

# WE RISE UP

Comprehensive Youth Development is rising up to meet the challenges COVID-19 has left in its wake.

Our students tell us in their own words how they have been impacted – and how they've been helped.

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Forging paths to success

SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH THE CRISIS



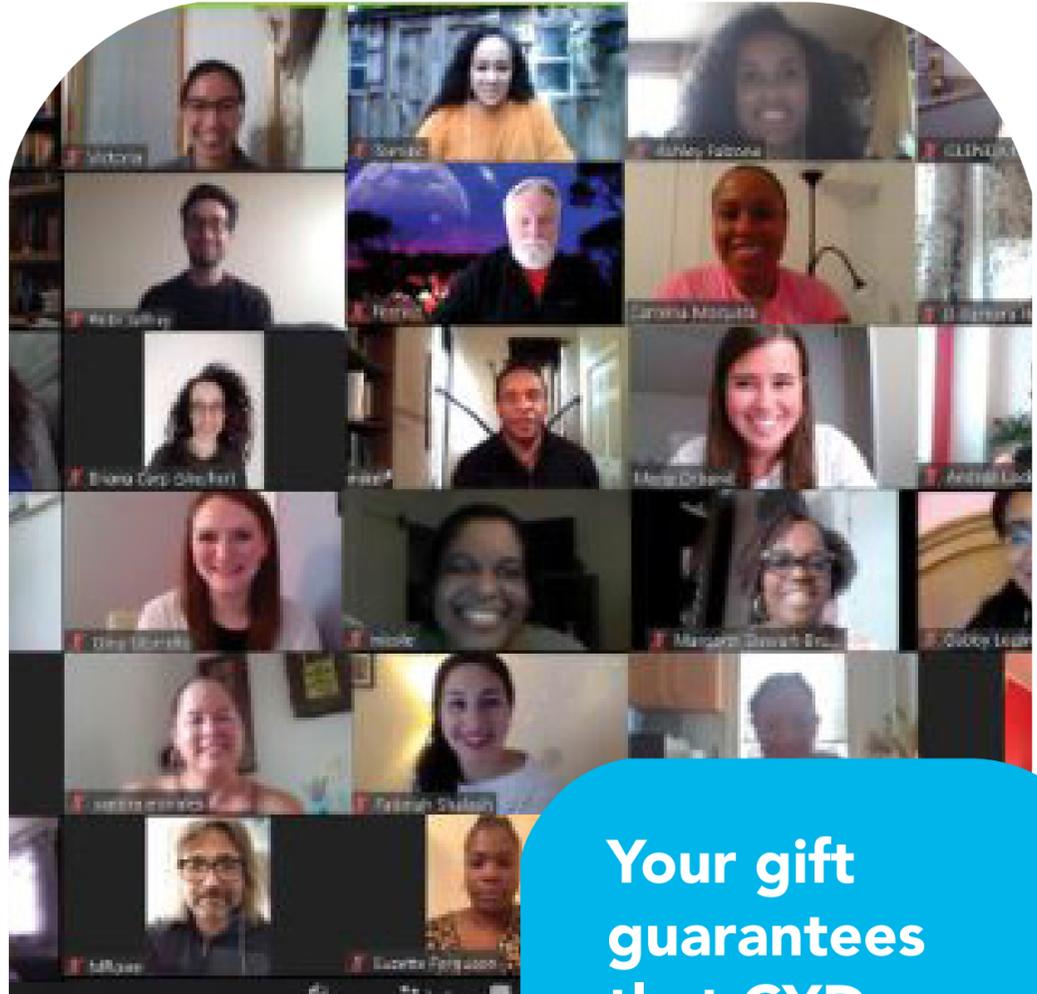
MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF REMOTE LEARNING



HELPING STUDENTS AND FAMILIES DEAL WITH THE FINANCIAL IMPACT



PREPARING FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL



**Your gift guarantees that CYD can continue to meet student needs.**

# IT'S BEEN A YEAR UNLIKE ANY OTHER

Throughout 2020, Comprehensive Youth Development has continued to help more than 3,200 young people journey toward graduation and plan for life after high school.

Our work looks different – it involves intensive outreach, long hours on the telephone and Google Classroom, Zoom instead of in-person tutoring, and creating “how-to” workshops and videos on everything from building a résumé to evaluating college choices.

We are providing intensive counseling to students and families coping with isolation and job losses, grief, food insecurity, and anxiety about the future. Comprehensive Youth Development is rising up to meet the challenges COVID-19 has left in its wake. Our students tell us in their own words how they have been impacted – and how they’ve been helped.

