

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School



EXCELLENCE.RESPECT.PERSEVERANCE



2006-07 Annual Report

Rebuilding Lives and Communities Since 1992

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YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

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YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School

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YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School provides out-of-school youth in Philadelphia with the broadest range of tools, supports and opportunities available to become self-sufficient, responsible and productive citizens in their community.

YouthBuild Philadelphia offers an innovative program, which blends a rigorous academic curriculum with 900 hours of community service and on-the-job training in construction, technology or nursing. Students can earn their high school diplomas and make successful transitions to full-time jobs and post-secondary educational programs.

MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report



Dr. Erin McNamara Horvat
Board of Trustees Chairperson



Simran Sidhu
Executive Director

Dear Friends and Supporters:

What a roller coaster year this has been for alternative schools, especially YouthBuild programs, which serve the most at-risk students! National attention was drawn to the issue of dropouts through the America's Promise report, which found that a student drops out of public high school in the United States every 26 seconds, while locally Project U-Turn and the School District published Philadelphia's true dropout rate (a staggering 40%). And while public attention on the issue has certainly fueled a desire to "do something," there remain huge gaps in public funding to really address the problem.

At the federal level, the YouthBuild federal funding line item moved from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Department of Labor. Under HUD, YouthBuild Philadelphia had submitted successful applications for the past 12 of 13 years, and in recent years, received nearly perfect scores for these applications. We had felt prepared for the move from HUD to DOL—our program was ahead of other national programs in meeting DOL's training priorities including in such areas as diversified training tracks that end in industry-recognized credentials, a strong academic component, and strong placement and post-secondary placement outcomes for our graduates. However, we did not get funded, and have yet to receive a clear answer about why we did not get the funding. Despite this, great relationships with our funders and partners, good planning, and consistently strong program outcomes ensured that we had more ups than downs.

Among the highlights of the year were our successful embrace of a transitions focused approach—setting high expectations for all our students and graduates. YouthBuild Philadelphia's graduates are more prepared than ever before to compete in the new economy. In addition to high school diplomas, our students earn industry-recognized certifications in high growth career tracks. All of our graduates are counseled to attend post-secondary education programs—including two and four year colleges, union apprenticeships, and trade schools—so that they may become "masters" of their trade, and develop the confidence and resilience that comes with the attainment of recognized credentials. This means that during our school year: academics moved into high gear; vocation tracks firmly linked the hands-on experience with classroom learning; all students learned important life skills; and, the expectation for post-secondary education was clearly established through college visits, financial aid counseling, SAT and other test prep, and college fairs.

As we advised students on their futures and goals, we began also to assure and strengthen our organization's future. In 2007 we embarked on our second five-year strategic plan, having successfully implemented the goals and objectives of our first such plan. Through this plan, which we expect to publish in October 2008, we are developing strategies to take our organization from good to great.

Celebrating our 15th year of operation, we know that we could not have gotten this far, and we cannot achieve future goals without the help of the donors, partners, volunteers, and advocates that support our program. We want to thank everyone that has been a part of our program over the past 15 years and ask for your continued support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simran Sidhu".

Simran Sidhu
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erin Horvat".

Dr. Erin McNamara Horvat
Board of Trustees Chairperson

LEADERSHIP 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

MANAGEMENT

Simran Sidhu
Executive Director

Brian Leffler
Director of Program Development

Don Pinkney
Director of Construction and Business Development

Emilia A. Gorbulsky, CPA, MBA
Director of Finance

Meredith Molloy
Director of Development

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Pennrose Properties

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National City Bank

Martha Williams, Carpenter (Alumna)
Philadelphia Housing Authority

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Pride Enterprises, Inc.
(Development Committee)

Larry Wood, Jr., Partner
Pepper Hamilton LLP
(Development Committee)

PROGRAM SUCCESSES 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

ENROLLMENT

YouthBuild received approximately 900 applications for the 2006-07 school year, and enrolled approximately 213 young people. YouthBuild applicants must be former high school dropouts aged 18 to 20 (on the first day of enrollment) living in the city of Philadelphia. Ideal applicants possess the motivation and determination to earn their diplomas and reconnect to their communities.

Enrollment by sex:

Male –	30.05% (64)
Female –	69.95% (149)

Enrollment by race:

Black/African American –	92.02% (196)
Hispanic/Latin American –	2.82% (6)
Multi-Racial –	2.82% (6)
Caucasian –	.94% (2)
Asian –	.94% (2)
Native American –	.46% (1)

Our students face multiple barriers to success: more than 95% are low-income; 40% have at least one child; 30% have been arrested; and, at any point during the year, approximately 10% are homeless.

