

NYCTM

**Department of
Youth & Community
Development**

The logo features the letters 'NYC' in a bold, orange, blocky font. A small 'TM' trademark symbol is positioned to the upper right of the 'C'. The background of the page is white with several thick, overlapping diagonal lines in various shades of orange and red, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern.

**Department of
Youth & Community
Development**

WWW.NYC.GOV/DYCD

A guide to DYCD-funded programs that are available at no cost to individuals, families & communities.

MISSION STATEMENT

THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (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.

VISION 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.

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DYCD is committed to providing high-quality, engaging programming for young people during the hours they are not in school. For more information and a list of afterschool providers, go to nyc.gov/dycd or call 1.800.246.4646.

BEACON COMMUNITY CENTERS

Anchoring New York City neighborhoods since 1991, Beacons are school-based community centers providing high-quality services to youth and adults, including programs focused on academic enrichment, life skills, career awareness, civic engagement, recreation, and arts and culture. Beacons are located within New York City public schools throughout the City. They operate in the afternoons and evenings, on weekends and school holidays, and during the summer. Adult and family services include high school equivalency prep, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), and parenting skills programs.

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CENTERS

Cornerstone programs are located at New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) community centers throughout the five boroughs and operate year-round. Cornerstone youth programs provide young people with a safe place to grow, and with engaging activities to help them develop successfully, including recreation; literacy; Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM); academic enrichment; sports; project-based learning; and social-emotional support.

Cornerstone adult programs are designed to enhance skills and promote social interaction, community engagement, and physical activity. Typical adult activities focus on high school equivalency prep, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), parenting skills, family relations, tenant education and advocacy, and intergenerational programming.

CORNERSTONE MENTORING PROGRAMS

Supported by the Young Men's Initiative (YMI), Cornerstone programs also offer youth participants the chance to engage in structured group mentoring and service projects with caring adults. The goal is to support youth in middle and high school grades by cultivating positive personal relationships and community involvement.

THE COMPREHENSIVE AFTERSCHOOL SYSTEM OF NYC COMPASS NYC

There are more than 900 programs serving young people enrolled in grades K–12. Through community-based organizations, COMPASS NYC offers high quality programs with a balance of academics, recreation, enrichment and cultural activities to support and strengthen the overall development of young people. COMPASS NYC began as Out-of-School Time (OST) in 2005. With increased funding and a steadfast commitment from Mayor Bill de Blasio, COMPASS NYC now serves over 94,000 youth. COMPASS has four program models: the COMPASS elementary model for students from kindergarten through 5th grade; COMPASS NYC's middle school model, SONYC (School's Out New York City), serves as a pathway to success for youth in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades; COMPASS High helps students navigate high school, with targeted supports and advocacy within the school community; and COMPASS Explore, serving all ages with project-based learning and enrichment activities.

TEEN ACTION

An innovative anti-poverty initiative supported by the NYC Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO), Teen ACTION provides young people in grades 7–10 with the opportunity to participate in meaningful organized service activities. The initiative promotes healthy behaviors, civic engagement, and a commitment to academic achievement.

HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

The Neighborhood Development Area (NDA) program for high school youth encourages and supports young people and helps them build the academic skills necessary to stay in school and attain high school diplomas. The NDA initiative involves youth in programmatic decision-making, leadership development and career counseling, and assists students in gaining the skills that will support their success in college, training programs, or jobs. NDA programs incorporate positive youth development principles, view young people as contributors and leaders, build positive relationships between youth and adults, and encourage all community residents to contribute to the well-being of young people.

MAYOR'S YOUTH LEADERSHIP COUNCIL MYLC

DYCD's Mayor's Youth Leadership Council (MYLC), in partnership with the Young Men's Initiative (YMI), the Mayor's Office, and other City agencies, engages high school youth between the ages of 13–20 in 10 neighborhood-based Youth Leadership Council Hubs and a Citywide Mayor's Youth Leadership Council. Youth engage in community and policy issues of Citywide importance, and express their voice to policy leaders and the Mayor. With training and support from adults, youth develop leadership skills through implementation of community projects and public policy presentations. The Hubs are a critical component of the initiative and allow existing youth councils to have a voice in their community and Citywide. The 20 MYLC high school youth and the Hubs work toward identifying a policy issue of Citywide importance, creating an action plan to address this issue, and delivering a formal presentation of the plan to the Mayor as a capstone event. Youth also have the opportunity to interview high-level public officials, learn how policy is made in NYC, and develop leadership skills through a series of community projects, presentations and public speaking opportunities, in order to advance their change agenda.

