Comprehensive Youth Development is a nonprofit that supports NYC’s at-risk young people as they work toward high school graduation and prepare for successful lives after high school in college, certificate training programs, and employment.

Forging paths to success

Creating educational equity to help break the cycle of poverty for our students and their families for more than 25 years

Learn More
WE SERVE NEARLY 3,500 STUDENTS EACH YEAR

STUDENTS ATTEND ONE OF OUR NYC PARTNER PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS:
Manhattan Comprehensive Night & Day High School, City-As-School High School, The High School for Health Professions and Human Services

- Ages 14-24
- 92% live below the Federal poverty index
- 77% of students attend college, compared with the NYC average of 63%
- 60% speak one of 50 languages other than English at home.
- 88% are students of color
- From all 5 boroughs

STUDENTS ATTEND ONE OF OUR NYC PARTNER PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS:
COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WORKS IN THREE PRIMARY AREAS

1. Academic & social support services
2. Comprehensive college & career exploration and preparedness
3. Employment skills, readiness, and training

CYD is successful. Students who receive CYD services graduate at higher rates, attend and persist in college at higher rates than their peers.
Because our high schools serve a diverse range of young people, including older and immigrant students, CYD devises individual plans to help students reach their goals. These may include academic support such as:

- tutoring
- English conversation
- SAT and Regents prep

And because many barriers to graduation have nothing to do with academics, we provide help with:

- housing and childcare
- immigration assistance
- counseling and medical and emotional wellness referrals

GOAL: Dismantle the barriers that can keep even a motivated student from graduating
Because many of our young people are the first in their family to pursue higher education, we provide intensive college prep from selection to admission:

- choosing and applying to college
- managing finances and avoiding debt
- preparing for the transition from high school to college

Because college isn’t for all, we also provide workforce training and skills. Working with us, students:

- identify and explore aspirations and career tracks
- receive training in customer service and workplace skills
- gain experience through paid internships

GOAL: Students graduate with actionable postsecondary plans for college, training, or the workforce
Our nationally recognized CYD Career Academy is a partnership with CUNY/Borough of Manhattan Community College. High school alumni take part in professional healthcare workforce preparation, which qualifies them to enter this rapidly growing sector at competitive wages:

- a bridge program including customer service, leadership, communication, and team-building skills
- BMCC’s Medical Assistant or EMT certificate program
- intensive clinical internships
- attachment to employment

GOAL: Alumni who enter the workforce at a sustainable wage
THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

In September, public school students across New York City will be returning in person to classrooms for the first time since March 2020. CYD will be right there alongside them to meet heightened needs.

**Academic losses**
- Many students fell behind with online learning and have lost credits and study skills.

**CYD Solution:** Tutoring and English language conversation to help students get to graduation

**Emotional wellness**
- Many of our young people suffered fear, anxiety, and depression during the shutdown; many have been impacted by the loss of family members. Families have lost jobs and income.

**CYD Solution:** Hiring additional social workers and advisors to provide counseling and referrals

**Preparing for life after high school**
- Students and families need a clear understanding about the costs of college and job training.

**CYD Solution:** Assistance every step of the way so students avoid debt

**A challenging job market**
- The pandemic and contraction of the economy will affect young adults, particularly those of color, for years to come.
  - Entry level jobs are at a premium.

**CYD Solution:** Adding staff to increase job readiness training so students are competitive

In September, public school students across New York City will be returning in person to classrooms for the first time since March 2020. CYD will be right there alongside them to meet heightened needs.
I’m much more sure of what I want to do next since my advisor made me actually write my plans down.
- Sarah

CYD helped me imagine the obstacles that may come and how I will solve them.
- Ruben

They helped me apply for college scholarships, which relieved the pressure on my family.
- Lingyi

CYD connected me to a paid internship which puts me one step closer to finding a real job.
- Chanice

I was able to talk about my mental health struggles and I felt a lot of relief. I am utterly grateful to CYD.
- Triparna

CYD’s English Club helped me a lot to improve my English skills.
- Nafisa

They made me feel like I was not alone and assisted in every step. Thanks to CYD I am now going to college!
- Patricia

As someone whose parents are unable to help, CYD staff has been there to guide me about my future plans.
- Arefa

WHAT OUR STUDENTS ARE SAYING
HOW YOU CAN HELP

Make a financial contribution
Your gift ensures that CYD’s work continues. CYD is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1995. We have a Platinum GuideStar rating.

Provide internship placements, remotely or in-person
CYD places more than a hundred interns each year who work up to 15 hours a week. We have funds to pay their stipends.

Open the world to our students by sponsoring volunteer events with your business team
Workshops, panel discussions, and one-on-one sessions at your company or at CYD help students fine-tune their skills with résumé writing, college essays, and interviewing skills.

Donate
Provide Internships
Sponsor a Volunteer Event

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COMPREHENSIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
Comprehensive Youth Development thanks our generous funders: individuals, foundations, government agencies, and corporations whose generous support makes it possible for us to bring life-changing programs to nearly 3,500 students and alumni each year.

Foundations
- The A to Z Impact Foundation
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Government
- New York City Department of Education
  - 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- New York City Department of Education
  - Learning to Work
- New York City Department of Youth & Community Development
  - Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act
- Human Resources Administration
  - Immigrant Opportunities Initiative

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