ATTENDANCE AND PERFORMANCE

Our commitment to excellence is clearly reflected in the school's high expectations for students and staff. We believe every young adult can achieve, and every young person has the right to an inspiring, high quality education.

The average attendance of the student body during the year was 83.28%. YouthBuild retained 164 students, and by Fall 2007, 144 (87.80%) earned high school diplomas.

Percentage of graduates with attendance honors:

100% Attendance –	10.42% (15)
95% Attendance –	13.89% (20)

Percentage of graduates with academic honors:

Distinguished Honors* –	9.03% (13)
Meritorious Honors** –	26.39% (38)

*Scores averaged 90% or higher in all program components.

**Scores averaged 80% or higher in all program components.

VOCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

By June 2007, students had rehabilitated three homes for low-income families, refurbished more than 1,000 computers for redistribution to grassroots community organizations, and provided more than 1,400 care hours to long-term residents of nursing homes.

ADJUDICATED YOUTH

In 2007, YouthBuild completed a three-year reentry project that allowed us to track 32 young people who had been involved with the justice system (previously incarcerated, on parole, on probation or under house arrest). Twenty-nine of the 32 (91%) participants on this grant successfully completed our program and received their high school diplomas. The recidivism rate for this group of young people has been a low 6% (compared with the national average of 67%).

CLIMATE AND CULTURE

We continue to win kudos for the personalized culture and climate we create; and believe that this is the key to creating an environment where young people are not afraid to dream big and begin to do what it takes to meet the high expectations of those dreams. All of the guests at the school (these included representatives from Senator Robert P. Casey's Office, a delegation from South Africa, the U.S. Department of Labor, Jobs for the Future, and the Philadelphia Office of Housing and Community Development to name a few) commented on the loving and supportive environment at YouthBuild and 100% of students surveyed said they would recommend our program to friends and family.

TRANSITIONS

The Transition Services team provides an integrated approach to developing career paths for our students both internally in the school and externally in the community. This integrated approach brings together all the resources of each department within YouthBuild to lead the students into their chosen field and beyond.

Post-Secondary Placement

As of September 2007, transition placements were reported as follows:

Four-Year College –	1.39% (2)
Two-Year College –	19.44% (28)

PROGRAM SUCCESSES 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

Trade School –	11.11% (16)
Job Placement –	20.83% (30)
Job Placement/School –	16.67% (24)
Graduate Placement Rate –	69.44% (100)

Internship Placement

During the 2006-07 school year, YouthBuild placed upwards of 50 students in internships. They were as follows:

- 24 students were awarded positions through the Philadelphia Youth Network (PYN) Summer Career Exploration Program (SCEP).
- Five technology students completed internships with Pennrose Properties.
- Two construction students completed internships at Intergen International.
- 17 nursing students completed internships with Resources for Human Development, Genesis Healthcare and Mercy Hospital.
- One student completed an Employer-Paid internship through PYN.

Seven students were offered employment directly from their internships at Pennrose Properties, Intergen International, Mercy Hospital and Citizens Bank.

