Executive Summary

The Connecting Youth Initiative (CYI) is now the title used to identify the program for the Outreach to Disconnected Youth commitment and is targeted for individuals ages 16-24, residing in Northern Manhattan, who are not employed, not in school and have not completed high school or obtained a high school equivalency degree. Given the commitment 5.07(c)(xv) Outreach for Disconnected Youth is still within the initial pilot stage, the effort is being repurposed to create a larger scope of services addressing the various stages of disconnection experienced by youth and young adults. A programmatic change was informed by a full-scale program evaluation by [Redacted], LMSW that took place at the request of The Office of Government and Community Affairs in the summer of 2017. It is well-documented that youth disconnection is not a singular condition but often accompanied by a host of other adverse circumstances that make it difficult for youth to succeed in life. Some examples include: poverty, homelessness, teen pregnancy, incarceration and disabilities. Through a combination of direct services and collaborative partnerships, the CYI seeks to mitigate these obstacles that prevent youth from achieving success in the areas of education and career development.

The intended objectives still include:
- Enrolling these young people in New York City Department of Education (NYCDOE) high school programs or Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) programs to obtain a New York State High School Equivalency Diploma
- Providing referrals for skills training, internships and work-based learning opportunities through CBOs (Upon completion of high school or receipt of an equivalency diploma).
- Efforts to place targeted youth in positions at CU

CYI is managed by the Office of Government & Community Affairs (GCA) at Columbia University, under the direction of [Redacted], Associate Vice President, Government and Community Affairs. As part of the redesign and program improvement, GCA made an additional staff hire, [Redacted], LMSW, as a Senior Program Coordinator to provide targeted outreach and supportive engagement toward out of school and out of work youth and young adults. He will inform program development while supporting efforts to gather more substantial and reflective data. In addition, beginning Fall 2018, CYI is now able to include the added resource of social work interns. As a first-year Social Work Student at Columbia University’s School of Social Work, [Redacted], joins CYI for the 2018-19 academic year, to assist with the provision of direct services to CYI participants. Her main duties will be performing outreach, intakes/assessments, case management, designing and facilitating workshops, record keeping, and making referrals for participants to access supports outside of CYI. Andrea will provide CYI participants with these services at CU and at place-based locations established by partnerships with local schools and community organizations.

Programmatic Overview

CYI now includes a case management service pathway to provide more intensive wraparound services on an individual basis. With a careful assessment of the individuals’ presenting problem at intake, CYI staff are able to address some of the other issues contributing to the disconnection. It also provides the opportunity for relationship building between CYI participants and CYI staff. The development of trusting relationships creates a pathway to change for CYI participants and makes it possible for them, along with CYI staff, to navigate the pathway collectively.
In an effort to place targeted youth in positions at Columbia University, GCA, via CYI, and Columbia University Facilities and Operations, Human Resources [CUFO-HR] and Columbia University Employment Information Center [CEIC] agree to define an effort to provide career readiness and job placement support to place targeted youth, ages 16-24 years old, in employment positions at Columbia University. These offices are working on a pilot collaborative with local organizations that offer workforce training programs. The goal is to work with individuals who are in-progress or have already received technical trainings and certifications to place them on a pathway to consideration for employment opportunities at Columbia University. Once individuals are referred to CYI by the partner organizations, they will be enrolled and receive supportive services that assist with the job placement at CU through the EIC and positions made available by CUFO-HR.

The Process
CYI is designed to assist youth and young adults experiencing disconnection to gain access to services that will ensure they achieve their goals in the areas of education and employment attainment. The service pathway allows CYI to meet individuals where they are and hopefully shepherd them toward job placement opportunities at Columbia University. The structure of the initiative can be divided into four phases:

Phase 1: Initial Outreach
We are not confined to enrollment deadlines so outreach is ongoing and targeted to youth and young adults experiencing disconnection.

- Community outreach is enacted by street and community walks to distribute flyers and other related program material. Local businesses that attract the target population are also supplied with promotional materials.
- School outreach is enacted through routine visits where CYI staff liaise with school officials and participate in schools team meetings that help to identify students with long-term absentee status who can benefit from CYI services.
- Collaborative partner-based outreach takes place through meeting with organizations to promote CYI and create pathways for individuals that they serve to be enrolled.
- Events in the community or local institutions serve as another vehicle for presentations and distribution of promotional material to the target population and/or organizations that serve them. Fairs, community board meetings, tenants’ association meetings, and town halls are just a few examples of appropriate events.

