



National Urban League

The Division of Workforce Development

The National Urban League's evidence-based and scalable signature programs are professionally implemented by local Urban League affiliates to enhance the economic and educational status of our constituents.

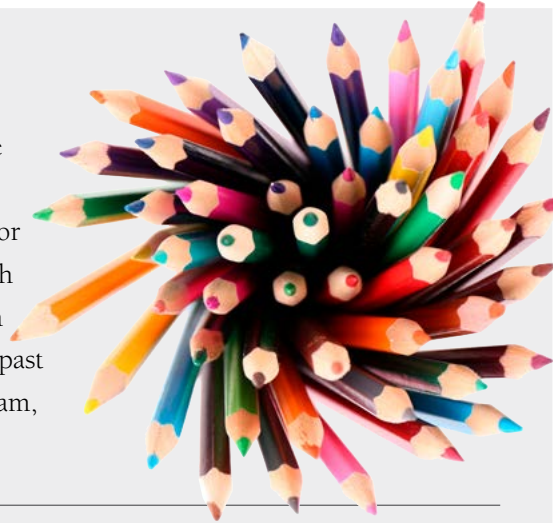
Urban Youth Reentry Program

A SIGNATURE PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE



Accomplishments.

Since 2011, the National Urban League has served reentry and Opportunity Youth through a number of initiatives for young adults including the Urban Youth Empowerment Program (UYEP), which enrolled over 700 individuals over the past nine years, and the NUL's newest program, Urban Youth Reentry Program (UYRP).



2 in 3

youth, 18 and older, entered employment

98%

did not return to prison

43%

received a GED, HSD, or industry-recognized credential

2025 EMPOWERMENT GOAL

Every American has access to jobs with a living wage and good benefits.

Our Approach.

UYRP is a successful, evidence-based program with a focus on educational and employment outcomes for youth (18-24). Core program components include: four-week career readiness programming, occupational skills training, case management, educational interventions and support, legal and other supportive services, and work-based learning. Although UYEP has focused on serving youth who have had criminal justice system involvement, the program model has its roots in, and is adaptable to, serving disadvantaged youth more broadly.



+ 700

 PARTICIPANTS SERVED ACROSS

= 7 CITIES

UYEP enables the National Urban League to improve outcomes for opportunity youth, decrease society's costs, improve the quality of talent available to employers, and interrupt a multi-generational cycle of poverty for youths and their families. Launched in 2020, UYRP is projected to serve 600+ young adults across five cities over the next few years.

National Scope.

UYEP and UYRP have been receiving funding through the United States Department of Labor, as well as through private funders. And, since 2020, the NUL has been delivering the Urban Youth Reentry Program through a partnership with the following five Urban League affiliates:

- URBAN LEAGUE OF ESSEX COUNTY (NJ)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER ATLANTA (GA)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER HARTFORD (CT)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF GREATER OKLAHOMA CITY (OK)
- URBAN LEAGUE OF LOUISIANA

Services.

Like UYEP, the Urban Youth Reentry Program (UYRP) uses a holistic approach to prepare Opportunity Youth for pathways to economic stability through a comprehensive set of services, including:

Career readiness training and placement services

Educational offerings, including GED preparation, basic remedial classes, credit retrieval, and postsecondary education

Case management, including continuous assessment and Individual Service Plans

Access to stipend-paying work experiences

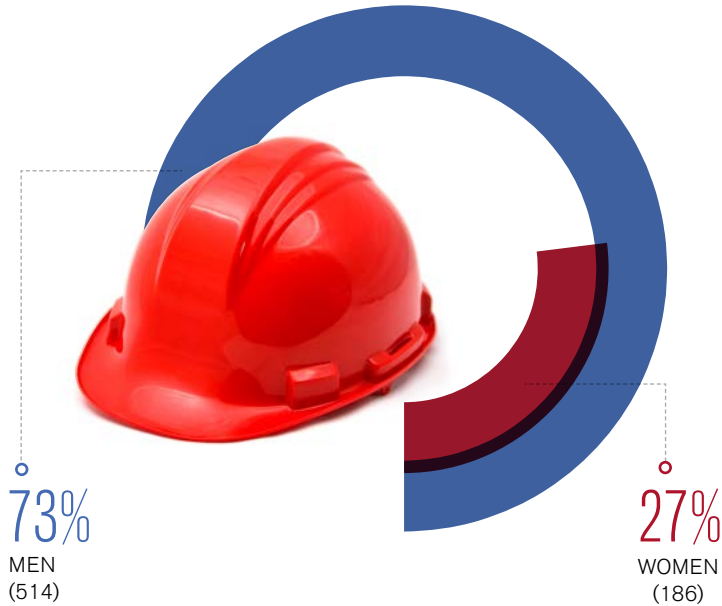
Restorative justice projects/ service learning projects

