HOPE
Springs Eternal

THE HOPE PROGRAM
GIVE HOPE This Spring!

The past year has seen a profound reimagining of how we achieve our mission to build sustainable futures through comprehensive training, jobs, advancement and lifelong career support.

Through large-scale improvement in digital access and work-ready computer skills; doubling down on wellness and case management; and expanded meaningful paid work experience, our programs are stronger than ever.

But our work is not yet done.

As the economy rebounds, there are countless New Yorkers who lack the skills, resources and support to build careers in a rapidly evolving labor market.

With your support, HOPE will play a vital role in supporting New York City’s recovery by ensuring that it is equitable and inclusive.

We are immeasurably grateful to have you by our side for this urgent work.

Jennifer Mitchell
Executive Director

Amiel L., age 32

CONTACT US Irene Branche: ibranche@thehopeprogram.org | thehopeprogram.org
CoolRoofs is back! New Yorkers are earning wages to improve building energy efficiency by applying rooftop coatings while participating in comprehensive training for future careers.

We’re launching a new training program in HVAC installation, repair, and maintenance. This training will connect more jobseekers to highly lucrative clean energy careers.

Our new YouthBuild program leverages a proven international model to engage young adults in high school equivalency preparation, essential job skills, industry-recognized certifications, and hands-on training to restore affordable housing.

HOPE is in the media! In the new HBO Max documentary Persona - as well as the podcast “In Machines We Trust” - HOPE highlights the systemic barriers to employment our community faces and how we are a part of the solution.

HOPE is leading the field in building networks of employers and training providers - including Green Economy Network, the Jerome Avenue Revitalization Collaborative, and YES Bed-Stuy - to share best practices and expand access to job opportunities for New Yorkers most in need.
HOPE is preparing New Yorkers for some of the fastest-recovering industries.

Transformative Investments, the time is now to prepare communities historically left behind for green jobs.

Construction Trades: Construction hiring has rebounded to 90% of pre-pandemic levels, by some estimates.

Food and Hospitality: Despite declines early in 2020, this sector grew by 39% later in the year and is on track for a strong recovery.

Contact us: Irene Branche, ibranche@thehopeprogram.org | thehopeprogram.org
HOPE Blooms

HOPE connected graduates with 404 new jobs.

332 young adults planted the seeds for brighter futures by engaging in HOPE's job training, high school equivalency education, digital literacy, wellness, and more.

HOPE provided wellness support to 967 New Yorkers.

471 New Yorkers celebrated one, two, or three years in the workforce.

HOPE trainees greened and beautified 21,480 sq. ft. of community space in the South Bronx, planted 540 flowering plants, and tended to 400 trees, all while earning wages and building their resumes.

HOPE students and graduates received $610,000 in earned wages and direct assistance to provide for their families.

HOPE narrowed the digital divide by distributing nearly 635 laptops and WiFi hotspots.

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471 New Yorkers celebrated one, two, or three years in the workforce.

Between mid-March 2020 and mid-March 2021
Leon S., age 31

I spent my 20s getting high on cocaine. Then I needed something to bring me down, so I started using heroin. A guy I knew taught me how to use needles. I got hooked the very first day and it got real bad from there. Drugs landed me in federal prison where I did six years.

When I came home from prison, I found HOPE. They taught me all my digital skills. I didn’t know anything about computers, never had a resume in my life. Now, I have cover letters for different jobs!

This is all good stuff that I’m getting at HOPE.

OSHA certification - got it! Site Safety Training certification for construction jobs - got it! Air sealing certification - got it!

HOPE also connected me with a job maintaining storage pods for bikes and scooters. I like the work. It’s a new company and I’m growing with them.

My daughter is 10 now. She’s the smartest thing in the world. I tell her I’m doing everything that I’m doing today so that her future can be good too. And my daughter, she looks at me like, “Okay, now that’s my dad.”

HOPE gets really personal with you. I loved that. Because they will teach you, you just got to take it and absorb it.
Britney A., age 24

Before I found HOPE, I was looking for employment, but because of the pandemic, there were no jobs. So I decided to learn a new trade.

I applied to HOPE and we started virtual training right away - workplace safety, solar panels, horticulture - all of it. After I finished HOPE, they actually got me a paid internship.

Even now, HOPE has so many opportunities for me. I chose a job with Energy Training Solutions because it’s all about saving energy. We make public housing better by installing devices that track heating and cooling in the apartments. At first, residents have no idea what it’s about. But my job is to educate them. And I grew up in public housing in Harlem, so I really know how to put the residents at ease.

I hope to grow in this company and someday be a contractor for a solar or energy company. And I’m staying in contact with HOPE. They say “HOPE for Life” and that means no matter how long ago you graduated, they’re going to check on you and make sure you have the resources you need.

Hear Britney tell her story! bit.ly/hope_britney
My first prison sentence was 5 years; my second was a decade. In prison, I found the confidence I needed to go from a GED to a master’s degree.

Even with an education, I came into the world 40 years old, almost no job experience, and in the midst of a pandemic. It was a scary time. My parole officer told me about HOPE and they embraced me in a way that changed everything.

HOPE has these computer classes – I had been away from computers for 10 years and couldn’t even really function on a cell phone. Now technology is wonderful.

And I earned certifications that guys who have been in the field for years still need to get.

But HOPE was more than that. They helped me cultivate something new inside of me and grow. Today, because of HOPE, I work for a commercial solar installation company. They’re partnering with HOPE to give people like me who are brand new to the industry an opportunity.

Everybody in my family keeps asking how I’m doing it. I got to take some of the credit, but I couldn’t have done it without HOPE.

I went from unemployed to part-time to full employment in under a year of coming out of an impossible situation.
A Sound Investment

Recruitment, classroom-based learning & certifications

Hands-on training & community greening

Wellness

Digital literacy & tech to trainees

Direct payments to trainees

Job placement & career advancement

Other

Based on program expense allocations for FY’21
Thank you to our Hope Springs Eternal sponsors:

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This list is in progress and represents our supporters as of May 17.