CYI plans to partner with local schools with an in-school and out-of-school hybrid program model. In addition to targeting youth and young adults already completely disconnected from school and the workforce, CYI will also target those who are potentially disconnecting, chronically absent and on the verge of becoming a school dropout. School partnerships help us to reach the target population before the point of total disconnection, at which it will be a more difficult to re-engage them in educational activities. The schools also serve as a source for data on student attendance, dropout rates, and other useful indicators of academic achievement. This data will help to inform the development of CYI.

Phase 2: Intake and Assessment
Intakes are triggered by CYI initiated outreach, community partner referrals or walk-ins/self-referrals. Once an individual schedules their first meeting with a member or the CYI team, they are interviewed and a basic intake form is completed. CYI staff use the information gathered to assess and make determinations on the next step in the process for the individual.

Phase 3: Case Management
When an individual is added to the caseload, he or she will begin to attend bi-weekly case management sessions with the assigned CYI staff. During routine case management sessions, action plans are developed to address the current issues plaguing the individual and to achieve short-term goals which will ensure re-engagement with educational and workforce institutions.
Phase 4: Referral For Services
After a minimum of 2 case management sessions, CYI staff will make appropriate referrals for services in the following areas:

- Education Services- TASC prep classes, DOE schools (traditional or alternative), vocational programs, tutoring;
- Workforce Development Services: Career and technical training programs, CU Employment Information Center, job readiness workshops;
- Workshops or other group learning sessions facilitated by CYI and/or in collaboration with partner organizations that cover a variety of topics such a job readiness, financial literacy and life skills. *Workshops are also used for engagement of and outreach to potential CYI participants

CYI staff members continue to meet with the participants during the period where the referral is pending and may accompany them to appointments when needed. Cases can remain open until it is determined that there is no need to continue to provide supports.

Additional Supporting Documentation
- Evidence of targeted outreach to identify and engage youth in the community
- List of associated CBOs invited to participate in outreach
- Participant attendance records for workshops
- Evidence of referrals to training, internships and work-based learning opportunities
- Evidence of efforts to place targeted youth in positions at CU
What is the Connecting Youth Initiative

The Connecting Youth Initiative (CYI) is a community and school-based effort providing assistance to those ages of 16-24, out of school and out of work residing in the Harlem community. CYI is managed by The Office of Government and Community Affairs, Columbia University, with the main objective of supporting participants with reengaging in educational activities and employment training programs. Through strategic, targeted outreach activities, CYI staff connect with underserved young people and match them with appropriate services and service providers.

How to Receive Assistance?

- **Self Referral:** Contact the Connecting Youth Program Coordinator, Henry Danner: (212)-854-4143 or via email hd2401@columbia.edu

- **Community and School Referral:** Community-based organizations and partner schools can complete a CYI Referral Form and email it to hd2401@columbia.edu

- **Staff-Initiated:** Referrals made through activities by CYI staff members

Re-engagement

Educational Support

- Getting back on track for high-school completion in a NYC public school or through TASC (formerly known as GED) preparation and attainment

- College or post-secondary education preparation

Obtaining employment opportunities:

- Direct referral to workforce/employment skill development programs

- Referral for job openings at Columbia University

Supportive Services

Case Management

Service coordination for CYI participants. Participants meet monthly or bi-weekly with a CYI staff member to review service plans, assess need for referrals to other supportive services and create short-term goal plans

Workshops

Group learning session that cover a variety of topics including, but are not limited to: financial literacy, job readiness, and life skills. Workshops are also offered in collaboration with partner organizations

Mentoring

CYI mentors meet with participants to offer individual guidance and support through guidance sessions focused on goal development and attainment. Mentors and mentees meet bi-weekly or monthly. This service is optional for CYI participants
Connecting Youth Initiative Referral Form

Please fill out all sections. Completed form can be emailed to hd2401@columbia.edu. For any other questions or concerns please call 212-854-4143

