

## Workshop Goals

- \* Participants will learn about District 79 programs and services as a basis of discussion surrounding court-involved, transitioning students.
- \* Participants will learn about various models of policies, services, and tools that have led to increased success for transitioning students and discuss how these techniques can be replicated, utilized, and built upon.

## What to Expect

1. Overview of District 79 programs and services
2. Strategies for improving the quality and quantity of student transitions
  - A. City and district policies
  - B. District 79 transition practices
  - C. District 79 transition tools

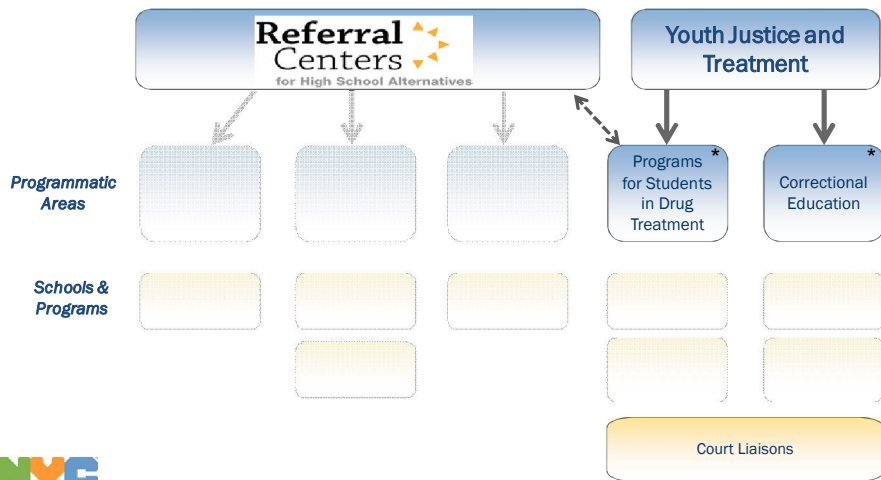


## Who Are We?

- \* District 79 helps students under 21 years old who have experienced an interruption to their studies to:
  - stay on track to a high school or high school equivalency diploma
  - build the skills to succeed in post-secondary opportunities, and
  - gain the social-emotional skills necessary to become confident and productive members of society
  
- \* District 79 believes that **ALL** students can achieve at high levels and succeed in college and careers.
  
- \* District 79 has a **diverse portfolio of 10 programs and services** for justice-involved youth, student parents, and GED students.



## Programs and Services



## Education for Students in Drug Treatment Programs



24 sites across the 5 boroughs

### Students Served:

- \* Serves approximately **1,300 students** annually
- \* Students who are court-mandated as an alternative to incarceration or voluntarily seek substance intervention (ages 16-21)

### Features:

- \* Host agency determines clients for programs and D79 provides education component
- \* Provides **middle school, HS and GED instruction**
- \* **Located in programs** that are substance abuse treatment centers, ACS sites, and students in temporary / involuntary settings



Phoenix House

1 residential site in Shrub Oak and 3 satellite sites in NYC

### Students Served:

- \* Serves approximately **400 students** annually
- \* Students who are court-mandated or who voluntarily seek substance intervention (ages 16-21)

### Features:

- \* Host agency determines clients for programs and D79 provides education component
- \* Provides both **GED and HS instruction**



5



## Correctional Services Education for students ages 16-21 on Rikers Island

### Students Served:

- \* Serves approximately **3,400 students** annually
- \* **Ages 16-21**, two-thirds high school
- \* Serves students who are detained or sentenced to NYC DOC on **Rikers Island**

### Features:

- \* Students may return to their home school or enroll in a new educational program upon release, or may be sentenced to the NYS DOC system
- \* Provides **both HS and GED instruction**
- \* Students work with counselors to create a **transition plan** for their return to the community, including educational plans, transitional services, and support networks



6

# PASSAGES

A C A D E M Y

Correctional Services  
Education for students under 16 who  
housed in DYFJ or ACS facilities  
as part of the Close to Home initiative