IMMIGRANT SERVICES

According to the NYC Department of City Planning, more than one-third of New York City's 8.5 million residents were born outside the United States. DYCD contracts with community-based organizations across the five boroughs to provide an array of services and support to new New Yorkers, including:

- Services for immigrant families
- English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)
- Civics classes
- Citizenship applications/services
- Assistance accessing social service benefits

DYCD supports reading, writing, high school equivalency exam prep, and English language classes for youth and adults.

**ADOLESCENT LITERACY
PROGRAM**

The Adolescent Literacy Program provides opportunities for youth in grades 6–8 who are reading below grade level to develop their reading, writing, and oral communication skills in an afterschool setting in order to acquire the strong literacy skills that are critical for academic success. Programs use diverse strategies ranging from more traditional direct instructional techniques to embedding literacy instruction within contexts such as technology and drama to engage youth.

**ADULT LITERACY
PROGRAM**

Adult Literacy Programs help New Yorkers attain the reading, writing and communication skills they want and need to gain employment and/or pursue further education. Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs provide instruction in reading, writing and mathematics to native English or English-fluent speakers; High School Equivalency (HSE) programs prepare students for the tests required for a HSE diploma; and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) classes help students to improve their English language communication skills.

**YOUNG ADULT
LITERACY PROGRAM
YALP**

The Young Adult Literacy Program (YALP) is designed for youth between the ages of 16–24 years old who are reading at the fourth to eighth grade reading equivalent level. YALP serves youth who lack the reading, writing and/or mathematics skills to be enrolled in a high school equivalency (HSE) test preparation program. It is a comprehensive educational program incorporating case management and internship/service learning projects. The goal of the program is to improve students' literacy and mathematics skills so that they can enroll in an HSE test preparation class.

IN-SCHOOL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT ISY

ISY provides college prep and work readiness training and academic support to juniors and seniors at risk of dropping out of high school. In addition, students participate in service learning projects to promote awareness of current issues in their surrounding communities. All In-School Youth program participants are given the opportunity to participate in a paid internship program during the summer.

OPPORTUNITY YOUTH: SUPPORTED WORK EXPERIENCE

NDA program that provides young people ages 16–24 who are not in school and not working with work-readiness training, counseling, and paid short-term work experience in jobs that match youths' interests and provide opportunities for career exploration. Each participant also meets regularly with a case manager. Programs provide career counseling, job-readiness skills, and life skills. At the end of the program, each participant has a career and education plan, including referral to an education, job training, or job search assistance program.

OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH EMPLOYMENT OSY

OSY serves young adults between the ages of 16–21 who are not connected to school or work and need assistance upgrading their educational and occupational skills. OSY programs are operated by community-based organizations in all five boroughs, and offer a wide range of services designed to increase young adults' success in the workplace and in their personal lives.

YOUNG ADULT INTERNSHIP PROGRAM YAIP

YAIP provides young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are not enrolled in school or employed with short-term paid internship opportunities, follow-up services, training, and educational assistance. The program is supported by the Center for Economic Opportunity and Young Men's Initiative (YMI).

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



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WORK, LEARN AND GROW EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM WLG

WLG is a New York City Council-funded initiative designed to build off of the experiences gained in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). WLG provides participants of SYEP who are between the ages of 14–24 and currently in school with career-readiness training and paid employment opportunities for up to 25 weeks from October to April.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

As the lead agency for the City's youth employment programs, DYCD is committed to expanding opportunities for New York City's young people.

SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM SYEP

SYEP is a summer employment program open to New York City youth between the ages of 14 and 24. Participants earn minimum wage, and worksites include small businesses, hospitals, summer camps, nonprofits, law firms, museums, sports and retail organizations, and City agencies. Online applications are accepted on the DYCD website each spring.

NYC LADDERS FOR LEADERS

The NYC Ladders for Leaders program, a component of the Summer Youth Employment Program, provides professional internships to NYC youth between the ages of 16 to 22.

DYCD funds a wide variety of programs designed to help families address life's challenges.

**FATHERHOOD
INITIATIVE**

DYCD's funded Fatherhood programs help non-custodial fathers reconnect with their children and develop essential parenting skills by helping each participant increase engagement and responsibility in his relationship with his children and provide material and financial support. Programs provide fathers and their children with up to six months of case management, with follow-up services as needed for up to one year. Programming is offered in three distinct categories: young fathers (16–24 years old), older fathers (over the age of 24) and fathers with prior involvement in the criminal justice system.