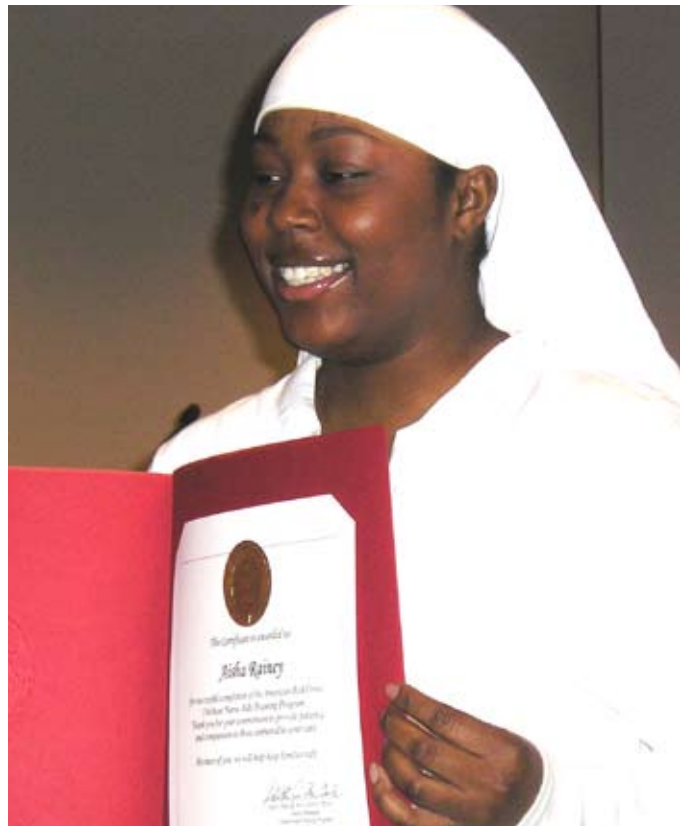
Other Transition Achievements

YouthBuild's Transition Services Department provided students with a variety of opportunities to prepare them for full-time employment and post-secondary programs. Examples:

- YouthBuild began a pilot employment program with The Philadelphia Gas Works, which could result in upwards of 30 job slots per year offered to students.
- A Career Fair was held in partnership with Honickman Learning Center in which 372 attendees (approximately 50% were YouthBuild students and alumni) networked with more than 30 employers and schools.
- A formal partnership was established with a PA Career-Link One-Stop Center in South Philadelphia that will provide job opportunities for both students and alumni.
- 25 students obtained driver's licenses through a Driver's Education Course offered through the school.



Construction student Shikeem Dorsey helps to build a home on North 26th Street. YouthBuild students rehabilitated the home over the course of the school year.



Nursing student Aisha Rainey smiles for the camera after receiving her diploma at the March 2007 nurse aide graduation ceremony at the Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania.

COMMUNITY SUCCESSES 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Oct. 27, 2006 – YouthBuild celebrated national Make A Difference Day by beautifying Nicetown Park and fencing nine unused lots in the Allegheny West area. Project sponsors included the Nicetown Community Development Corporation (CDC), the Allegheny West Foundation, the Philadelphia Recreation Department and Philadelphia Green.

YOUTHBUILD JOINS KATRINA REBUILDING EFFORTS

Nov. 27 to Dec. 6, 2006 – Eighteen students and six staff members spent two weeks rebuilding housing in Gulfport, Mississippi through the YouthBuild AmeriCorps Katrina Rebuilding Project, which rehabilitated 140 homes between July 2006 and July 2007.

YOUTHBUILD HOSTS SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION

Dec. 13, 2006 – The school proudly hosted a site visit for a delegation of public officials and youth workers from South Africa (sponsored by YouthBuild USA). The purpose of the visit was to determine new strategies for South Africa's National Youth Service Programme, which focuses on youth development and community service.

MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY OF SERVICE

Jan. 15, 2007 – YouthBuild joined tens of thousands of volunteers for the 12th Annual Martin Luther King Day of Service. At Philadelphia's signature site at Martin Luther King High School, YouthBuild trained participants on laptops refurbished by YouthBuild in partnership with Wireless Philadelphia (each trainee received a laptop), helped to assemble 2,000 disaster preparedness "Go Kits" in partnership with the American Red Cross, and constructed two playhouses. Additionally, YouthBuild painted the interiors of the Community Concern Day Care Center and the Nicetown CDC (joined by DMi Partners) and painted a mural now housed at the CDC.

NURSE AIDE GRADUATION

March 9, 2007 – Eleven students graduated from the American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania's Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) training program.

FUTURE LEADERS' MAYORAL FORUM

April 13, 2007 – Students Analia Lindsay-Wilson and Shardell Martin served as candidate host and panelist for the 2007 Future Leaders' Mayoral Forum in Philadelphia,



Technology students Domonique Williams and Claire Angelone distribute refurbished computers at the 2007 Martin Luther King Day of Service at MLK High School.



Student Analia Lindsay-Wilson introduces Michael Nutter at the April 2007 Future Leaders' Mayoral forum at the National Constitution Center.

COMMUNITY SUCCESSES 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

sponsored by the Philadelphia Youth Network and the Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition. The event was attended by more than 600 young people from across the city.

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

April 20, 2007 – In partnership with the Nicetown CDC and The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, YouthBuild planted trees, constructed a community garden and cleared single-family housing units in Nicetown (in preparation for rehabilitation) in observance of National Youth Service Day. Following the service project, YouthBuild, the Nicetown CDC and The Artists United launched Operation P.E.A.C.E. (Positive Energy Activates Constant Elevation) —a free community hip-hop concert and civic awareness event, sponsored by State Farm.