Community-wide efforts to reduce activities of violence

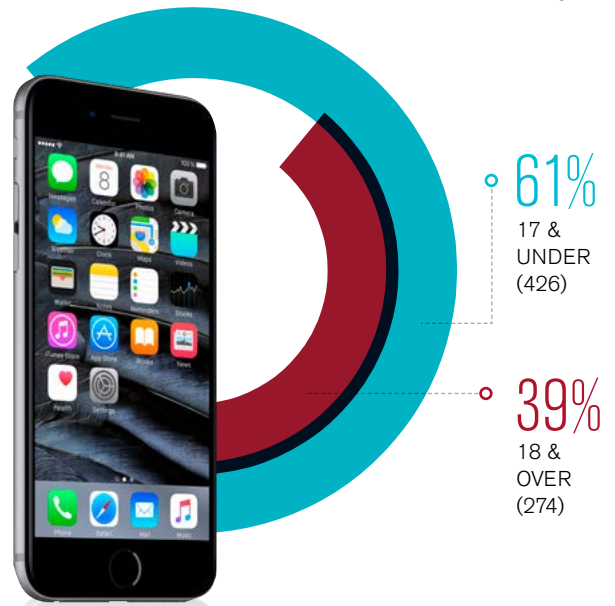
Access to support services that focus on child care, food, transportation and housing assistance, as well as drug and alcohol abuse, and mental health issues

Participants.

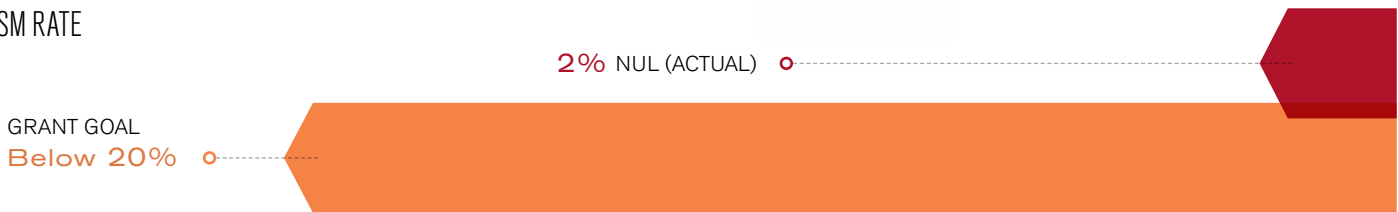
UYEP RECRUITMENT BY GENDER



RECRUITMENT BY AGE



RECIDIVISM RATE



Success Story.

AU-QUEZ H. GETS SERIOUS ABOUT HIS FUTURE Au-Quez was referred to the Springfield Urban League by his probation officer, who thought that it would be fitting for him and his brothers to participate in the UYEP so that they all could be pushed in a positive direction. Au-Quez wanted to get his grades up so that he could return to the right grade. He was also in need of a part time job. He said this program would keep him out of trouble.

Au-Quez spent a lot of time with his brothers, which augmented getting into trouble with them, but when he was working, he stayed out of trouble. Au-Quez expressed that he knew that the UYEP was providing him with what he needed to succeed. However, he felt that he should be participating more. He said, "They, the participants, need to show up."

RESULT: Au-Quez has done a great job of becoming a responsible thinker. Although both of his brothers have reverted back to lock-up and rehab, he chose going to school and working as the better option. Au-Quez attributes his success to the Springfield Urban League UYEP staff, his mother and father, and his probation officer.