



Volunteers  
of America®

CHESAPEAKE & CAROLINAS

125+ Years Strong

NEWPORT NEWS

**YOUTHBUILD**

TRAINING, ACADEMIC  
SUPPORT & JOB PLACEMENT  
FOR UNDERSERVED YOUTH



# UNDERSERVED YOUTH NEED YOUR HELP

Did you know that roughly 14% of youth ages 16 to 24 in Newport News, VA are unemployed compared to 12.9% nationwide?<sup>1</sup> More than 32% of these youth are also experiencing poverty, surpassing the state poverty rate of 11%. And youth from communities of color are at the greatest risk.

What's worse is mental health challenges among youth have been on the rise. Especially within underserved and at-risk communities, the pandemic made it more likely for youth to experience anxiety, depression and thoughts of suicide. The worsening trends in youth mental health are so concerning that the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and the Children's Hospital Association declared a National Emergency in Children's Mental Health in 2021.

## But there is hope.

In 2019, Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas launched **Newport News YouthBuild** in Newport News to provide hands-on job training, academic supports, employment certifications, leadership development, and mental health supports to ensure the long-term success and well-being of low-income youth like Yavin.

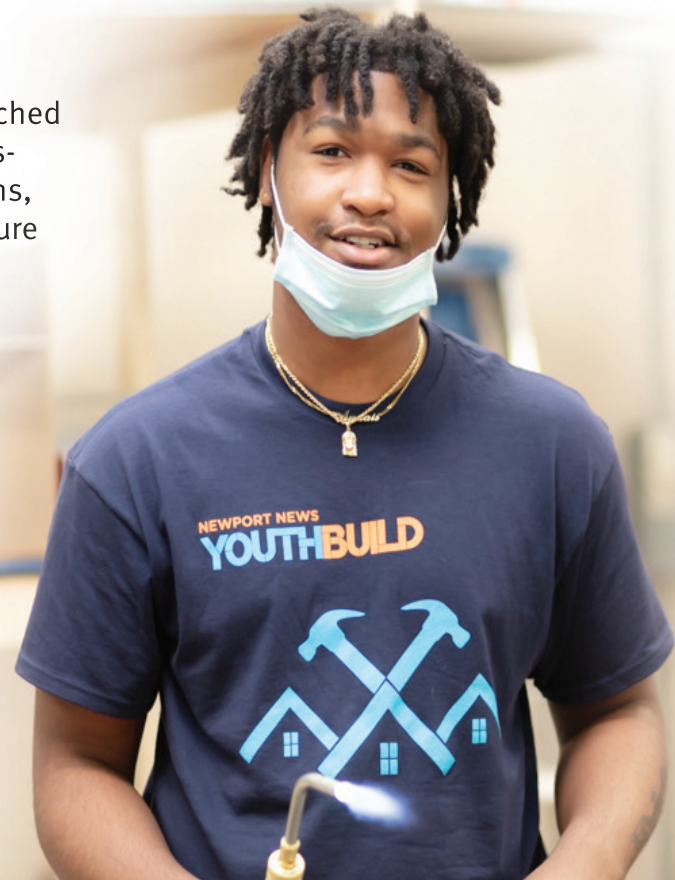
We are fortunate to be partnered with the U.S. Department of Labor and the City of Newport News to help fund and support this 1.04M program. The program is designed to support youth in Newport News, Hampton Roads and Portsmouth who lack a high school diploma, GED certification, are justice-involved or have struggled to maintain employment following high school.

## But without you, this program can't continue.

We are in need of \$50,000 to provide young men and women the opportunities and support they need to thrive and overcome generational poverty.

Only Beacons of Hope like you who believe that every youth deserves a chance to make their dreams come true can make that happen.

By giving to YouthBuild, you will ensure that at least 60 youth in need overcome trauma and start promising careers with confidence.



“It was a great experience and I'd recommend it to anybody who may not have plans for what to do. I'm learning trades so I can be successful in life.— Yavin”

To read Yavin's story, scan the QR code or visit [voachesapeake.org/yavinjohnson](https://voachesapeake.org/yavinjohnson).