Referral Source: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ Email: _______________________

Person Referred: ___________________________ Age: _________________________

Phone Number: ___________________________ Email: _______________________

Zip Code: _________________________________

*If under 18, provide contact for parent/guardian

Education Status (circle): HS Diploma □ Some HS □ GED/TASC □ College Degree □ Some College

Reason for Referral:

Check the reason(s) for referral

☐ Educational Resources ☐ Job & Career Support Services ☐ Mentoring ☐ Other: ___________________________

Check off any other areas of major concern

☐ Violent Behavior ☐ Speech/Language ☐ Substance Use ☐ Gang Activity ☐ Runaway/Breaking Curfew ☐ Stealing/Criminal Behavior ☐ Cutting/Self-injury ☐ School Attendance ☐ Mental Health ☐ Family Concern ☐ Other: ___________________________

Strengths:

List qualities of the person referred that you consider strengths

Challenges:

List things that the person referred may struggle with or areas of deficiency

Other Supports:

List community, school or family support that the person referred has received or is currently receiving

Connecting Youth Initiative

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
Office of Government and Community Affairs

Contact: 212.854.4143
Connecting Youth Initiative Intake Form

This form is to be completed by a CYI staff member during initial intake interview. Please complete all sections to the best of your ability.

Name: 
Phone Number: 
Address: 
Zip Code: 
Education Status (circle): HS Diploma | Some HS | GED/TASC | College Degree | Some College

Client Interests (check all that apply):

☐ HSE Services (TASC/GED prep)  ☐ Job & Career Support Services  ☐ Mentoring  ☐ Mental Health/Counseling  ☐ Housing  ☐ Other: __________________________

Current Situation:
Describe client’s presenting problem. Includes: Living arrangements, current entitlements, social supports, goals

Strengths:
List qualities of the client identifies as areas they excel in (skills, hobbies, experiences)

Challenges:
List things that the person referred may struggle with or areas of deficiency

Other Supports:
List community, school or family support that the person referred has received or is currently receiving
## External Partner Organizations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization Name</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Areas of Focus</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CCFY Living Redemption Youth Opportunity Hub at The Soul Saving Station</td>
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<td>City</td>
<td>Youth Development, Violence Intervention and Prevention,</td>
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<td>FDA II High School (03M860)</td>
<td>City</td>
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<td>Active</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Corinthian Baptist Church HOPE Center</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Mental Health, Faith-based</td>
<td>In-Progress</td>
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<td>Manhattan Educational Opportunity Center</td>
<td>City</td>
<td>Workforce Development, Academic</td>
<td>In-Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Manhattan Improvement Corporation</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Workforce Development, Academic, Social Services, Legal Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>NY Presbyterian Hospital Youth Oportunity Hub</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Youth Development, Mental Health, Academic, Health Education</td>
<td>In-Progress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRIVE</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Workforce Development, Social Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tayshana Chicken Murphy Foundation Inc.</td>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Violence Intervention and Prevention, Mentoring, Youth Development</td>
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<td>Organization Name</td>
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<td>The Isaacs Center</td>
<td>Community</td>
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<td>The Pillars NYC</td>
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<td>Wadleigh High School (03M414)</td>
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<td>West Harlem Development Corporation Harlem Skills Training Center</td>
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### Internal Partner Organizations

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<th>Partnership Status</th>
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<td>Community Impact</td>
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<td>Academic, Workforce Development, Life Skill</td>
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<td>CU Employment Information Center</td>
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<td>CU Facilities and Operations</td>
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<td>Teachers College-REACH</td>
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<td>The Workplace Center at Columbia University</td>
<td>Educational Institution</td>
<td>Workforce Development, Research, Academic</td>
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Community Connections for Youth: Youth Opportunity Hub Grantee

In February 2017, Community Connections for Youth (CCFY) was selected to receive funds under the Criminal Justice Investment Initiative (CJII) in response to the Manhattan District Attorney Office's request for proposals to establish Youth Opportunity Hubs serving East Harlem, Central and West Harlem, Washington Heights, and the Lower East Side. The Youth Opportunity Hubs investment will create vibrant youth centers that provide comprehensive and coordinated services and opportunities, drawing upon young people’s strengths and addressing multiple risk factors and needs to prevent youth from becoming involved in the criminal justice system.