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**“I was so glad CYD was there when I needed to talk.”**

*CYD counselors are in touch daily with students to check in on their wellness and help them manage anxiety, depression, or emotional distress.*

## SUPPORTING STUDENTS THROUGH THE CRISIS

“I was panicked at the beginning. CYD comforted my anxiety and encouraged me which made me feel I am not alone anymore.” – *Jun*

“I was in my room all day and night. I felt very isolated and stuck and couldn’t talk to my parents or friends. It felt like I needed help and counseling. CYD was there for me.”  
– *Nusaybah*

“There are times where my heart gets twisted and sunk with nerves as I sit in front of my screen. Bright light envelops me, my thoughts run everywhere, my anxiety takes over. CYD helps.” – *Paola*

“My dad recovered from COVID but my uncle did not. It was such a shock. He always made us laugh and cheered us up. This affected me and my family so much – I have called CYD many times to talk.” – *Sasha*

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## MEETING THE CHALLENGES OF REMOTE LEARNING

“Remote learning was very challenging, especially when trying to do all my schoolwork on my phone. CYD helped me with a hotspot and a free data plan so I could use my aunt’s tablet.”

– Mario

“I live with eight family members in one apartment. Everybody was looking for a quiet place to do their classes and it was almost impossible. I was so glad that CYD was there when I needed to talk.” – Dayanna

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*CYD is working to close the digital divide by providing WiFi hotspots and unlimited data plans to make sure students can take part in remote classes, complete assignments, and get the help they need.*

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“CYD helped me with a hotspot and a free data plan.”

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## HELPING MANAGE THE FINANCIAL IMPACT

“I lost my full-time job six months ago. CYD helped me find a part-time job in a bubble-tea shop that is enough to cover my rent. Although I faced a lot of ruthless challenges, I think I am the lucky one because I am still alive.” – *Hua*

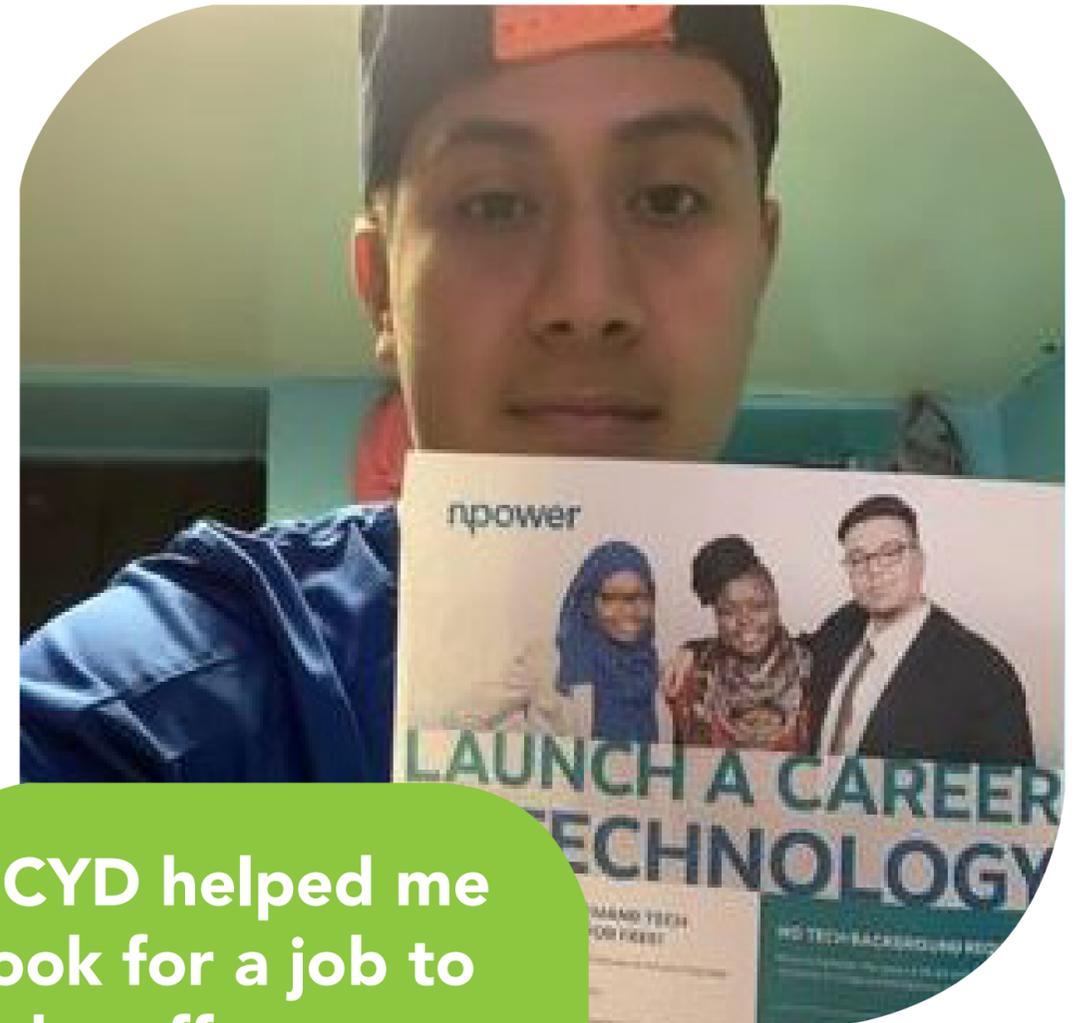
“Quarantine made me unsure whether I would be able to continue supporting myself and my studies. CYD helped me look for a job to take off some of the financial burden that has been placed on my family.” – *Jiao*