NICETOWN CURFEW CENTER REHAB

During the year, YouthBuild students rehabilitated the basement of the Nicetown Community Center into a city curfew center, and installed a wireless network and wireless access in the center's computers. On April 26, 2007, the Nicetown CDC recognized YouthBuild during a ribbon cutting ceremony, which included speeches by Mayor John Street and Councilwoman Donna Reed Miller.

RIBBON CUTTING ON 26th STREET

June 20, 2007 – YouthBuild held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of a single-family home on 26th Street in North Philadelphia, rehabilitated by students in partnership with Resources for Human Development. The home was presented to new homeowner Fay Jones and her children. Michael Nutter and Governor's Office Southeast Regional Director Joseph Certaine highlighted the event.

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2007!

On June 21, 2007, 91 students received their high school diplomas in front of family members, friends and community leaders at YouthBuild's June Graduation Ceremony at Benjamin Franklin High School. On August 14, 2007, 53 students received diplomas during a late-summer ceremony at Honickman Learning Center in North Philadelphia.

YouthBuild awarded a total of 144 diplomas for the 2006-07 school year.



YouthBuild students and staff members plant a tree in Nicetown Park during National Youth Service Day 2007.



Construction student Charnaee Lee, Mayor Michael Nutter (then a mayoral candidate), and new homeowner Fay Jones with children Fay Ross and Michael Faulkner at YouthBuild's June 2007 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

GRANTS AND DONORS 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

PUBLIC SOURCES

AmeriCorps*National Direct (via YouthBuild USA)
FCC—Universal Service Administrative Company
Schools and Libraries Program
PennSERVE: AmeriCorps*State
Pennsylvania Department of Education
Philadelphia Office of Housing and Comm. Development
Philadelphia Youth Network
School District of Philadelphia
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Labor (via YouthBuild USA)
YouthBuild USA

FOUNDATIONS AND CORPORATIONS

Chestnut Hill Friends
Claneil Foundation
Dolfinger McMahon Foundation
National City Bank
Pepper Hamilton LLP
St. Martin-in-the-Field Parish
State Farm
The Legacy of Love Foundation
The Lenfest Foundation
Weavers Way Co-op
White and Richardson Trust

INDIVIDUAL DONORS (\$1,000+)

Ravi V. Acharya (*UWDE Gift*)
Martin K. Brigham and Harriet Rubenstein
William J. Lloyd, Jr. (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Jerry McHugh
Michael J. McPhilty (*UWSEPA Gift*)
John B. Rosenthal

INDIVIDUAL DONORS (\$500-\$999)

Regina Austin
Susan Gallagher
Anthony Fullard

INDIVIDUAL DONORS (\$250-\$499)

Todd Bernstein
Jill E. Bronson (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Patricia DeSilvio
Edward Hillis
Laura T. McHugh (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Kathryn M. Pytlewski (*UWSEPA Gift*)

INDIVIDUAL DONORS (\$0-\$249)

Stasia L. Andrucci (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Mary and Bodo Baltycki
Ann Baruch
Michael L. Berman (*UWSEPA Gift*)
Gabriele and Louis Bernhardt
Cohen Seglias Pallas Greenhall & Furman PC
Domenic L. D'Ginto (*UWSEPA Gift*)
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Anonymous Donor
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David Rudovsky
S&S Resources
Karin Sargrad
David Selvin
Mayur Shah
Cynthia J. Skinner
Kevin Stauffer
Judy Turetsky and Scott Beadenkopf
Eugenie Vitale
Joseph Vitale

CLASS OF 2007 COMMEMORATIVE BOOK

ADR Options, Inc.
Atkin Olshin Lawson-Bell Architects
Badey, Sloan & DiGenova
Bazelon Less & Feldman, P.C.

GRANTS AND DONORS 2006-07

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Brett Hilton
Cohen, Placitella & Roth
DMi Partners
Dolchin, Slotkin & Todd, P.C.
Domus, Inc.
Glenmede
John Andrew Gallery
Leadership Philadelphia - Junto 7
Moten Associates
Opportunities Industrialization Center, Inc.
Pride Enterprises, Inc.
Project H.O.M.E.
Raynes McCarty Trial and Appellate Lawyers
Resources for Human Development
Southco, Inc.
YouthBuild USA

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Wyeth Pharmaceuticals:
2,100 used laptop computers for the technology refurbishing and distribution program

National City Bank:
40 Philadelphia Zoo tickets for the student mentoring program

Craig T. Williams:
76ers Tickets for student incentives



Technology students take a moment to pose for the camera while unloading a shipment of donated laptop computers from Wyeth Pharmaceuticals.