With these funds, Community Connections for Youth is partnering with several Harlem-based grassroots organizations to establish a Youth Opportunity Hub that will provide a host of services including, but not limited to, employment assistance, intensive mentoring, arts and recreation, trauma specific services, legal advocacy, and health education to residents of Central and West Harlem. The Hub will have a central space at Soul Saving Station, as well as satellite locations at other faith-based partners. CCFY comes to the project with a wealth of expertise in developing the capacity of local grassroots organizations, and the Hub will present the opportunity to continue and build upon this important work. Partners for the Hub include West Harlem Empowerment Coalition, Bethel Gospel Assembly, Salem United Methodist Church, Perfect Peace Ministries, Academy of Social Action, Harlem Children's Zone, PS 129, JVL Wildcat, NYC Department of Probation – Harlem NEON, ACS – Horizon, Credible Messenger Justice Center, NYPD Precincts 28/26/32, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Harlem Commonwealth Council, D.A.A.D., Arches, Next Steps, Pioneer Football League, Youn Life, CRU-Inner City, Soul Saving Station, Thrive Collective, Full Circle, Media Genesis, Code for Life, an STEM Kids NYC.

Community Connections for Youth is one of five organizations to receive funds to create Youth Opportunity Hubs. These comprehensive, wraparound approaches help to reduce the likelihood of interaction with the justice system by cultivating a young person’s strengths, rather than focusing predominantly on risk and delinquency.

The Youth Opportunity Hubs, along with the other initiatives being developed under CJII, form a comprehensive set of strategic investments that, together, will have a significant, lasting impact on public safety and justice reform in New York City.
Programs

The Neighborhood Opportunity Network (NeON) is a vehicle for networking, engaging clients in neighborhood settings and community engagement.

- **Network**: At the heart of the NeON is a network of partners — individuals and organizations, public and private — working together to improve public safety and promote the success of people on probation by working with them in neighborhood settings.

- **Engage**: NeON staff supervise and work with clients and their families in neighborhood settings to promote pro social life choices, attitude and behavior change, educational achievement, career advancement and active citizenship.

- **Community Engagement**: By working collaboratively with and within a network of partner organizations and individuals, DOP aims to involve the community to find good solutions to complex client problems.

The NeON makes today’s Department of Probation a valuable community partner with specially trained, community-oriented staff, who work to leverage additional public and private investments. Already, through the Young Men’s Initiative (YMI), DOP has brought approximately $30 million dollars in new resources and programming to NeON communities for transformative mentoring, art programs, literacy assistance, civic engagement, intensive mentoring and educational advocacy for juveniles.

NeONs are in seven neighborhoods that are home to large numbers of adults, young adults, and juveniles on probation; Jamaica, Northern Staten Island, South Bronx, Harlem, Brownsville, Bedford Stuyvesant and East New York. Research indicates that it is critical to consider the neighborhoods where individuals live, particularly the availability of relevant services and community support.

NeON Satellites™ Once or twice a week NeON staff share office space with community-based organizations that provide the kinds of services and opportunities clients need.

NeON Arts — a program of the New York City Department of Probation (DOP) in partnership with Carnegie Hall’s Weill Music Institute — integrates arts into the seven NeONS. The project empowers local stakeholder groups to choose arts projects for their own communities — projects that engage clients and neighbors in strengths-based activities supporting educational outcomes and connecting to employment opportunities. Visit www.carnegiehall.org/neonarts for additional information.
Workforce Training

NMIC’s workforce training programs allow students to earn credentials that are recognized nationally. The fields we train in are all identified as “career pathways” fields in New York City, meaning they are growing and offer a clear path for advancement. Trainings include:

- Customer Service
- Food Service
- Microsoft Office Specialist
- Home Health Aide
Serving 3 Generations on the Upper East Side

For more than 50 years, the Isaacs Center has achieved its mission by the promoting the social and physical well-being of the people we serve, encouraging their growth and development, and creating opportunities for children to fulfill their potential, young adults to find pathways to success, and seniors to age in place safely and comfortably. Today, we are strengthening and expanding our most innovative and impactful service areas:

