



MAKING AN IMPACT



CAREER FAIR

Central Family Life Center held its first Community Career Fair. Several vendors tabled at the hiring event to recruit candidates. Vendors included Workforce 1 Career Center, Amazon, NYPD, U.S. Army, Centers Plan for Healthy Living, and Local 1010 Union to name a few. YouthBuild IMPACT came in ready - dressed up and showed up with portfolios in hand. Leading up to the day, students learned interview skills during career workshops. While practicing these skills, students introduced themselves to employers and presented their elevator pitch, retrieved business cards, learned about employment and training opportunities and thanked employers for their time.



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A special thanks to Fatherhood Matters and Linda Huff for the generous donation of men's suits in preparation for our Career Fair.



OSHA 30 & Site Safety Trainings

Construction students completed their OSHA 30 and 10 hours of Site Safety Trainings and since have completed multiple in-house projects including floor tiling, shelving installation, and the remodeling of our shed which will be used as our workshop. Students are currently working on repurposing pallets into garden furniture.

NYS YOUTHBUILD ALBANY DAY

Eighteen YouthBuild programs across the State of NY held a virtual press conference as part of their annual civic engagement YouthBuild Albany Day. Students heard from State Senators and Assembly leaders who have been champions of our programs including our very own Assemblyman Charles Falls. Each YouthBuild highlighted its program and its education and training activities.

The young people were also excited to hear from Matthew Aracich, President of The Building and Construction Trades Council of Nassau and Suffolk Counties who discussed the trades union, the opportunities available, and his long-term commitment to YouthBuild. In the afternoon, all programs were tasked with meeting individually with local representatives and discussing the importance of continuing to support our program which is proven to work in preparing youth for life-long careers.



MJ The Musical

We went to see MJ: The Musical because our youth had never seen a Broadway show and were interested in learning about the history of a musical icon. We all enjoyed learning about Michael Jackson's rise to fame via this amazing and captivating play, and we could not stop dancing and singing to his catchy and legendary songs. We even continued the party on the way back home, singing and listening to Michael Jackson's songs. Amazing memories were made that night with our YouthBuild family.



ALUMNI SUCCESS

ICISIS C.

Icisis is a graduate from YouthBuild IMPACT's Class of 2021. Since graduating she has become a consistent supporter of the program. She believes it is important to give back to the organization which opened the doors to countless opportunities. After completing her certification as a Community Health Worker, she was able to intern at Northwell Health as a Health Equity Worker and employed as a Outreach Worker for Test and Trace. She is also working at Home Depot. Icisis expressed she is still a work in progress but feels she is a better communicator, more responsible, had working and well-rounded. Icisis' ultimate goal to success is attending a CUNY university where she will be a nursing major, in pursuit of becoming a Registered Nurse. Icisis, keep soaring above the stars!



RICARDO B.

Ricardo is a graduate from YouthBuild IMPACT's Class of 2020. YouthBuild provided him with new opportunities as well as helped to build his motivation in his career journey. In his current job as Outreach Worker for Love Where You Live, Mr. Balbuena believes his success is due to the tools he gained at YouthBuild. He is responsible, outgoing, cordial, respectful, task oriented and continues to learn new skills which will help him in the future. Ricardo plans to next enroll in Apex Technical School for Welding and continue his construction career path.



EMPLOYER CONNECTIONS

LO' KEL-LI



Lo'-Kel-Li Marketplace sponsored by The Three Amigas (Lorraine, Kelly and Lisa) hosted an Employer Connections mentoring event. Local businesses invited youth to share in discussions about entrepreneurship. Businesses took the time to discuss how they got to where they are now, their struggles and learnings throughout their journey. Since this event, our students have formed a strong, valuable relationship with these businesses and continue to connect with them on a regular basis. Through our partnership with Pathways to Graduation, students will be provided internships with these businesses in the upcoming weeks.



SPREADING COMMUNITY LOVE



We visited The Central Family Life Center's after-school program to create Valentine's Day gifts for the children's loved ones. The children were so excited to be able to create something by themselves for their parents. We created Valentine's Day flowerpots. Our youth demonstrated their leadership skills as they sat with the children, directing them on how to put together their flowerpots and helping them whenever they had trouble. The children were grateful and thanked us for the kindness we displayed and our loving spirits. YouthBuild student Rand said that she really enjoyed working with the children, as she wants to become a teacher in the future.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

OUR VOICE

Silenced
Hushed
Quieted
Muted

Our voices were constantly being excluded

We yelled
We shouted
We rioted
We screamed

We wanted our voices to be heard
We wanted to be seen

What a tragedy this was
What a horror to see
While they called us "Citizens"
Our voices were silenced
From our democracy

And our great leader-
a king shouted
Whilst in front of the podium
To "Give us the ballot!"
We are still being ignored
But we refuse to stay quiet

And we will continue to stand tall
Our voices will remain loud and united

- AANYLA G.

In celebration of our rich history, students participated in Dr. Martin Luther King Day of Service we collaborated with AKA Hidden Pearls of Staten Island to reflect on his speech, "Give Us the Ballot." We explored how his speech connects to today's fight for ballot accessibility for all. Aanyla, a student performed a spoken word poem reflecting on this speech about advocating for voting rights for African Americans in the U.S. Furthermore, during winter break students visited the National Museum of African American History & Culture in Washington, DC. We viewed several exhibits focused on our culture, community, slavery and freedom, and the civil rights movement to name a few. Lastly, students participated in CFLC's 17th Annual Black History Town Hall, this year's theme "Standing Strong Together Through Historic Challenges". The highlights of the day included an African Drumming performance, a choir who sang a beautiful selection of African American songs, a keynote address from NYC School Chancellor Mr. David Banks and watching our very own Mr. Larry DeSilva receive an educational leader award.