YouthBuild's funding sources make it possible for the school to provide valuable hands-on vocational training to approximately 215 students per year.

FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - JULY 1, 2006 to JUNE 30, 2007

Supports and Revenues

Public Funding (Federal, State, City)	\$3,928,860
Foundations, Corporations, Individuals and Other	\$116,649
Fee-for-Service Income	\$195,840
Total Supports and Revenues	<u>\$4,241,349</u>

Expenditures

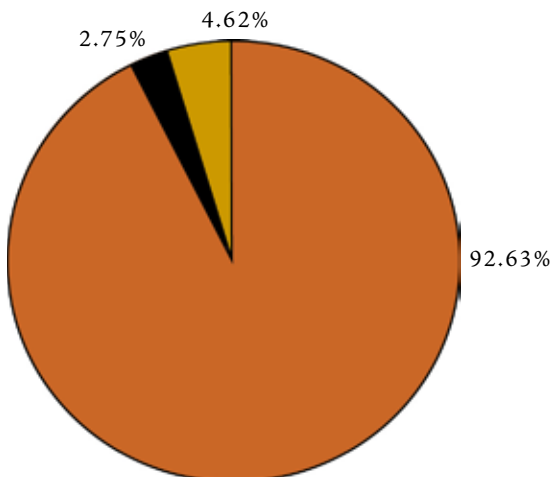
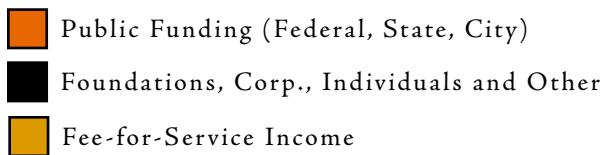
Program Services	\$3,300,347
Management and General	\$765,508
Total Expenditures	<u>\$4,065,855</u>

Changes in Net Assets \$175,494

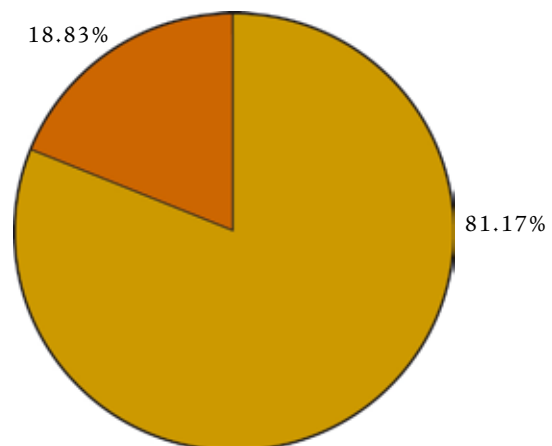
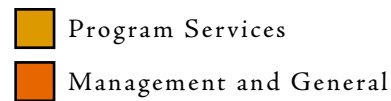
Net Assets, Beginning of Year \$561,612