**School Age Children & Adolescents**
- Focusing out-of-school time programs on STEM themes - science, technology, engineering, and math
- Incorporating literacy, arts, and civics into everyday learning
- Helping kids get fit through Cyclopedia

**Workforce Development for Young Adults**
- Providing job readiness to over 400 young adults each year
- Creating career pathways in labor market sectors that are expanding in New York City
- Offering scholarships to bridge financial aid gaps

**Older Adults & Homebound Seniors**
- Delivering 400,000 meals to homebound seniors in Upper Manhattan
- Engaging Senior Centers Members in more than 2,000 educational and recreational activities each year
- Supporting seniors with individual assistance including health care and case management

415 East 93rd St New York, NY 10128 • 212.360.7620 • www.isaacscenter.org • info@isaacscenter.org
Where We Work

1. Senior Center
2. Youth Center
3. Beacon @ PS 198/77
4. Beacon @ Manhattan East Complex
5. Johnson Center Cornerstone

For More Information

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President and Executive Director
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Gmorris@isaacscenter.org

Pakhi Kane
Deputy Executive Director
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Pkane@isaacscenter.org

Sherise Alleyne
Site Director
Johnson Center Cornerstone
212.360.7625 x404
salleyne@isaacscenter.org

415 East 93rd St New York, NY 10128 • 212.360.7620 • www.isaacscenter.org • info@isaacscenter.org
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

For more than 50 years, the Isaacs Center has achieved its mission by promoting the social and physical well-being of the people we serve, encouraging their growth and development, and creating opportunities for children to fulfill their potential, assisting young adults to find pathways to success, and seniors to age in place safely and comfortably.

SCOPE OF SERVICES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Each year, the Isaacs Center engages more than 6,000 East Side and East Harlem residents through four core areas of service.

The Isaacs Center’s After School, Cornerstone and Summer Day Camp Programs serve more than 600 children and adolescents annually. These young people are at high risk of poor educational and social-emotional outcomes,

Each year over 2,000 older adults receive services through Isaacs Center’s Senior Services, including educational and recreational activities; meals; case management and case assistance; health care management and health care assistance.

Our Meals On Wheels Program delivers almost 400,000 meals yearly from East 59th Street to East 142nd Street as the lead contractor working with partner agencies.

Our Education and Workforce Development services provide over 400 out-of-work and out-of-school youth, ages 17 to 24, with intensive case management, job readiness training, and placement in sector-focused internships and employment. Through our programs, under-served young people are able to enter or re-enter the workforce and pursue educational opportunities that boost their hourly wage earnings and put them on a sustainable career path.
Empower Yourself

Are you 18-24? Have you been involved in the justice system?

At STRIVE Future Leaders you will receive:
- Future Leaders Job Readiness Training
- Vocational Trainings and Certifications in
  Health & Office,
  Construction & Maintenance,
  Food & Customer Service
- Paid Internships
- Education Placement Assistance
- Job Placement Assistance
- Metrocards
- Legal Services
- TOOL KIT/HARDHAT

Credentials
- CPR/ First Aid
- OSHA 10
- CNA
- Scaffolding
- Food Handler
- Flagging
- MS Word
- MS Excel

Contact:
Strive Future Leaders
240 East 123rd St., 3rd Fl.
New York, NY 10035
212-360-1100

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# Choose Your Career Path with STRIVE!

STRIVE’s training programs offer courses that enable participants to achieve economic stability in exciting, well-paid careers. All services are **FREE** and include **CARFARE**

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<th>Green Construction &amp; Maintenance</th>
<th>Health &amp; Office Operations</th>
<th>Fatherhood Program (For Mothers &amp; Fathers)</th>
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<td>Assistance</td>
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<td>☐ And More!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## REQUIREMENTS:
- ☑ HS Diploma or GED
- ☑ Professional Attire
- ☑ TABE Literacy Test
- ☑ State ID
- ☑ Social Security Card
- ☑ Birth Certificate
- ☑ 18 y/o +

