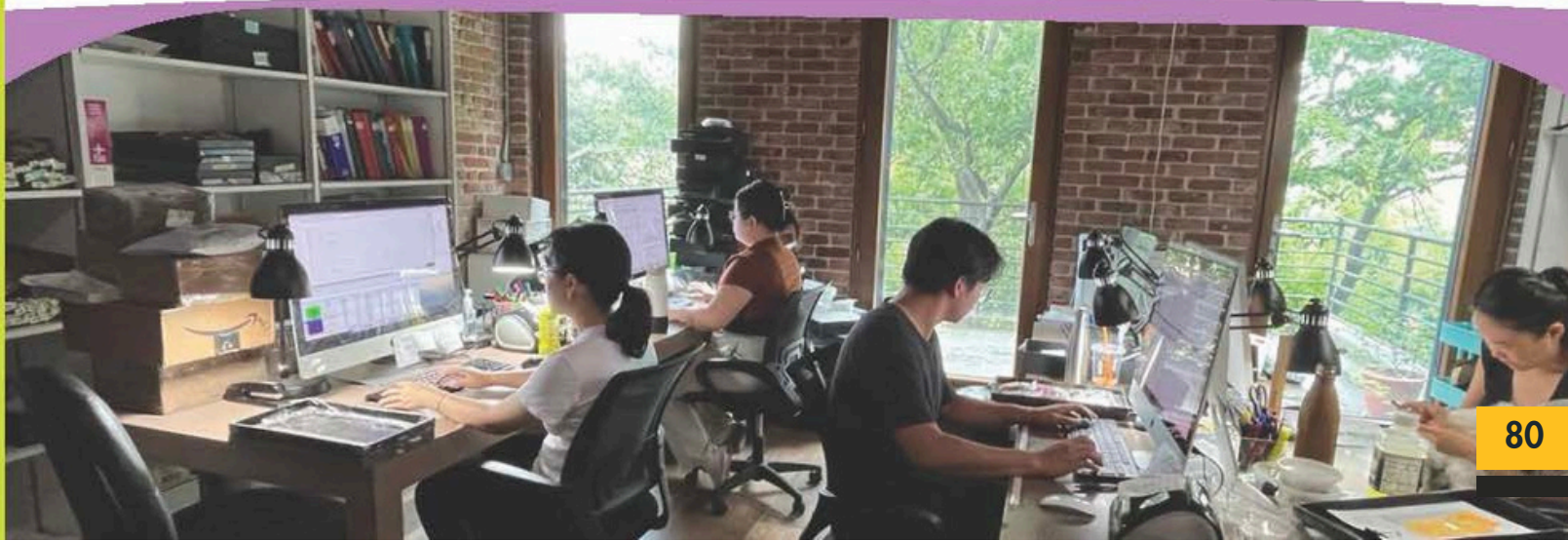
\$24 Million

Federal (Community Service Block Grant)

\$4.8 Million

Other (Private, Donations from Mayor's Fund)

\$100,000



#MySYEPStory: 60 Years of Impact



Former participants of SYEP reunited with DYCD and reflected on their experiences as a participant. For Miles Gamble, SYEP helped develop and flex his muscle in activism, community involvement, and public service.

Today, Miles is the Director of Employer Engagement at the Mayor's Office of Talent and Workforce Development.



2002-2004 SYEP Participant

[Click here to watch Miles' full story!](#)



[Click here to check out the SYEP story of Councilmember Althea Stevens, the Chair of the City Council Committee on Youth Services.](#)

Your Future

DYCD prepares NYC's future workforce and future leaders, connecting young people with mentorship, networking opportunities, and work-readiness training to provide personal, transformative experiences.



Check out other DYCD programs & services!

Learn & Earn: A year-round career exploration and academic support program for high school juniors and seniors.

Advance & Earn: An innovative GED training and employment program for young adults between the ages of 16-24 who are currently out-of-school and out-of-work.

Train & Earn: A career pathways program that provides comprehensive job training, employment services, and support services to out-of-school and out-of-work youth ages 16-24.

Runaway & Homeless Youth

Resources: Services include Drop-In Centers, Crisis Services Programs, Transitional Independent Living, and Street Outreach and Referral Services.

Afterschool Programs & Community

Centers: Engaging, high-quality programs for young people and adults in schools and community centers across all five boroughs.

In Every Corner of the City

Thank you to DYCD's 65 Unique Community Partners for their work during another unforgettable summer:



BROOKLYN Beam Center, Inc., Boys & Girls Club of Metro Queens, Inc., Bridge Street Development Corporation, Brooklyn Bureau of Community Services, Brooklyn Neighborhood Improvement Association, CAMBA, Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services, Inc., Center for Family Life in Sunset Park, Chinese-American Planning Council, Community Counseling and Mediation, Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush, Inc., Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Edith & Carl Marks Jewish Community House of Bensonhurst, Good Shepherd Services, Grand Street Settlement, Inc., Hebrew Educational Society of Brooklyn, Henry Street Settlement, Inc., Infinity Educational Programs, Inc., Italian-American Civil Rights League, New York Center for Interpersonal Development, Police Athletic League, Research Foundation - Medgar Evers College, RiseBoro Community Partnerships, Sesame Flyers International, Inc., St. Nicks Alliance Corporation

STATEN ISLAND The Children's Aid Society, United Activities Unlimited, New York Center For Interpersonal Development

BRONX ASPIRA of New York, Inc., Bronx Works, Inc., Catholic Charities Community Services, Children's Arts & Science Workshops, Inc., Community Association for Progressive Dominicans, DreamYard Project, Inc., Expanded Schools, Inc., Global Kids, Inc., Good Shepherd Services, HANAC, Inc., Kips Bay Boys & Girls Club, Mosholu Montefiore Community Center, Inc., Phipps Neighborhoods, Roads to Success INC., Simpson Street Development Association, Inc., SoBro Overall Economic Development Corp., The Children's Aid Society, United Activities Unlimited, Woodycrest Center for Human Development, Young Men's Christian Association of NY

QUEENS Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services, Inc., Chinese American Planning Council, Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush, Inc., Greater Ridgewood Youth Council, Hellenic American Neighborhood Action Committee, Police Athletic League, Queens Community House, Inc., Research Foundation- LaGuardia Community, Rockaway Development & Revitalization Corp., Samuel Field YM & YWHA, INC.

MANHATTAN Catholic Charities Community Services, Archdiocese of NY, China Manpower Project, Inc., Chinese American Planning Council, Community Association of Progressive Dominicans, El Barrio's Operation Fightback, Henry Street Settlement, Inc., Inwood Community Services Inc., Police Athletic League, Roads to Success, INC., The Children's Aid Society, Young Men's and Young Women's Hebrew Association of Washington Heights & Inwood, Inc.

