

YOUTHBUILD FACTS JUNE 2015

OUR LOCATIONS

- Global** 360 YouthBuild programs
- USA** 260 local YouthBuild programs in 46 states, Washington DC, and the Virgin Islands
- International** 100 sites in 17 countries: Canada, Mexico, El Salvador, Haiti, The Bahamas, Panama, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Iraq, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Romania, Israel, and South Africa

OUR SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS

- In the United States**, local YouthBuild programs are sponsored by local community- and faith-based organizations, government agencies, and community colleges.
- In other countries**, YouthBuild programs are sponsored by NGOs, government agencies, international development institutions, and global companies.

OUR PARTICIPANTS (USA ONLY)

Demographics of YouthBuild students in the United States, based on data submitted to YouthBuild USA:

- 100% are low-income.
- 93% enter without a high school credential.
- 67% are men; 33% are women; 49% are African American; 26% are Latino(a); 20% are White; 3% are Native American; 2% are Asian American.
- 53% have received public assistance.
- 31% are court-involved.
- 29% are parents.

OUR OUTCOMES (USA ONLY)

- 76% of enrollees completed the program.
- 74% of enrollees obtained their high school credentials or other certificates.
- 54% went on to postsecondary education or jobs averaging \$9.18/hour.
- 79% of those placed retained their placements for at least six months.
- Recidivism rates within one year of enrollment for court-involved YouthBuild students averaged 12%.

OUR IMPACT

2014	Global	United States	International
YouthBuild participants	16,000	9,000	7,000
Community-service leadership hours	3.3 million	3.0 million	0.3 million
Affordable housing units and community assets built	2,200	2,000	200
Earned High School Equivalency Credentials (HSEs), diplomas, or other credentials	n/a*	7,200	n/a*
Graduates placed in jobs, education, entrepreneurship, and other opportunities leading to productive livelihoods	8,000	4,500	3,500

* Though YouthBuild International tracks attainment of academic and vocational credentials, its partner countries do not have official high school equivalency credentials.



OUR FUNDERS

Primary funding for local YouthBuild programs in the United States comes from the US Department of Labor under the federal YouthBuild program, administered by the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and reauthorized in the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act of 2014 (WIOA). Additionally, sponsoring organizations raise funds for YouthBuild programs from a variety of other sources.

The FY15 federal YouthBuild appropriation is \$79.7 million. The Corporation for National and Community Service funds YouthBuild USA to fund local YouthBuild AmeriCorps programs through which YouthBuild students earn education awards in return for the service they provide in their communities. Internationally, the governments of Israel, Mexico, Serbia, and South Africa are supporting YouthBuild programs in their countries.

YouthBuild USA, Inc. receives critical core support for both YouthBuild USA and YouthBuild International capacity building, expansion, and advocacy from private foundations, corporations, and individuals. It receives income from an \$8 million endowment established in 1999 by the Charles Stewart Mott and Ford Foundations. It also receives targeted grants for innovation and program quality improvement from private foundations and corporations. It receives public grants and contracts from several entities. Current major funders include:

MAJOR PUBLIC FUNDERS

Corporation for National and Community Service
 Inter-American Development Bank
 US Agency for International Development
 US Department of Agriculture
 US Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
 US Department of Labor
 US Department of State

MAJOR PRIVATE FUNDERS

American Express Foundation	Glass Charitable Trust	Noyce Foundation
Annie E. Casey Foundation	Goulston & Storrs PC	Oak Foundation
AT&T	Intel Foundation	Prudential Foundation
Bank of America Charitable Foundation	John S. and James L. Knight Foundation	Saint-Gobain Corporation Foundation
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation	JPMorgan Chase Foundation	Schultz Family Foundation
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation	Kresge Foundation	Skoll Foundation
Ford Foundation	MasterCard Foundation	Starbucks Foundation
Gap Foundation	New Profit Inc.	Walmart Foundation
	Northwest Area Foundation	W. K. Kellogg Foundation





THE NEED

There are 2.3 million low-income 16- to 24-year-olds in the United States who are neither in school nor employed. Globally, over 200 million youth are working poor and earning less than \$2.00 a day. All are in urgent need of pathways to jobs, education, entrepreneurship, and other opportunities leading to productive livelihoods.

THE MISSION

YouthBuild programs provide those pathways by unleashing the positive energy of low-income young people to rebuild their communities and their lives.