## REQUIREMENTS:
- ☑ HS Diploma or GED
- ☑ Professional Attire
- ☑ TABE Literacy Test
- ☑ State ID
- ☑ Social Security Card
- ☑ Birth Certificate
- ☑ 18 y/o +

## REQUIREMENTS:
- ☑ Must have a child
- ☑ 18 y/o +
- ☑ State ID
- ☑ Social Security Card
- ☑ Ability to work

---

**INFORMATIONAL SESSIONS EVERY MONDAY & TUESDAY AT 10 AM**

STRIVE is an approved WEP/Public Assistance Vendor. STRIVE is an Equal Opportunity Employer program and auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

TTY/TDD# 1(800) 662-1220

www.striveinternational.org

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WANT AN ADMINISTRATIVE CAREER IN THE HEALTH SECTOR?

JOIN STRIVE'S 10 WEEK TRAINING

- CPR & First Aid
- Microsoft Word & Excel Certification
- Patient Navigation
- Blood Borne Pathogens
- HIPPA training
- Job Placement Assistance
- And More

Earn up to $2,600 during a paid internship
If you are 24 and under

REQUIREMENTS

- HS Diploma or GED
- 18+
- Professional Attire

EMPLOYER PARTNERS INCLUDE:

Mount Sinai  ModernMD  Northwell Health  Lifespire

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Join our information session every Monday & Tuesday @ 10am
240 East 123rd Street, New York, NY 10035
212-360-1100

HRA Approved
Strong Fathers, Stronger Families
A Responsible Fatherhood Program

We Can Help!

Strong Fathers, Stronger Families is a program designed to help fathers find jobs, achieve economic stability, establish healthy relationships, and make a positive impact on the lives of their children.

All Services are FREE and include:

- Employment Services
- Skills Training
- Parenting and Healthy Relationship Education
- Child Support Case Management Assistance
- Legal Seminars
- Financial Education
- Peer Mentorship
- Health Insurance & Benefits Screening

And MORE!

Are you a Parent Who...

✓ Is unemployed?
✓ Is 18+?
✓ Wants to improve your relationship with the other parent of your child?
✓ Wants to learn how to become a better parent?
✓ Wants to become more economically stable?

Program Sites

East Harlem
STRIVE
Contact: Mr. Derek Silvers
646.335.0811
205 East 122nd Street (3rd Floor)
New York, NY, 10035-2003

South Bronx
BronxWorks
Contact: Ms. Tatanisia Lumley
718.993.8880 Ext. 227
630 Jackson Avenue, Bronx NY 10455
tlumley@bronxworks.org

Lower Manhattan
Seedco
Contact: Mr. Brian Bannister
917.338.9257
22 Cortlandt St (33rd Floor)
New York, NY 10007

"These services are available to all eligible persons, regardless of race, gender, age, disability or religion."

"Funding for this project was provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, Grant: 90/000-00-00."

"Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in these materials are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of United States Department of Health and Human Services."
Workforce Development

In September 2016, WHDC collaborated with West Harlem Group Assistance to establish the West Harlem Skills Training Center at 500 West 134th Street to assist West Harlem residents with job placement and training. In its first year, job placement has been 30% higher than the norm.

WHDC manages the West Harlem Skills Training Center and provides grants and funding to 501(c)(3) nonprofits for training and employment opportunities.

WHDC is a member of Pathways-to-Apprenticeship (P2A) initiated by Local 79 Laborers Union. P2A has received a direct entry status. This has helped WHSTC to steer local residents into good jobs in the unions.

The mission of WHDC is to promote increased economic opportunities and quality of life to sustain a vibrant West Harlem.
High School Equivalency (TASC)

Our Services

ADULT PROGRAMS
CURRENT ADULT LEARNERS & TEACHERS
ESOL
HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (TASC)
CUNY ASSESSMENT TEST PREPARATION
COLLEGE ROAD
JOB ROAD
STUDENT PRE-REGISTRATION FORM
VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION FORM
YOUTH PROGRAMS
EMERGENCY SERVICES
HEALTH
STUDENT EXECUTIVE BOARD

Click here to pre-register for our free classes.

Our High School Equivalency Classes help adults prepare for the TASC exam, the test that replaced the GED in 2014. Achieving a TASC diploma carries the same weight as a High School Diploma, and makes you eligible to apply to and enroll in college as well as significantly expanding your career options and income.