**NEIGHBORHOOD
DEVELOPMENT AREAS
NDA**

DYCD funds a wide spectrum of programs to match the needs, assets, and priorities of the City's low-income communities. The NDA Initiative fosters community-level engagement to ensure that services address the most pressing needs of each community and promote self-sufficiency and family stability. DYCD oversees a wide range of NDA programs, including: supportive work experiences and job-skills readiness for adolescents who are currently in school or working; educational support for high school youth who are struggling academically to support their efforts to determine positive trajectories from high school; advocacy and assistance for low-income tenants and homeowners to help them obtain housing support benefits and maintain adequate, affordable, and safe housing; assistance to immigrant New Yorkers to access a variety of services, including matters related to citizenship and immigration status, ESOL/Civics and social services; Adult Basic Education (ABE) programs that provide instruction in reading, writing and mathematics, and High School Equivalency programs to prepare students for tests in writing, reading, social studies, science and mathematics; health insurance and health care access; support programs, including social and recreational activities, exercise and nutrition programs, medical assistance and community services for New Yorkers aged 60 and older; and services to support and strengthen families, including counseling, educational/career advice, legal assistance, and other social services.

DYCD funds programs to protect runaway, homeless and LGBTQ youth, and, when appropriate, reunite them with their families. We are committed to providing young people with the resources they need to get off the streets and stabilize their lives.

STREET OUTREACH AND REFERRAL SERVICES

Mobile street outreach teams locate at-risk and runaway and homeless youth and provide them with assistance, transportation, and referral services.

BOROUGH-BASED DROP-IN CENTERS

Located in each of the five boroughs, drop-in centers provide runaway and homeless young people, and youth at risk of homelessness, with a safe haven to receive counseling, referrals, résumé, employment and mental health services and other assistance. A drop-in center in Harlem offers 24/7 services and specializes in the LGBTQ community.

CRISIS SHELTERS

A safe and welcoming temporary shelter, providing immediate, short-term (30-day) shelter to runaway and homeless youth (ages 16–20) while they receive assistance to obtain a long-term housing arrangement.

TRANSITIONAL INDEPENDENT LIVING TIL

TIL provides runaway and homeless youth (ages 16–20) with a longer-term home, and training and support they need to establish an independent life. The City has opened the first-ever municipally-funded facility specifically for transgender youth.

DYCD has forged strong partnerships with other stakeholders to maximize our strengths and broaden our reach into New York City communities.

COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD CAB

CAB leads and advises Citywide community action initiatives under the federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) anti-poverty program. The 45-member CAB is composed of 22 residents of low-income communities, 15 elected public officials, and eight representatives from the private sector including from the Office of the Mayor, the Office of the Speaker, the Office of the Comptroller, the Office of the Public Advocate, and the offices of the five Borough Presidents.

INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL ON YOUTH ICC

ICC promotes interagency collaboration on issues relevant to New York City youth. The Council is composed of representatives from the City's youth-serving agencies.

NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY BOARDS NAB

Neighborhood Advisory Boards (NABs) serve Neighborhood Development Areas (NDAs), which are low-income neighborhoods eligible for community development funding. NAB members are responsible for identifying the needs of their local communities. DYCD takes these findings into consideration when allocating federal Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding. Each NAB is comprised of seven to 12 members with the authority to help identify community priorities and recommend specific programs. All NAB meetings are open to the public, and are conducted at sites accessible to members and the general public.

ADVISORY BOARDS



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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD YOUTH COMMITTEE

The Workforce Development Board Youth Committee advises DYCD on youth workforce policy and the distribution of Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds. The Youth Committee is involved in reviewing the performance of WIOA-funded programs for in-school and out-of-school youth and is responsible for developing strategies to address the critical workforce challenges facing the City's youth population.

NEW YORK CITY YOUTH BOARD

The NYC Youth Board advises DYCD on the development of youth programs. The board is comprised of youth representatives and leaders from business, academia, government, foundations, and community-based organizations.