WE EMPOWER

YouthBuild programs develop ethical young leaders to take responsibility for their families and communities and to change the conditions of poverty through civic engagement. YouthBuild USA and YouthBuild International work to build and sustain pathways into national and international leadership for outstanding young leaders.

WE EDUCATE

YouthBuild students spend roughly half their time in supportive, individualized classrooms working toward their high school diploma or its equivalent, earning skills and certifications they need to succeed in high-demand careers, and preparing for postsecondary education or registered apprenticeships. Outside the United States, the education component is adapted to the local circumstances.

WE BUILD

To date, 165,000 YouthBuild students worldwide have built over 33,000 units of affordable housing and other community assets such as community centers and schools.



"Everytime I drive by the house, I say, 'I did that.' That house wasn't there ten months ago. It made me feel good to be able to build this house for people who couldn't afford to have their own."

Ivan Santiago, YouthBuild Boston, MA



WE SERVE

49.5 million hours of service and counting! All young people who enter a YouthBuild program, anywhere in the world, pursue a dual mission: to create a meaningful and productive life for themselves and their families while giving their best energies to improve the world around them.

"I learned to serve my community and understand the meaning of giving back. The feeling of making a positive impact on my community is invaluable."

Edgar Galvez, YouthBuild Fresno, CA

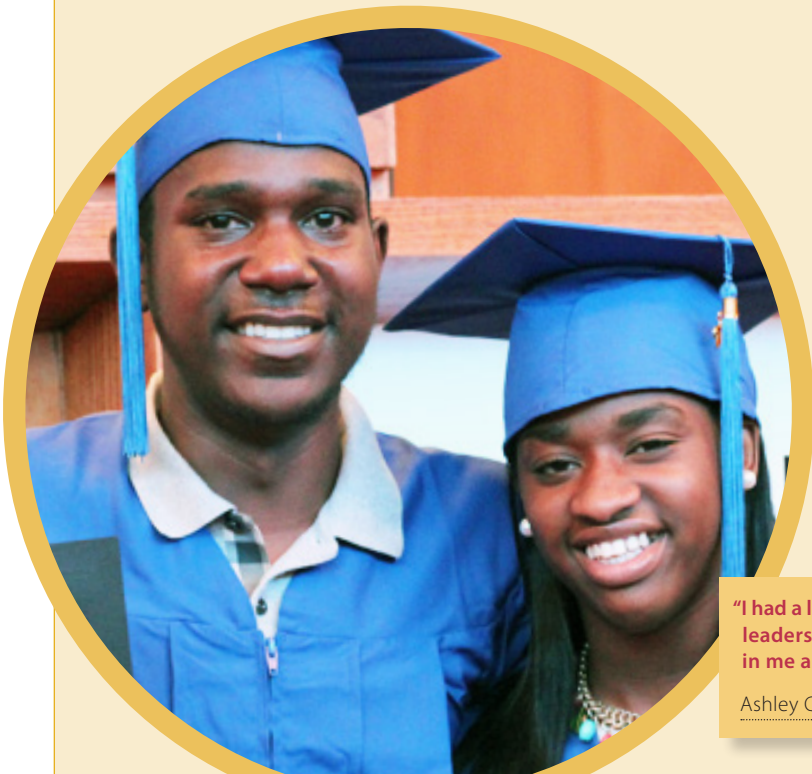
WE ADVOCATE

YouthBuild USA and YouthBuild International collaborate with national and international coalitions to advocate for effective pathways out of poverty for low-income youth, and to change the conditions of poverty by improving the public education, criminal justice, workforce development, and national service systems. In the United States, YouthBuild USA sponsors the National YouthBuild Coalition, which advocates for federal policies that result in the expansion of YouthBuild programs.



"When YouthBuild first took me to Capitol Hill to talk to my legislators, I couldn't believe they would listen to me. But now I have learned to speak up and propose solutions to the problems facing my community. It is exciting! We can make a difference!"

Maria Valdez, American Youthworks YouthBuild, Austin, TX



WE SUPPORT

YouthBuild USA and YouthBuild International support local YouthBuild programs with the best possible information, training, technical assistance, data systems, and funding streams to ensure maximum quality and impact.

"I had a little spark in me prior to joining, but through YouthBuild and their leadership programming, that spark turned into a fire! They saw the shine in me and pointed me in the right direction."