## Students Served:

- \* Serves approximately **2,000 students** annually
- \* 17 years old or younger in detention; 18 years old or younger in placement
- \* Three levels of placement: non-secure (NSD and NSP), limited-secure (LSP), and secure (SD)

## Features:

- \* Provide rigorous curriculum that engages both academic and social-emotional learning
- \* Provides both **middle school and high school** instruction
- \* Prepare students for the MS state and Regents exams
- \* Create opportunities for students to earn HS credits

## City and District Policies

- \* NYC Student Rights
- \* Home School ReEntry
- \* District 79 Transition Expectations

# Student Rights

\*You are entitled to attend a full-time high school or high school program run by the NYC DOE until the end of the school year in which you turn 21.

\*You have the right to re-enroll in high school at any time

\*You may not be barred from attending classes solely due to age (unless you are over 21 years old), lack of credits, poor grades, truancy, irregular attendance, or failure to pass Regents or RCT examinations

\*You are required to attend school until the end of the school year in which you turn 17

\*You have the right to refuse to be involuntarily transferred from a high school to a part-time education program

\*You have the right to receive notice of a suspension or involuntary transfer and an opportunity for a hearing or conference before being suspended or transferred to another school

\*If you are transferring to a GED program or another school, you have the right to attend your current school until registered or enrolled at the new school or program

\*If you are an English Language Learner, you are entitled to bilingual education or an ESL program

\*Students determined to be in need of special education are entitled to free, appropriate education

**These rights apply to all NYC students 21 and under.**

**Students have these rights even if they:**

- Voluntarily dropped out
- Are currently enrolled in a GED program
- Already have a GED or IEP diploma
- Currently are or were in an involuntary setting, such as a correctional facility (Rikers Island or a New York state facility) or substance abuse program
- Have been subject to discipline by your school
- Currently are or were referred to alternative educational options, such as a GED or vocational program

# Home School ReEntry (HSRE)

\* Students all have the right to return to their prior school following discharge from the NYC public schools within one calendar year of discharge (JG Compliance and Chancellor's Regulations)

\* Students who are incarcerated or in juvenile detention in NYC, or in residential drug treatment programs, will be automatically returned to their home school register upon release

- \* ALL students experience a high quality transition process which includes
  1. detailing goals, a plan, action steps, and a support network,
  2. support and advocacy, and
  3. enrollment in a supportive and appropriate educational setting.

## *District 79 Transition Practices*

- \* Transition Process and Advocates
- \* Referral Centers
- \* Court Liaisons
- \* Community-Based and City-Agency Partnerships

# Transition Process and Advocates

## While at Program:

- \* Students meet with a **counselor** upon arrival
- \* Student and counselor decide on an **academic path**
- \* Student and counselor complete a **transition plan via ILP (Plan to Succeed)**, indicating support networks and educational next steps for when they transition from the program
- \* **Families/ support network** are contacted and plan is shared
- \* Students **meet with an transition team member/advocate** and/or a CBO representative



## Who Are Transition Advocates?

Program staff that meet with students while enrolled in a District 79 program and help students navigate transitioning from one educational program to another. Transition advocates work with students, counselors, families/support networks, CBOs, etc. before and after a student transitions.

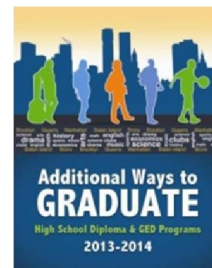
## After Program:

- \* Students returning to their **home school** (that were attending school prior to their arrest) are automatically reenrolled in school
- \* Students not previously enrolled in school will visit a **referral center** to meet with a counselor and enroll in a program or school
- \* **Counselors and transition advocates** will contact student to **follow up** on transition plan progress

## Referral Centers for High School Alternatives

One-stop guidance centers helping students connect with DOE high schools, GED programs, and other support services