RESOURCES

NEW YORK CITY YOUTH CONNECT

Call NYC Youth Connect toll free:

1.800.246.4646 or

call 646.343.6800

Monday – Friday

9:00am – 7:00pm

E-mail:

youthconnect@dycd.nyc.gov

In NYC call 311 or Out-of-City:

212.NEW.YORK (212.639.9675)

NYC Youth Connect is a one-stop shop for all youth-related resources in NYC. Youth Connect has a toll-free hotline and utilizes web-based strategies to increase access to and visibility of New York City's opportunities for youth, families and community organizations. Youth Connect Resource Specialists are trained to connect callers and correspondents to the services they need. Youth Connect's database includes more than 8,000 community resources from DYCD-funded agencies as well as other public, nonprofit, and private sector organizations. Youth Connect receives over 55,000 phone calls annually, and staff utilizes AT&T's Language Line to communicate in over 180 languages.

DYCD SOCIAL MEDIA

The official DYCD website is nyc.gov/dycd. It is a comprehensive source of information for youth, families, and community-based organizations. DYCD is also on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

RESOURCES



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E-NEWSLETTER @DYCD

A monthly e-newsletter that provides updates about programs, events, funding opportunities and resources related to youth, family, and community issues in New York City. To subscribe, forward your email address to newsletter@dycd.nyc.gov. Past issues of @DYCD can be found at nyc.gov/dycd.

YOUTH CONNECT E-BLAST

The Youth Connect E-Blast is a monthly e-newsletter which highlights DYCD's latest programs and enrollment periods, invites youth to visit DYCD's website, and often includes information on scholarship, internships and employment opportunities. To subscribe, go to www.nyc.gov/dycd, hit the Get Connected tab, then click Stay Connected, and "Subscribe to DYCD Notifications."

DISCOVER DYCD

nyc.gov/dycd/discoverdycd

DiscoverDYCD allows users to search for DYCD-funded providers by program type, borough, neighborhood or zip code, and provides contact information, lists of activities offered, and a mapping feature with navigation. Categories of services include COMPASS afterschool, Family Support, Immigrant Services, Jobs & Internships, Reading & Writing, and Runaway & Homeless Youth. Advanced search features also allow users to narrow results through keywords.

GROUP SUBWAY PASSES

DYCD offers free subway passes for eligible nonprofit organizations and public schools. Group subway passes and certificates are available for eligible groups of young people between the ages of five and 24 for travel on New York City subways. Go to nyc.gov/dycd for instructions.

RESOURCES



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CAPACITY BUILDING

DYCD invests in building the capacity of nonprofit organizations to help ensure that youth and families receive high quality, effective services. By bringing together practitioners, researchers and other experts, DYCD strives to strengthen organizations by investing in planning, leadership development, and infrastructure, and enhance program quality by building front-line and supervisory staff knowledge and skills. DYCD also leverages the expertise of technical assistance partners to offer support in the fields of youth development, workforce development, mentoring, mental health services, and organizational development.

PLANNING, RESEARCH & PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

PRPD

DYCD's Planning, Research and Program Development (PRPD) unit identifies new program areas; approaches, develops and finalizes Requests for Proposals (RFPs); and gathers background information and data for use in RFPs and other purposes. PRPD works with DYCD program managers, ACCO staff, legal staff, and agency executives as program designs are developed and finalized. Research activities include assessments of local need for DYCD services, developing methodologies for targeting funding, and determining best practices for program areas to be funded. The development of RFPs also entails writing concept papers and soliciting stakeholder input relating to program design and areas recommended for funding.

SPECIAL CITYWIDE EVENTS FOR YOUTH

DYCD partners with the City's cultural, civic, and recreational institutions to provide experiences for young people to learn, explore and display their talents, including DYCD & NIKE Zoom League; Teens Take the Met; Soccer for Success; DYCD Skate Day; Night at the Museum; and COMPASS Recipe Rescue.

DYCD initiatives include Step It Up NYC; Art Exhibits; SONYC Film Festival; Chess Masters; Poetry Slam; DYCD Heroes Project; #MyVoiceNYC Poetry; Beyond the Voice; and "A Chapter in My Life" literacy initiative.

For more information on these resources, or to subscribe to @DYCD, go to nyc.gov/dydc or call 1.800.246.4646. |



EMPOWERING INDIVIDUALS • STRENGTHENING FAMILIES • INVESTING IN COMMUNITIES

GET CONNECTED





**Department of
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Bill Chong, Commissioner
2 Lafayette Street, 19th Floor
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New York City Youth Connect

Toll free: 1.800.246.4646
or call: 646.343.6800

Call **311** for government information and services
Out-of-City: 212.NEW.YORK (212.639.9675)

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