



Youth Education and Employment Programs Indianapolis and Marion County

Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) annually serves approximately 680 students through ten area high schools. These juniors and seniors face significant barriers to academic and career goals and are considered at high risk to drop out. Once in the JAG program, students are assessed and receive job-readiness training, work experience, paid internships, part-time jobs, leadership development, mentoring and placement in jobs or post-secondary education. Participants are followed for twelve months after graduation. The very successful Marion County JAG program has an average graduation rate of 91 percent and a 66 percent average of students placed in employment, post-secondary education or military service. JAG is currently offered at:

- Arsenal Tech
- Ben Davis
- Decatur Enrichment Center
- Indianapolis MET
- North Central
- Arlington
- Decatur Central
- George Washington
- Northwest
- McKenzie Center for Innovation and Technology

YouthBuild Indy (YBI) is an education, work readiness and leadership training program for young adults in Marion County and serves approximately thirty-five participants per year. Participants receive the opportunity and support needed to earn a High School Equivalency Diploma; identify and begin a path to a well-paying, high-demand career; transition into college or vocational training; receive credentialed construction training; develop critical, on-the-job work experience and soft skills; develop leadership and other key personal skills; and take advantage of a key opportunity to improve the quality of life in Indianapolis by transforming abandoned, blighted homes into valuable, low-income housing. The program is open for 18-24 year olds who do not have a high school diploma, are low income and have barriers to self-sufficient employment. YouthBuild Indy places 68 percent of its participants in education programs or employment with an 81 percent diploma/certification rate.

YouthWorks Indy is a program designed for young adults, ages 18-21 who do not have a high school diploma or equivalent. YouthWorks Indy services approximately 125 participants annually who need assistance in obtaining their equivalency diploma and employment with a career ladder. The program provides accelerated adult basic education, rapidly moving participants toward their High School Equivalency diploma with an attainment rate of 53 percent. Participants attend classes for a minimum of four hours per day, four days a week. Additional tutoring is also available as needed. The program pays for any necessary assessments and retesting. In addition to High School Equivalency preparation, each participant works with a specialist to develop life and work readiness skills. YouthWorks Indy participants are prepared for transitions into employment, occupational training, and postsecondary education. 56 percent of participants accomplish this placement. The objective for the YouthWorks Indy program is to move young people into career tracks that will result in life-long self-sufficient employment in jobs that are rewarding and valued by the community.



The **Youth Employment Services (YES)** program serves approximately 150 young adults, ages 18-24, per year who have a desire to secure and grow in a job. The program provides flexible vouchers that help remove barriers for successful transition to employment. These vouchers can assist with childcare, transportation, training and education, work clothing and much more. The program funds existing neighborhood organizations that offer workforce services for youth providing:

- Enrollment and assessment
- Job readiness
- Job placements
- Retention (60, 180, and 365 days)
- High School Equivalency completion
- Advanced training and certifications
- Post-secondary education placement

Through the YES program 84 percent of participants have been placed in education programs or employment. 69 percent of those have earned a diploma or skills certification.

Current YES providers include:

- Christamore House
- Fathers and Families Center, Inc.
- Lutheran Child and Family
- Mary Riggs Neighborhood Center
- Westside Community Ministries
- Edna Martin Christian Center
- Keys to Work
- Martindale Brightwood CDC
- River Valley Resources

**For more information on available Youth Programs visit
WorkOneIndy.org and click 'Youth'**

PowerTrain Indy provides free job training and education with area employers, for participants aged 18 years and up. The goal of PowerTrain Indy, which runs through 2015, is to train up to 400 residents for jobs in industries such as advanced manufacturing, logistics, healthcare, life sciences, IT and clean tech. Through PowerTrain Indy, EmployIndy has partnered with area businesses to develop specific training and education programs so participants can earn credentials for the specific skills needed to work for companies in their neighborhoods or elsewhere in Marion County. To qualify for PowerTrain Indy candidates must:

- Live in or near Downtown Indianapolis
- Be 18 years or older
- Live in a household that is 75 percent or less than the Indianapolis Metropolitan Area median income, or approximately \$32,000 annually

For more information email PowerTrain@EmployIndy.org or visit www.EmployIndy.org.