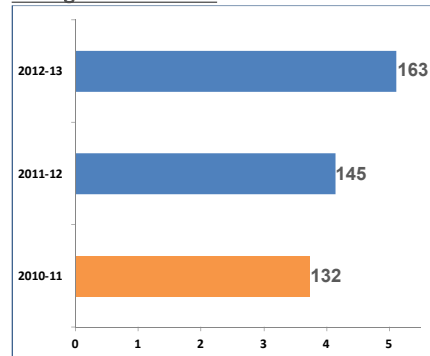
- \* District 79 has **5 Referral Centers**, 1 in each borough of NYC
- \* 4-6 **Guidance Counselors** per center
- \* Help students understand their educational **rights**, discuss **goals**, and navigate educational options (such as HS, GED program, YABC, transfer school\*)
- \* Provide **referrals** to other support services such as childcare, drug rehabilitation, ESL services, health clinics



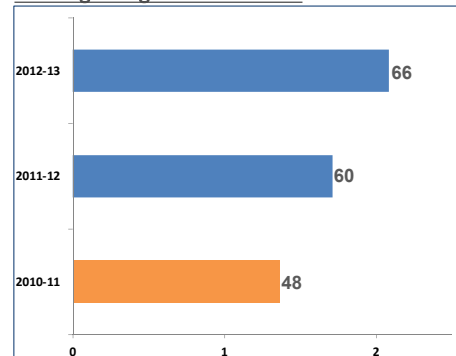
\*find more information on graduation options available to NYC students at [goingforme.org](http://goingforme.org)



Percentage of ERA Students Visiting Referral Centers



Percentage of ERA Students Enrolling through Referral Centers



*Assist court-involved students, their families, and the agencies that support them*

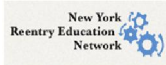
- \* Court Liaisons are located in **6 court houses across** the 5 boroughs of NYC
- \* Assist students in returning to school the day after release with no interruption to their education
- \* Connect students with a counselor to help them understand the GED process, high school alternatives, and college options
- \* Help parents understand and advocate for their son or daughter's rights to DOE educational services and options





## Transition Planning Partnerships

### Community-Based Organizations



### City-Agencies



17

## District 79 Transition Tools

- \* Student Passport
- \* ILP (Plan to Succeed)
- \* Community-Based Partnership Resources



18

# Sample Transition Planning Tools

## Student Passport

**Returning to the Community**  
 Returning to your home school...  
 If you have been away from your school for more than one year, you will have to re-enroll in school...  
 If you have been away from your school for less than one year, you will have to re-enroll in school...  
 If you have been away from your school for more than one year, you will have to re-enroll in school...  
 If you have been away from your school for less than one year, you will have to re-enroll in school...

**Referral Centers**  
 The Bureau of Special Education Services...  
 The Bureau of Career and Technical Education...  
 The Bureau of Adult and Family Services...  
 The Bureau of Community Services...  
 The Bureau of Health Services...  
 The Bureau of Mental Health Services...  
 The Bureau of Substance Abuse Services...  
 The Bureau of Youth Services...

**Educational Opportunities**  
 Department of Education Offices  
 While at East River Academy, discuss the following options with your counselor or transition team advisor...  
 Young Adult Branch Centers (YABCs)  
 New York Reentry Education Network  
 Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)  
 Career Center  
 College and Career Center  
 Career Center  
 Career Center  
 Career Center

## Plan to Succeed (Online ILP)

**Plan to Succeed**  
 CASES PLANNING | HIGH SCHOOL PLANNING | COLLEGE PLANNING | FINANCIAL PLANNING  
 Your Portfolio  
 GED PLUS UP  
 Career Planning Portfolio  
 College Planning Portfolio  
 Financial Aid Planning Portfolio  
 High School Planning Portfolio  
 Financial Aid Planning Portfolio  
 Career Planning Portfolio  
 College Planning Portfolio  
 Financial Aid Planning Portfolio  
 High School Planning Portfolio

# Sample Transition Planning Tools

## Community-Based Partnership Resources

**YOUR NEXT STEP STARTS HERE.**  
 Talk to your counselor for more info!  
 New York Reentry Education Network

**Police Athletic League (PAL)**  
 WHO: Youth ages 15-21  
 WHAT: School Support (GED, College, Vocational Programs), Tutoring, Life Skills, Counseling, Job Readiness, Paid Internships, Job Placement and Post-Placement Support  
 WHERE: HARLEM