<sup>1</sup> Census Bureau Community Survey 5-Year Estimates (2013 - 2017)

# YOUTHBUILD – HOW & WHY IT WORKS

YouthBuild USA, Inc., funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and implemented by nonprofit partners like Volunteers of America, is a proven model to break the cycle of poverty among young adults in urban communities. For over 40 years, YouthBuild has engaged 180,000 low-income young people who left high school without a diploma through a network of 275 programs across more than 46 states. About one third of these youth were justice-involved.<sup>1</sup>

Through YouthBuild, young people acquire the skills they need to obtain a great job and keep it. Participants earn a stipend while they gain valuable hands-on experience in construction, carpentry, plumbing, HVAC, electrical services, automotives and other high-paying fields.

The program lasts six months with follow-up supportive services for the period of one year. Youth who are justice-involved or need additional support overcoming barriers to their success also have access to mental health services and care.

Students receive nine weeks of academic training, including basic academics, workplace readiness, soft skills instruction, digital and financial literacy, and industry-specific knowledge and skills. Instruction is provided by a GED consultant and our Certified Construction Manager.

Hands-on training and vocational certifications are provided by our Certified Construction Manager, Habitat for Humanity Peninsula & Greater Williamsburg, Newport News Redevelopment Housing Authority, Associated General Contractors of Virginia, Inc, Centura College, the National Center for Construction Education and Research, and other partners.

After receiving academic and hands-on training, cohorts participate in a five-week Capstone project designed to expose them to leadership development opportunities that benefit the community and allow students to gain real-life experience. Our Capstone partners include Habitat for Humanity for Humanity, Breeden Construction and other partners.

By the end of the program, students are placed into apprenticeships or full-time employment with our employment partners.

**“To me, YouthBuild is important because it got me out of a dark space. They helped me become more confident in myself and helped me become a team leader. – Mike**

To read Mike’s story, visit  
[voachesapeake.org/mike-diaz](https://voachesapeake.org/mike-diaz)  
or scan the QR code



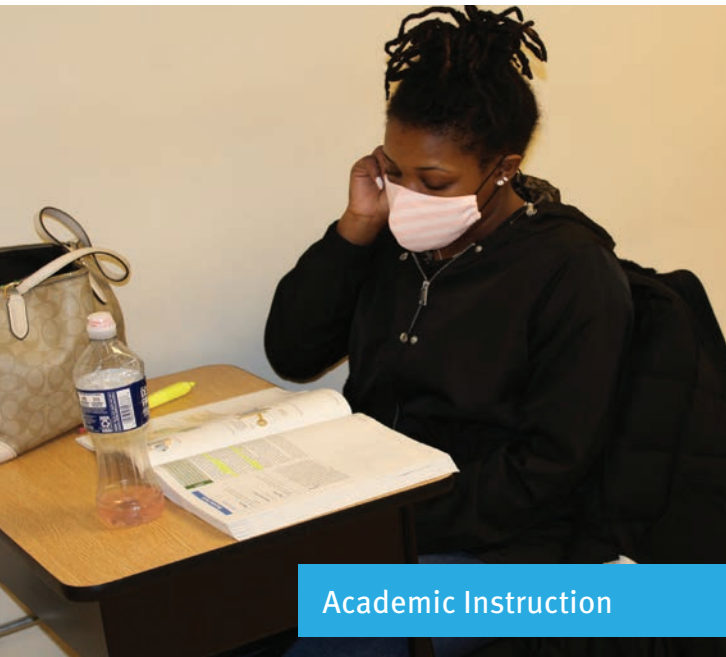
<sup>1</sup> YouthBuild National website: [youthbuild.org](https://youthbuild.org)

# A LOOK INSIDE THE PROGRAM

Watch this video featuring our YouthBuild staff and youth participants by scanning the QR code or visit [voachesapeake.org/youthbuild-story](https://voachesapeake.org/youthbuild-story).



Hands-On Training



Academic Instruction



Community Service & Leadership Development



Real World Construction Projects



Community

## OUR PROGRAM PARTNERS

Newport News YouthBuild is a community-driven program that would not be possible without the support and resources of the following funding, training and employment partners.



## HOW YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

By joining our campaign, you can help youth from low-income areas of Newport News jump into exciting careers and achieve their dreams. We are fortunate to have the U.S. Department of Labor and the City of Newport News to provide the majority of the funding needed to run Newport News YouthBuild. But only givers of hope like YOU can help us cover the \$50,000 gap in funding needed to ensure the program can continue to be a game-changer for 60 young men and women each year.