Ashley Charwood, Bi-CAP YouthBuild, MN



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Life after Lock-Up: A Special Report

Background

Nationally, there are an estimated 2.3 million low income young men and women, ages 16-24, who have not finished secondary school and are unemployed. This cohort of Americans is also at high risk of involvement in the criminal justice system, including incarceration. The YouthBuild SMART initiative described here shows that **high recidivism rates, which are costly to taxpayers** in terms of direct policing, prosecution, and prison costs, and indirect social and economic costs such as public assistance and barriers to employmentⁱ, **can be substantially lowered**.

The YouthBuild Program

YouthBuild is a 37 year old program model that provides low income young adults a pathway to complete secondary education, gain job skills, participate in community service, and learn leadership skills. There are currently over 260 local YouthBuild programs nationally which enroll young men and women, ages 16-24, who left high school without a diploma, are unemployed and come from low income families. During a full-time program for 6 to 24 months, students spend half their time in an individualized and supportive classroom and the other half on a construction site learning career skills while building affordable housing, engaging in community service and leadership training. YouthBuild was not launched to be a recidivism reduction/re-entry effort, but for over two decades, **roughly one-third of enrollees have been previously adjudicated, either as juveniles or adults**. In recent years, data from the over 140 local YouthBuild programs funded through federal Department of Labor grants has consistently shown a **reconviction recidivism rate of only 9%**, measured one year from enrollment in a YouthBuild program.

The SMART Program

Starting in 2012, nine local YouthBuild sites participated in the SMART (Start Making a Real Transformation) effort funded by a Department of Labor grant award to YouthBuild USA. The SMART approach built on the already comprehensive **YouthBuild model by working with ex-offenders pre-release and through other enhanced approaches to re-entry and recidivism reduction**. After 3 years of operation involving a total of 668 ex-offenders, the SMART YouthBuild programs demonstrated a reconviction recidivism rate of only 1% after one year from release.ⁱⁱ This recidivism rate is substantially lower than that shown by any relevant comparative cohort, and was achieved among multiple locations. Overall, SMART outcomes include:

- 1% reconviction rate within one year;
- 44% of enrollees were placed in jobs and/or post-secondary education upon completion;
- 46% of enrollees returned to high school;
- 57% of enrollees under 17 obtained their GED or high school diploma; and
- 56% of enrollees obtained an industry-recognized credential.

Putting SMART's Recidivism Rates into Context

In putting YouthBuild recidivism outcomes in context, we can look to existing research. One national Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) study found that between 2005 and 2010, approximately 26% of the state prison population in 30 states were convicted of a new crime within one year of being released from prison.ⁱⁱⁱ While that study tracked an adult prison population of all ages (as opposed to the mixed juvenile and adult population found within YouthBuild), the large cohort studied is a strong recent point of comparison for YouthBuild recidivism rates. Additionally, the national study also reported that younger ex-offenders have a higher recidivism rate, which suggests that the 16-24 ex-offender population could be expected to have a recidivism rate even higher than 26% one year reconviction rate reported for the general all ago population tracked by the BGS.

Impact: Reducing the Costs to Taxpayers

The cost of incarceration is getting attention of policymakers at all levels. In 2013, the average annual cost of incarceration at the federal level ranged from \$21,960 to \$33,887 per inmate.^{iv} At the state level, there are even wider variations, with juvenile incarceration costs being the most expensive for states, an average of \$148,767 per juvenile per year for the most restrictive lockup.^v Clearly, given that YouthBuild reduces a young offender's chance of returning to prison by 60% or more (from over 25% to 10% or less), expanding re-entry through YouthBuild offers an enormous return on investment to taxpayers.

ⁱ Belfield et al., 2012

ⁱⁱ Under applicable Department of Labor grant guidelines, the recidivism measure is the percentage of Students enrolled in the SMART program who entered the program within 3 months of release from incarceration or within 3 months of the start of parole/probation who were convicted of a new crime within 12 months of release from incarceration or within 12 months of the start of parole or probation.

ⁱⁱⁱ Alexia D. Cooper, Ph.D., Matthew R. Durose, Howard N. Snyder, Ph.D. "Recidivism Of Prisoners Released In 30 States . In 2005: Patterns From 2005 To 2010" (Bureau of Justice Statistics, April 2014, found at <http://www.bjs.gov/index.cfm?ty=pbdetail&iid=4987>)

^{iv} James, 2014

^v <http://www.usnews.com/news/blogs/data-mine/2014/12/09/what-youth-incarceration-costs-taxpayers>