**NYC Justice Corps**  
 WHO: 18-24 Year olds who live in South Communities  
 WHAT: Pre-GED and GED, College, Vocational Training, Internships, Opportunities to improve Your Community, Job Training, Career, Selling, Paid Participation in Corps  
 WHERE: SOUTH BROOKLYN, HARLEM, JAMAICA, EAST NEW YORK, QUEENS

**Fortune Society**  
 WHO: 17 and Older  
 WHAT: Pre-GED and GED, Jobs Help and Career Exploration, Career Jobs Training Opportunities, Paid Internships, Counseling, Help with Benefits, Substance Abuse, Housing  
 WHERE: LONG ISLAND CITY, QUEENS

**CASES**  
 WHO: 16-24 Year Olds  
 WHAT: Pre-GED, GED, Tutoring, College Transition Services, Career Exploration, Community Service Projects, Paid Internships, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Counseling  
 WHERE: LOWER MANHATTAN

**CUNY Catch**  
 WHO: 16-21 Year Olds who want to get a GED, or go to College  
 WHAT: Pre-GED, GED, Computer Skills, College Prep, College Application, Financial Aid, and Enrollment Assistance, Academic Counseling  
 WHERE: LONG ISLAND CITY, QUEENS

**College Initiative**  
 WHO: New York City Residents with GED or High School Diploma  
 WHAT: College Orientation, College Prep Classes, Application Assistance, Help with Financial Aid, Academic Counseling, Tutoring, Peer Mentoring, Help Figuring Out How to Pay for College  
 WHERE: LONG ISLAND CITY

**Osborne Association**  
 WHO: 18 and older  
 WHAT: Career Exploration, Employment Skills, Help with Jobs, Dress Code Training, Family Services, Parenting Skills, Substance Abuse Help, Health Services  
 WHERE: BROOKLYN or the BRONX

**Friends of Island Academy**  
 WHO: 16-19 Year Olds and Bronx 18 and 22+  
 WHAT: School Support and GED track, College, Tutoring, Career Exploration, Help with Jobs, Leadership Skills, Mentoring, Job and Personal Opportunities, Counseling, Tutoring, and Domestic Violence Classes  
 WHERE: MIDDLETOWN MANHATTAN

**The Doe Fund**  
 WHO: 18+ referred through Dept. of Homeless Services  
 WHAT: Pre-GED, GED, Life Skills, Vocational Training, Housing, Paid Transitional Work, Job Placement Assistance  
 WHERE: BROOKLYN and HARLEM

**DREAMS YouthBuild**  
 WHO: 16-24 Year Olds Who Live in Bed-Stuy, Brownsville, Crown Heights, East New York, or DeWitt Hill  
 WHAT: Pre-GED, GED, College Placement, Mentoring, Career Exploration, Leadership Development, Life Skills, Leadership Development, Job Readiness, Job Placement  
 WHERE: BROOKLYN

**College and Community Fellowship**  
 WHO: Women with a GED or High School Diploma  
 WHAT: College Orientation, application Assistance, Help with Financial Aid, Academic Support, Theater for Social Change, Support Groups, Help Figuring out how to pay for College  
 WHERE: MORRISIDE HEIGHTS

**Center for Employment Opportunities**  
 WHO: 18-29 Year Olds, with a Recent Criminal Conviction, or 16-24 and Older  
 WHAT: Pre-GED, GED, Life Skills Education, Vocational Training, Transitional Employment, Job Readiness, Job Placement  
 WHERE: LOWER MANHATTAN and BRONX

## District 79 Resources and Contacts

District 79 website: [schools.nyc.gov/District79](https://schools.nyc.gov/District79)

Alternative Ways to Graduate Info  
for NYC Students: [goingforme.org](https://goingforme.org)

### Email us if you have more questions:

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