



COMPREHENSIVE  
YOUTH  
DEVELOPMENT

Forging paths to success

## MISSION

Comprehensive Youth Development partners with NYC public high schools to prepare young adults, ages 14-24, to secure a successful future for themselves and their families. Through this partnership, our students develop the capability to graduate from high school and make informed decisions on higher education and careers.

## HISTORY

Since 1995, CYD has adapted and innovated to build opportunity for students whose paths have been circumscribed by educational, racial, and economic inequities. CYD was founded by volunteers at Manhattan Comprehensive Night & Day High School to provide academic and social support services for NYC's disconnected older youth. Today, CYD offers services at three high schools, as well as postsecondary healthcare certificate training at the CYD Career Academy. CYD has been cited across the city and nationally as a leader in youth workforce programming.

## PROGRAMS

CYD devises individualized plans to help our diverse range of young people reach their goals. We have developed a distinctive model that provides free services including:

- **College advisement and preparation.** Intensive individualized support from selection to admission, including choosing and applying to college and managing financing to avoid debt.
- **Career exploration and exposure.** Individual advising and introduction to careers through panels, career fairs, workshops, paid internships, and more.
- **Academic support services.** Tutoring, English conversation, and SAT and Regents prep.
- **Social support services.** Advisement and referrals to benefits, healthcare, housing, and food.
- **Employment skills and training.** CYD is dedicated to providing young people with skills to compete in today's challenging economic landscape. The CYD Career Academy, a partnership with the Borough of Manhattan Community College Center for Continuing Education and Workforce Development, prepares high school graduates to enter employment in the healthcare sector.
- **Legal Information Clinic.** Our onsite clinic provides immigrant students with free and accurate information, and connection to pro bono representation.



## SCHOOL PARTNERS

Our staff serves 3,500 students and alumni a year at four sites in downtown Manhattan:

- **Manhattan Comprehensive Night & Day High School**, a transfer high school.
- **City-As-School High School**, a transfer high school.
- **The High School for Health Professions and Human Services**, a traditional high school.
- **The CYD Career Academy**, a seven-month postsecondary certificate program at BMCC.

## OUR STUDENTS

- 23% of our population is Black, 49% Hispanic, 17% Asian, 11% White or other. 85% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.
- Students come to our schools from all five boroughs.
- Our students speak 57 languages. Many are immigrants or first-generation Americans.
- Most CYD students are the first in their families to pursue college.

## LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Executive Director Michael Roberts, MSW, has had an illustrious career working with NYC youth and has served as ED since 2016. He is considered one of the city's top leaders in youth development.

CYD has an 18-member Board of Directors and 35-member staff.

## FUNDING

CYD has a budget for 2024 of \$3.9 million and receives funding through city and state government contracts and from individuals and private foundations.

## OUR FOCUS

- **Diverse leadership and staff.** CYD's Executive Director and Board Chair are both leaders of color. Our staff are ethnically diverse and multilingual.
- **Career readiness.** CYD has been an early proponent of introducing workplace skills when students are in high school so that they graduate prepared for employment.
- **Serving older youth.** Two of our partner high schools serve older youth working toward a second chance at graduation.
- **School partnerships.** CYD collaborates closely with our schools and adapts programming in response to mutually identified student needs.



## HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

- **Make a donation** on our website.
- **Volunteer** with our students by hosting a corporate visit or a career panel.
- **Attend our annual spring benefit**, the Spelling Bee for Grownups.



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