



YOACAP

OUR MISSION & VISION

The mission of Youth Outreach Adolescent Community Awareness Program (YOACAP) is to improve the quality of life and health for Philadelphians through community-based and culturally competent interventions. Over the years, YOACAP's services have evolved into a comprehensive, holistic program system that supports and nurtures youth and their families, providing self-exploration, skill-building, and asset and identity development.



OUR HISTORY

Our agency has an over 30-year history of providing grassroots community outreach and a comprehensive, holistic program system that supports and nurtures youth and their families. Our history of providing youth development programs in Philadelphia includes a vast number of programs serving middle, high school, and young adults, with an exemplary record of high rates of youth participation and family engagement.

WHO WE SERVE

At YOACAP, we serve youth and young adults ages 14-22, empowering them through programs that foster growth, education, and engagement. Our initiatives include after-school activities, mentoring, job training, and college preparation, alongside health education and violence reduction efforts. By providing opportunities like summer jobs, building trades training, and civic engagement projects, we help young people build brighter futures while strengthening our communities.



OUR GOALS



Engage high-risk youth by offering alternative opportunities to deter violent tendencies and troublemaking.



Focus on removing barriers to success, such as providing support for obtaining state ID licenses and job readiness training.



Incorporate mental health curriculums to promote emotional well-being and personal growth.

OUR PROGRAMMING



Summer & year-round youth employment programs engaging **200** high-school students in job readiness and career awareness activities.



Building trade pre-apprenticeship program that has prepared and transitioned **50-60** opportunity youth into union trade careers through technical training, soft skills development, and hands-on work experience.



Bridge program designed to assist **25** trainees who completed the pre-apprenticeship program but require additional experience and skill building before enrollment in a union trade apprenticeship program.



Anti-violence community expansion program to connect youth and young adults (14-24 years of age) at substantial risk of gun violence to programs and resources by partnering with barbers and other trusted community figures. **30%** of program participants are justice-impacted.

SUCCESS STORIES

A 15-year-old participant, previously incarcerated for car theft, has shown remarkable growth and discipline since joining our program. Now on home confinement, he attends consistently, stays actively engaged, and uses his program stipend to pay off his restitution—a powerful demonstration of responsibility and commitment to change at such a young age.

A young participant, after being attacked, sought a gun to retaliate but also reached out for support. This intervention helped him process his anger, deescalate the situation, and avoid escalating violence. He was also assisted in relocating to a safer neighborhood, providing a crucial opportunity to move forward in a secure environment.

GET INVOLVED

We're facing critical challenges that require your support to continue making an impact. We need funding to sustain our programs, update our webpage, and hire a social media staff member to enhance communication and engagement. Additionally, we urgently need more space to accommodate our growing number of participants. Your contributions—whether through donations or volunteering—can help us overcome these hurdles and better serve our community.



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