RECRUIT HARDER, RETAIN SMARTER
OUTCOMES

83% Demonstrate Positive Behavior Change

1,222 Community Service Projects Completed

100% Completed Career Development Training

72% Attain Academic Promotion
1 in 4 Hartford youth aged 16-24 are out of school and out of work; disconnected from education, training, employment, and community.
One study estimates a single one of these youth carries a potential lifetime taxpayer liability of $755,900.
According to Brookings Institution, Greater Hartford is one of 19 global “Knowledge Capitals,” with a per capita GDP second only to that of Silicon Valley.
The City of Hartford is not without education and job training resources, yet many of Hartford’s youth remained unable to find a path to success.
THE PROBLEM

FACTORS

Chronic Absenteeism
High School Dropout
Disconnected from School and Work
Justice Involvement
Empower youth to achieve personal success by way of gainful employment while developing a sense of purpose resulting in youth becoming taxpayers and reinvesting dollars into the community.

THE SOLUTION
Privately funded, the Hartford Youth Service Corps, established in June 2016, connects youth to employment via community-identified service projects in the city. Approximately half of the funding goes directly into the pocket of our youth.
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS

Community Improvement and Beautification

Community Awareness and Information Sharing

Two-Generational

THE SOLUTION
Our Piece of the Pie, a leading non-profit in Hartford, was selected as the implementation partner and provides over 200 HYSC members per year with Youth Development Specialists.
OUR PIECE OF THE PIE

Our Piece of the Pie empowers youth to acquire the key competencies needed to overcome barriers and succeed in education and employment.
THE PROGRAM

HARTFORD YOUTH SERVICE CORPS

Goal Setting
Barrier Reduction
Life Skills
Advocacy
School Re-engagement
Career Competency
Development Training
Job Placement
TARGET POPULATION

Opportunity Youth
Justice Involved
Disengaged/Disconnected
Low-Income
Homeless
Parenting/Expecting
Foster Care
HYSC is primarily a referral-based program and we collaborate with community partners, schools, and court supported services among others. Active youth also serve as valuable recruiters.
IN-TAKE PROCESS

THE PROGRAM

5-Step In-Take Process
Mandatory 2-Week Career Competency Development Training
FIVE KEYS TO YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

- Be Present
- Be A Model
- Be Realistic
- Be Supportive
- Be Informative
YOUTH PRESENTERS

Aarmari Quinonez

Mary Fattouh

THE PROGRAM
THANK YOU!

Sam DeCarlo  
Director of Youth Service Corps  
Our Piece of the Pie  
samuel.decarlo@opp.org

Kristina Baldwin  
Youth Services Manager  
City of Hartford  
kristina.baldwin@hartford.gov

Chanel Wright  
Lead Youth Development Specialist  
Our Piece of the Pie  
chanel.wright@opp.org