



The YES Program's priorities:

- IMPROVING EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT
- PREPARING FOR EMPLOYMENT VIA HANDS-ON CAREER ASSESSMENT AND EXPLORATION
- SUPPORTING YOUTH THROUGH ADULT MENTORING, GUIDANCE, AND COUNSELING
- OFFERING SERVICES INTENDED TO DEVELOP YOUTHS' POTENTIAL AS CITIZENS AND LEADERS

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*"One Stop Partners are equal opportunity employers with equal opportunity programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities".*



**YOUTH  
EMPLOYMENT  
SERVICES  
(YES)  
PROGRAM**



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## What is the *Youth Employment Services (YES) Program*?

The YES Program is funded through the Greater Raritan Workforce Investment Board, and provides intensive case management to youth in need of comprehensive educational and vocational preparation services. The goal of the program is to eliminate barriers to employment by providing youth with the necessary tools and resources to improve their academic success and employment skills, and to develop their leadership skills.

### Who is eligible for the *YES Program*?

Somerset and Hunterdon County youth, ages 16-21, who meet the WIB standard for low income households AND possess one or more risk factors, are eligible to participate.

Examples of risk factors include:

- Basic skills deficient (literacy/math)
- School drop-out
- Homeless
- Runaway
- Foster child
- Pregnant/Parenting
- Involved in the Juvenile Justice or Criminal Justice Systems
- Disability

Priority is given to veterans, adjudicated youth, and youth who are not enrolled in an educational program at the time of referral.

### What does the *YES Case Manager* do?

The YES Case Manager meets with the client to develop an *Initial Services Strategy plan*, which identifies educational and employment goals; necessary services such as mental health or drug counseling, medical care, etc. to help reduce barriers to employment; and any other goals to address the client's interests, growth, and achievement objectives.

The YES Case Manager then works with the client to achieve these goals, through two phases of the program:

#### Intensive Coordination of Acute Needs (YES-ICAN)

The YES Case Manager meets with clients at least once a week and provides intensive support and service coordination to prepare clients for job seeking, and to help them make successful connections to services that address each of their goals. This portion of the program lasts anywhere from a few weeks to a few months, depending on individual needs.

#### Independence and Maintenance (YES-IAM)

The YES Case Manager provides 12 months of follow up support during this portion of the program. Clients meet with the YES Case Manager at least once monthly, and maintain regular contact by phone, e-mail or in person. The primary focus of this period is to foster leadership development, provide support services, and maintain progress on goals.

The YES Case Manager is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for emergency purposes.

### How are clients referred to the *YES Program*?

Referrals to the YES Program can be made by any community based agency that provides support or treatment to youth and their families. The referral form, including basic pertinent demographic information, can be completed by the referral source and faxed to the YES Case Manager, or referrals can be made by phone or email. Once the client and the family have signed necessary release forms, the YES Case Manager will obtain necessary documentation to determine eligibility.



### How much does the *YES Program* cost?

Participation is free and voluntary. The YES Program is funded by a grant from the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and is part of the One Stop Career System. There are no fees for participation.