The TASC exam covers five core subjects: Reading, Writing, Math, Science and Social Studies. Morning classes run from 10:30-1:30 PM and evening classes from 6-8:30 PM, so they are easy to fit in your schedule. We run our program year-round in three terms: Fall, Spring and Summer.

For more information about our TASC program please visit our JEEP Student Freeway website.

Enrollment in TASC classes entitles students to the services offered by College Road and Job Road.
QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

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Executive Director  
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j.tutjer@columbia.edu

Visit our website for more information!  
www.achievementinitiative.org

ACHIEVEMENT INITIATIVE  
Success for Every Student
Who We Are

The Achievement Initiative (AI) is a partnership between Columbia University School of Social Work, local public high schools, and community-based organizations in the Harlem and West Harlem area. Since 2012, AI has worked with students, families, and school staff to encourage students to succeed personally and academically.

The high school years can be very challenging. Navigating toward and preparing for success is not easy for a young person. The Achievement Initiative and its staff offer comprehensive, coordinated opportunities for growth towards lifelong success for students and their families. We aim to encourage, prepare, and strengthen youth who can be our future leaders.

AI is funded by a Liberty Partnerships Program grant from the New York State Education Department. All services are free to students and their families, and are primarily offered at our partner schools both during the school day and after school.

What We Do

College and Career Development
- College Applications, Personal Statements, and FAFSA
- College Tours and Field Trips
- Resume Development
- Career Skills Workshops
- Internship/Volunteer Opportunities

Life and Social Skills Instruction
Through an advisory program and one-on-one interactions with staff, students will develop skills in:
- Goal-Setting
- Decision Making
- Conflict Resolution
- Emotion Management
- Positive Relationships
- Self-Awareness

Counseling and Case Management
- Individual Counseling
- Small Group Counseling
- Community Health and Mental Health Referrals
- Family Engagement and Support

Leadership and Civic Involvement
- Leadership Training Workshops
- Community Service Projects
- Legislative Advocacy Activities

Summer Program
Each year, our free summer program in July is tailored to meet the interests of students, and always aims to include college and career exploration activities, leadership development workshops, field trips, and specialized skill development in student interest areas.

Academic Support
Regents exam preparation classes and tutoring help students meet their greatest potential in their classes and on exams.
## Participant Attendance Record for Individuals Aged 16-24 in Community Impact TASC Program

All Program participants are tracked internally, to allow for follow ups and contact if a participant is no longer in attendance or halts enrollment activities. They can be identified and interventions can take place to try to identify the impediments to successful completion of the program.

The month listed in the date column is the first month of the semester-long TASC classes. All students listed attended a registration and testing session (3 hours), orientation (3 hours) and classes. Many of them also attended other services such as tutoring, college prep classes, etc.

"Initial Engagement" refers to the first point of contact the participant makes with the available services. The "Referral To" column broadly indicates where the participant was sent for next action steps. A participant may be a future referral to CYI. That determination is made on a case by case basis.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Date</th>
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Evidence of Referrals to Training, Internships and Work-Based Learning Opportunities

After a minimum of 2 case management sessions, CYI staff will make appropriate referrals to individuals for services in the following areas:

- Education Services: TASC prep classes, DOE schools (traditional or alternative), vocational programs, tutoring
- Workforce Development Services: Career and technical training programs, CU Employment Information Center, job readiness workshops
- Workshops or other group learning sessions facilitated solely by the CYI or in collaboration with partner organizations that cover a variety of topics such as job readiness, financial literacy and life skills

Referrals are currently pending implementation of the CYI program and will be reported on in the next annual report submitted on October 15, 2019.
Dear Henry,

As a follow up to our recent discussions, Columbia University Facilities and Operations supports the University’s commitments under the West Harlem Community Benefits Agreement, including its outreach obligation to disconnected youth. The department will collaborate with the Office of Government and Community Affairs to create internship opportunities. In addition, the department will work with other University departments to interview and provide first consideration to applicants who have completed community-based partner programs.

Sincerely,

[Name]
Assistant Vice President, Human Resources
Columbia University Facilities and Operations