Net Assets, End of Year \$737,106

SUPPORTS AND REVENUES



EXPENDITURES



PARTNERSHIPS 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report

PARTNERS AND FRIENDS

Aker Philadelphia Shipyard
Alain Locke School
All State Career
Allegheny West Foundation
American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania
Awbury Arboretum
CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) Society
CHOICE
Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields
Ciro Electrical Supply Co.
CM Electric
Comcast
Community College of Philadelphia
Community Partnership Program
Congreso EARN Center
CORE Philly
Corporation for National and Community Service
Curtis Perry Drywall
David Bell Contractor
District 1199C Training & Upgrading Fund
Drexel Neumann Academy
Dwelling Place Worship Center
E3 Centers
Esperanza
Fairmount Park Historic Preservation Trust
Fatherhood Initiative
George F. Kempf Supply Co.
Greater Philadelphia Cares
Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition
Home Builders Institute
Impact Services
Institute for the Study of Civic Values
Intergen International
Jewish Employment and Vocational Services EARN Center
Kramer/Marks Architects
La Salle University
Leadership Philadelphia
Lehigh Valley College
Liberty Court Genesis Eldercare
Lincoln University of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Markazul Bayaan
Mayor's Office for the Reentry of Ex-Offenders
Mercy Hospital of Philadelphia
Neighborhood Bike Works
New Deal Lumber
Nictown Community Development Corporation
Norris Square Neighborhood Project
Northeast Building Products
NorthEast Treatment Centers
Northwest Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network
PACareerLink
PECO/Exelon
Pennrose Properties
PennSERVE
Pennsylvania Institute of Technology
Pennsylvania Prison Society
Philadelphia Doll Museum
Philadelphia Folklore Project
Philadelphia Green
Philadelphia Housing Development Corporation
Philadelphia Job Corps Center
Philadelphia Metropolitan Board
Philadelphia OIC, Inc.
Philadelphia Recreation Department
Philadelphia Workforce Development Corporation
Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board
Philadelphia Youth Network
Philadelphia Zoo
Planned Parenthood
PrimeFlight Aviation Services
Project H.O.M.E.
Redevelopment Authority
Resources for Human Development
Roy Sims Plumbing & Heating
SHARE Food Program of Pennsylvania
Southco, Inc.
Southwest Airlines
Spiral Q
Thaddeus Stevens College of Technology
The AIC
The Artists United
The Big Picture
The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
The Philadelphia Dragon Boat Association
The Philadelphia Gas Works
The Salvation Army of Greater Philadelphia
The School District of Philadelphia
TYL II Childcare
U.S. Department of Labor
United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania
Universal Rehab
University of Pennsylvania
Urban Nutrition Initiative
Village of Arts and Humanities
West Supply Center
Wireless Philadelphia
YouthBuild USA

SUCCESS STORIES 2006-07

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School Annual Report



Shardell Martin
Class of 2007

"YouthBuild was my outlet for me to shine, for me to realize my full potential."

"YouthBuild made me realize that if you put your mind to something, you really can do it."

SHARDELL MARTIN

Shardell Martin dropped out of high school at age 16 after becoming pregnant with her son, though she admits that she was not very interested in school at the time. She concentrated on spending time with friends, cutting class often and earning low grades. She was—in her words—"like a blind man driving a car." After the birth of her child, Shardell realized that she wanted more for herself and her family. She applied to, and enrolled in YouthBuild Philadelphia in 2006, an action that changed her life.

While enrolled in the program, Shardell was a multiple YouthBuild award winner with 100% attendance and a near perfect GPA. She served as a Peer Mediator and was a member of the school's Craftsmen Club. Along with representing YouthBuild to funding partners and journalists, Shardell represented the school as a student leader for the city-wide, Future Leaders' Mayoral Forum on April 13, 2007. She served as a forum spokesperson, asking the mayoral candidates questions in front of more than 600 young people and community leaders.

Shardell received her high school diploma in June 2007 and enrolled as a part-time student at the Community College of Philadelphia (CCP). In November of 2007, she was inducted into the YouthBuild USA Hall of Achievement.

Shardell is a member of both the Executive Director's board for Trinidad Head Start (her son's school) as well as the Pennsylvania Head Start Association Board, and participated in the Philadelphia Youth Network's 2007-08 Young Connector's Project. She plans to finish at CCP in 2009 and attend a four-year college to study either business or criminal justice.



Candice Paul
Class of 2007

"At YouthBuild, I found my love and passion for construction. I now have a whole different plan in life. I want to have a great career while helping the people in my city."

CANDICE PAUL

When Candice Paul dropped out of high school at age 16, it was not because she lacked motivation. In fact, Candice dreamt of being a young entrepreneur and building a better life for herself. "I wanted to focus on school, but it wasn't possible," said Candice. "My family wasn't financially stable, so I dropped out of school so I could make money and provide for my brothers and sisters."

One day while riding a bus, Candice saw an advertisement for YouthBuild. She called but never completed an application. The following year, her sister told her about the program and urged her to apply. This time, something clicked in the nineteen year old. "I was instantly determined to go to YouthBuild," said Candice. She applied to, and enrolled in YouthBuild in 2006.

Candice took advantage of her time at YouthBuild. She maintained 100% attendance and a near perfect GPA. She supported her fellow classmates as a Peer Mediator and tutor, and represented YouthBuild to visitors and press. She flourished in the construction program, earning herself a squad leader position and eventually a summer internship at Pennrose Properties. It was—as she describes it—her calling. A week after her internship was finished, Pennrose hired Candice for a permanent position.

In addition to working full-time at Pennrose, Candice is currently attending night classes at the Community College of Philadelphia. She hopes to one day own her own company and build homes for low-income families.

YouthBuild Philadelphia Charter School

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