

“Before attending Year Up, I was a completely different person from who I am now. I didn't have the necessary professional skills to work in a corporate environment and my English skills were very poor. My experience at Year Up made an enormous impact on my life. I now have the skills to work at a great company and am able to speak English fluently. More importantly I have clear goals for my future. I want to keep growing in my career and become the first member in my family to earn a college degree.”

*Wilson Correa
Year Up Graduate; Computer Technician, Partners Healthcare*



ABOUT YEAR UP

CHALLENGES FACING URBAN YOUTH

More than 70% of low-income, young adults leave high school without a path toward either a post-secondary degree or a livable-wage job, all but guaranteeing they will struggle to earn a family-supporting income in today's economy. Without the proper guidance and opportunities, these young adults will continue to face enormous challenges in transitioning from high school to livable wage careers and higher education.

MEETING THE CHALLENGES

Founded in 2000, Year Up believes that a well-designed training and support program can make an incredible difference in young peoples' lives. Our mission is to close the **Opportunity Divide** by providing urban young adults with the skills, experience and support that will empower them to reach their potential through professional careers and higher education. Our intensive one-year program provides high school graduates and GED recipients between the ages of 18-24 with a combination of hands-on skill development and corporate internship opportunities. The first six months of the program focuses on technical and professional skill building, while the second six months focuses on applying these skills through corporate internships. Students also earn up to 18 college credits. In 2010, Year Up will serve more than 1,000 students within 8 sites located in Atlanta, Baltimore, Bay Area, Boston, Chicago, National Capital Region, New York City and Providence.

AN INNOVATIVE APPROACH

Year Up's high-expectation, high-support program combines marketable job skills, stipends, paid internships and college credits. We address students' social and emotional development and provide appropriate support to place these young adults on a viable path to economic self-sufficiency. During the first six months, students attend classes at Year Up, learning technical and professional skills that prepare them for success in a corporate environment. During the second six months, Year Up students gain experience in internships at leading companies such as State Street Corporation and Partners HealthCare. After graduation, students continue to receive support and build their professional networks through Year Up's Alumni Association which currently numbers over 1,000. Over the next few years, Year Up will create a network of sites with an explicit goal of serving more than 10,000 urban young adults by 2016. Ultimately, Year Up's goal is to create and implement a scalable model that will enable us to effectively serve tens of thousands of urban young adults across the country.

ORGANIZATIONAL IMPACT

- Founded in 2000 by Gerald Chertavian
- National Presence:
 - Atlanta, GA
 - Baltimore, MD*
 - Bay Area, CA
 - Boston, MA
 - Chicago, IL
 - National Capital Region– Washington, DC
 - New York, NY
 - Providence, RI
 - Puget Sound, WA (Spring 2011)
- 1,000+ students served annually
- 100% internship placement
- 95% corporate partner satisfaction
- 84% of graduates employed or in college full-time within 4 months of graduation
- \$30,000/year average starting salary

* College Based Program

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