

# New York City Justice Corps

The NYC Justice Corps-- an initiative funded by the New York City (NYC) Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) -- will place youth coming home from prison or jail or on probation in six-month paid community benefit project service and internships. The goals of the NYC Justice Corps are threefold: (1) to **reduce recidivism** rates; (2) to **reduce poverty and increase employment outcomes**; and (3) to **foster community development** in neighborhoods disproportionately impacted by poverty and incarceration.

The City University of New York – through John Jay College of Criminal Justice – in close collaboration with the NYC Department of Correction is overseeing the design, implementation and evaluation of the NYC Justice Corps.

## CORE PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- A central **Intermediary** agency will manage the NYC Justice Corps (Center for Employment Opportunities). Locally respected community-based organizations in each target area will serve as the home “**Conveners**” for the neighborhood Justice Corps and provide direct services to participants (Bedford-Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation and Phipps Development Corporation).
- NYC Justice Corps participants will receive **\$8-9/hour wage stipends** for their participation in six-month community benefit project service and internships.
- Following the six-month Corps period, participants will receive **placement and retention services for unsubsidized, permanent work and/or educational placement.**
- When fully operational, the NYC Justice Corps will serve **273 participants** per year.
- During the first years of operations, the NYC Justice Corps will operate in **two target areas**: (1) Mott Haven, Melrose and Morrisania (CDs 1 and 3) and (2) Bedford-Stuyvesant (CD 3)

## ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the NYC Justice Corps, participants must meet all of the following criteria:

- Reside in one of the three target areas.
- Be 18-24 years of age.
- Currently be on probation or parole; be recently released from jail or prison within the last year; or currently or recently enrolled in an alternative-to-incarceration (ATI) program.

## REFERRAL STREAMS

Participants will be referred to the NYC Justice Corps through the following sources:

- **Criminal justice partner agencies**, including the NYC Department of Correction, NYC Department of Probation, and New York State Division of Parole
- Community-based recruitment efforts

## EVALUATION

The NYC Justice Corps will be rigorously evaluated through a **random assignment evaluation**. The evaluation will examine program impacts on the following outcome measures:

- Participants’ placement and retention rates in permanent, unsubsidized employment
- Participants’ recidivism rates
- Participants’ educational attainment
- Community development and improvement

The Intermediary and the Conveners will work with the Evaluator to recruit sufficient participants to conduct a random assignment evaluation.