



# PROJECT YOUTHBUILD

AmeriCorps

1901721

## City of Gainesville General Policy Committee

November 14, 2019  
1:00 PM

# What is Project YouthBuild?

9-month program:

- Educational
- Occupational
- Leadership

Who is it for?

- Young people ages 16-24
- Who have dropped out of school
- Have a low-income
- Young people with reading and math skills below 8<sup>TH</sup> grade level

Competitive Application  
Process



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# Educational Focus

- 50% of young people's time is spent working towards high school diploma and academic goals
- Hybrid classroom/online instruction along with credit retrieval
- Individualized instruction and support
- Service learning model

# Occupational Training

40% of young people's time is spent on occupational training

Renovate and construct affordable housing for individuals, families and veterans living in our community

Young people have the opportunity to earn multiple nationally recognized credentials:

- OSHA-10
- National Center for Construction & Education Research (NCCER) Core Construction
- NCCER Your Role in the Green Environment
- Certified Nursing Assistant
- Other Targeted Occupations
- Matriculation agreement into building trades apprenticeship programs at Santa Fe College

# Leadership

- 10% of young people's time is spent on a rigorous leadership development program focusing on 22 competencies
- All young people are enrolled in AmeriCorps and contribute to the local community through impact/service projects
- Young people learn about advocacy, conflict resolution, project management, and other skills necessary to be successful in a variety of settings



# Class of 2019 Impact at a Glance

10,225 volunteer hours contributed to local not for profit organizations and governmental entities

Provided 1099 families and 2895 individuals with free fresh healthy food

Renovated 10 units of affordable housing for individuals, families, and veterans living in our community

Worked closely with 15 non-profit and/or governmental organizations to address immediate community needs—immediate response time



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# Catching Up


- Most students have been out of school 2-3 years
- Average reading level: 6.5 grade
- Average math level: 5 grade
- 42% of young people have had involvement with Department of Juvenile Justice or Court System

# Barriers Students Face

7 OUT OF 10  
HAD FAMILY  
INCARCERATED



44 %  
HAVE  
FAMILY MEMBERS  
STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE ABUSE



 33 %  
ARE  
PARENTS

 50% REPORTED  
SKIPPING A MEAL  
DUE TO LACK  
OF FOOD

6 AVERAGE GRADE  
STUDENT BEGAN THEIR  
ACADEMIC DECLINE

44% WERE  
HOMELESS  
IN THE PAST  
YEAR

3 AVERAGE  
NUMBER OF  
HIGH SCHOOLS  
ATTENDED



# Wrap Around Services

- Trauma Informed Care Model
- Individualized and Group Counseling
- Anger Management & Substance Abuse Counseling
- Transportation Assistance
- Childcare Assistance
- Dental, Medical, and Vision Care Assistance
- Food and Nutrition Assistance
- Emergency Shelter Assistance
- Emergency Utility Assistance
- Laundry Facilities
- Mentoring
- Case Management
- Bi-Weekly Program Participation Stipend
- AmeriCorps Seagle Education Award for Post-Secondary Education
- Job Placement & Employment Retention

# Project YouthBuild Partners

- U.S. Department of Labor
- YouthBuild USA
- Florida YouthBuild Coalition
- AmeriCorps
- Santa Fe College
- Gainesville Chamber of Commerce
- Alachua County Housing Authority
- University of Florida
- CareerSource NCFL
- City of Gainesville
- Department of Children & Families
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- River Phoenix Center for Peace Building
- Gainesville Police Department
- Alachua County Sheriffs Department
- Alachua County Public Schools
- Meridian
- NAMI
- Builders Association of North Central Florida
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
- BOOST—Better out of School Time
- Brave Overt Leaders of Distinction
- Farm Share Florida
- Gainesville Community Ministries
- Grace Marketplace
- St. Francis House
- Habitat for Humanity
- Humane Society
- PACE Center for Girls
- United Way
- Partnership for Strong Families
- Rotary Foundation
- Brave Harvest
- Bread of the Mighty
- Keep Alachua Beautiful
- Tacachalle
- Catholic Charities
- ReBuild Gainesville

# Outcomes

- 69% High School Diploma Attainment, nationally the average is less than 16%
- 664 Industry Recognized Credentials Awarded; over 98% of students enrolled earned transferrable credentials
- Attendance Rate over 80%
- Entered Employment Rate over 75%; 10% enter Post-Secondary
- Employment Retention Rate over 88%
- Recidivism Rate of 6%

**\$5,770,893.00 federal dollars brought to local community to serve young people**

# Scale to Meet Demand

- Significant Waiting List
- Funding to run Project YouthBuild II parallel to existing program while maintaining fidelity to model
- Collaborate with other presenters and community partners to offer additional training in effort to meet local workforce demands





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Thank You

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