### FINANCIAL BREAKDOWN OF \$1.04M

**\$928,840**

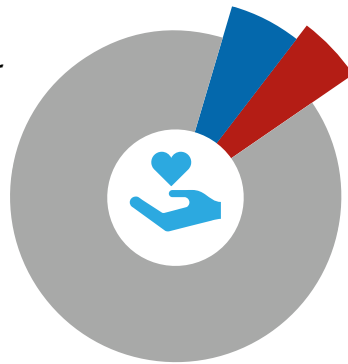
U.S. Department of Labor

**\$61,160**

City of Newport News

**\$50,000**

Funding Gap



### GIVE THE GIFT OF HOPE

Become a Beacon of Hope to youth in need by helping us reach our \$50,000 goal. Donate today using the URL or QR code below!

[www.voachesapeake.org/give2youth](http://www.voachesapeake.org/give2youth)



### Please make checks payable to:

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas  
 Attn: Development  
 4601 Presidents Dr., Suite 300  
 Lanham, MD 20706

For questions, please contact [Nicholle Granger](mailto:ngranger@voaches.org) at [ngranger@voaches.org](mailto:ngranger@voaches.org).

Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas is designated tax-exempt under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Tax ID 52-0610547. We are also recognized under Volunteers of America Inc's group exemption (Tax ID 13-1692595). Your contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

# BECOME A SPONSOR

By becoming a YouthBuild sponsor, you will be joining our area's corporate and philanthropic leaders to provide critical funding needed to maintain the program. Please answer the call, so that more young men and women can experience hope today and into the future.

## BEACON OF HOPE SPONSOR: \$10,000

- Logo placement as a Beacon of Hope sponsor on YouthBuild webpages & marketing materials
- Social media mentions
- Dedicated press release
- Dedicated article in VOA monthly e-newsletter (9,000+ subscribers)
- Option to place logo on back of YouthBuild student t-shirts

## CALLED TO CARE SPONSOR: \$5,000

- Logo placement as a Called to Care sponsor on YouthBuild webpages & marketing materials
- Social media mentions
- Option to place logo on back of YouthBuild student t-shirts

## IMPACT SPONSOR: \$2,500

- Logo placement as an Impact sponsor on YouthBuild webpages & marketing materials
- Social media mentions





## OFFERING A HELPING HAND – THEN & NOW

Volunteers of America is a national, faith-based nonprofit made up of over 30 independently operating chapters that collectively support, house, treat, and care for underserved communities across the country. VOA strives to fulfill the pledge of our founders, Ballington and Maud Booth, to: “Go wherever we are needed and do whatever comes to hand.”

At Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas, supporters like you have been helping us create **Healthy Communities for All** for over 125 years by aligning health, housing and human services. We actively pursue health equity by filling the gap in housing and care for underserved populations, including those who are homeless, low-income, underinsured or uninsured, justice-involved and veterans. Across Maryland, the District of Columbia, Virginia and the Carolinas, we are the safety net for more than 10,000 men, women and children in need of housing and care each year.

We are proud of how far our communities have come and now look to our future, in the face of immense challenges plaguing our country. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to exacerbate the need for low-barrier, wrap-around services that address the underlying issues impacting the homeless, especially the chronically homeless.

By supporting Newport News YouthBuild, you can help to ensure that more young people have access to the integrated support and workforce development they need to overcome poverty and thrive.



### Homeless Services

- Eviction prevention
- Shelters & emergency housing
- Transitional housing
- Financial assistance



### Housing

- Family & Senior Housing
- Veteran Housing
- Housing for those with disabilities
- Housing for those experiencing homelessness



### Mental Health

- Crisis counseling
- Peer support
- Medication management
- Child & family counseling
- Telehealth



### Substance Use Recovery

- Outpatient Services
- Opioid addiction treatment
- Medical respite



### Veterans

- Supportive Housing
- Financial Assistance
- Employment Resource Assistance
- Mental Health & Addiction Treatment



### Employment & Training Services

- Youth training & certification programs
- Adult literacy
- Job Placement



### Correctional Services

- Residential re-entry centers
- Job training & resource assistance
- Family reintegration



### Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

- Housing & in-home support
- Day programs
- Community integration



**Volunteers of America Chesapeake & Carolinas**

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