“My paid CYD internship is a huge opportunity for me. My father doesn’t have to worry about getting things I need because I am able to buy my own essentials.” – *Yelena*

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*CYD has helped students and families navigate unemployment benefits and emergency food and housing. We’re helping students find paid internships and jobs, and enroll in training programs that will help them be competitive once the economy reopens.*

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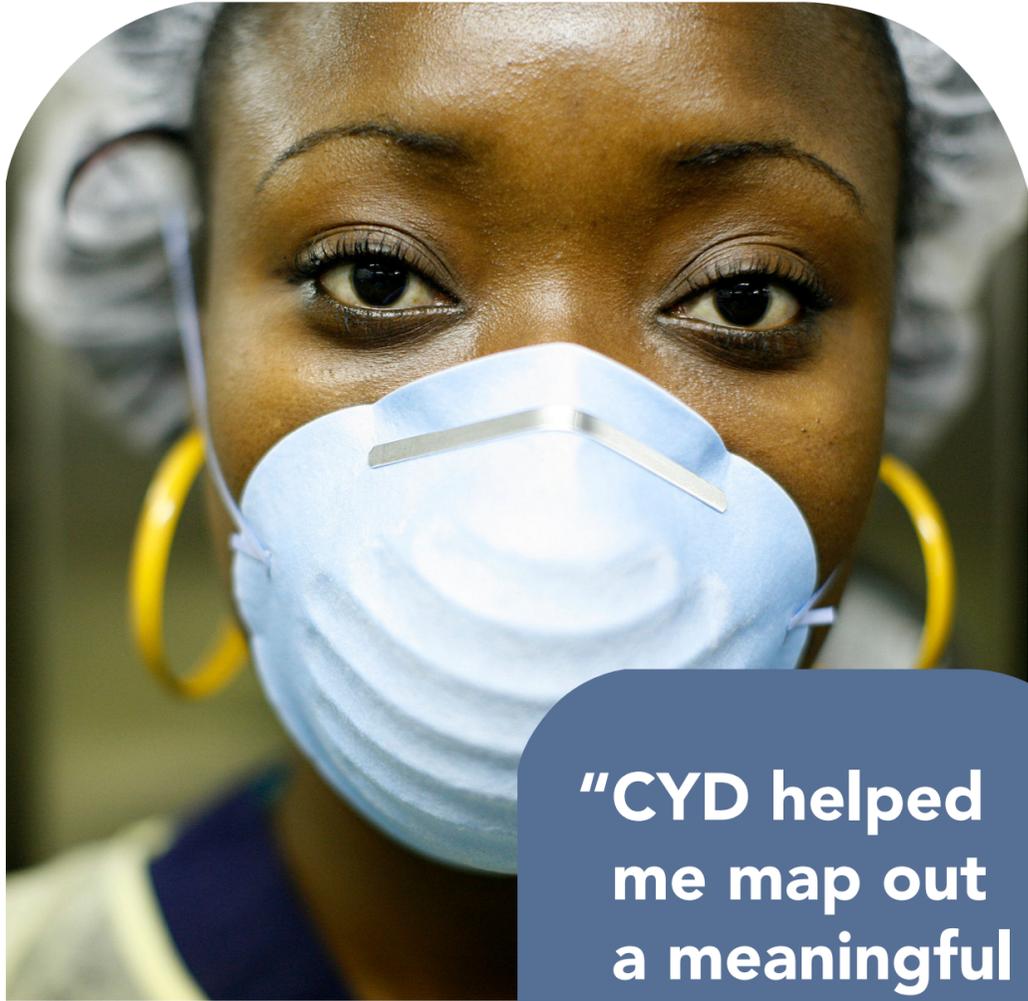
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**“CYD helped me map out a meaningful path to college.”**

*CYD’s mission is to prepare students for successful lives after high school, whether that’s college, certificate training programs, or employment. Your gift ensures that we can continue this vital work throughout the pandemic and beyond.*

# FORGING PATHS FOR LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

“During these difficult times, I have focused on getting an education. CYD helped me map out a meaningful path to college which I was having a hard time doing by myself. When an internship or educational opportunity popped up, they alerted me and assisted me in the application process.” – Xue

“It feels so overwhelming to try to think about what I want to do the rest of my life. People say I need to focus on what I like and what I am good at. But I am not sure what that is. CYD is helping me take advantage of all the services they offer in order to find my answer.” – Lila

“My goal is to graduate soon and CYD is helping me look for a job training program as an electrician. I want to start making money on something I like. Being a delivery boy is really hard especially in cold weather.” – Kevin

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# THANK YOU

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