

YOUTHBUILD PROVIDENCE REPORTER

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YBP Aims to be Apart of National Schools Initiative Expansion



YouthBuild USA today announced its plans to support 33 existing diploma granting schools and to help at least seven GED programs to become diploma-granting schools across the country over the next five years, providing more low-income young adults who have dropped out of high school the opportunity to earn their diplomas and prepare for college or career success.

"...THE WANT OF LEARNING IS A CALAMITY TO ANY PEOPLE."
~FREDERICK DOUGLASS



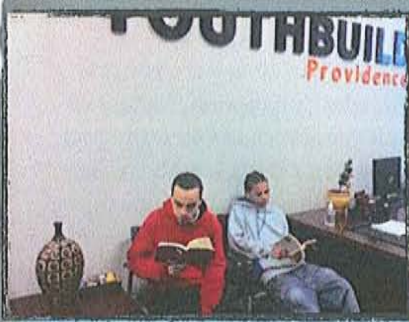
YBP Wins.....Again! by Joseph Allen

It was just last week on Wednesday the 9th day of March 2011, when one of the most memorable events happened in my time with YouthBuild Providence. We went to Fall River to defend our YouthBuild Basketball Championship, which was won the year prior in a undefeated streak against the other YouthBuild Schools. This year

wasn't much different. The only difference was our players whom are Sophie Khoun, Seyhar Ou, Carlton Barboza, Edith Tirado, Charles Blackwell, Kevin Thomas, Armando Munoz, Lionel Brown, Jowell Robison, Ramon Escotto, and the same coaches as the previous year Mast Carpenter and Cesar...



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This year YBP Providence was proud to welcomed a new group of RI's most intelligent students into its program as a part of Class 14. [From left to right: Carlos, Franklin, Ioseb, Vanid, Miguel, Lowell, and Hommy]

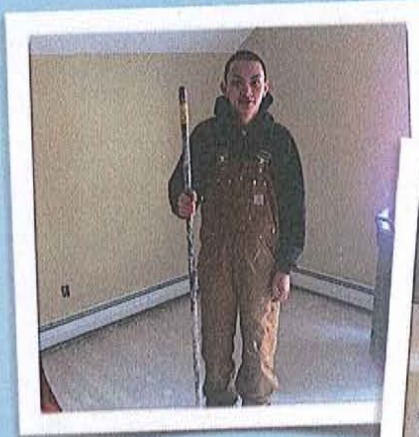
YouthBuild Providence's Basketball Victory

by Joseph Allen

[contd from pg. 1]

...Ramirez. Our team's first game was against YouthBuild Bristol's, and it was a blowout. By the second half YBP already had 12, leaving Bristol with 0. By the end it was Bristol 06 and YBP 21. Everyone wished that the next game against Lawrence would have been as easy as the previous match. In this game both teams were playing aggressive, barley letting each other score. It was neck-to-neck the entire game, and at the Hommy Vasquez saved YBP from overtime with a free throw. Final: YBP 9/Lawrence 8. The third game was against Fall River, both undefeated. This was a smooth win for YBP. Final: YBP 22/Fall River 17. Now it was on to the final match in the YouthBuild Basketball Tourney, Fall River had eliminated Quincy in the semi finals, making it a rematch from last year's championship match. This Game was purely a blow out no questions asked; YBP's team came out hard and ready to play. I can't say the same for Fall River, who by the second have was losing by 20 which

AROUND CAMPUS



YBP Staff member, and former YBP star student, Cesar Ramirez painting the finishing touches on wall.

* *Tobby Khoukone cleaning up after a hard day's work. Tobby is known for his consistent effort both on the construction site and in the classroom.*



means the score, was Fall River 10 and Providence 30. The game rages on and YBP is not holding back and neither are the students in the crowd screaming for their home team. With the last two minutes left Sophie Khoun gets the ball and "Swoosh" as wet as the ocean, makes a clean three pointer, she silenced the other team. Then with little time to go Edith Tirado gets the last two points of the game making the game even more

one-sided. Final score: Fall River 17 / YBP 44 points. YBP has gone undefeated two years in a row, retaining the YouthBuild Basketball Championship. Truly showing where it belongs. Everyone has their own point of view of who the game's MVP was, but I believe it was Ramon Escotto. He showed true heart and determination throughout all four games.

MARCH WAS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!



Ella Baker (1903-1988)
Activist and Civil Rights Organizer



The granddaughter of a slave who was beaten for refusing to marry a man her master chose for her, Ella Baker spent her life working behind the scenes to organize the Civil Rights Movement. Baker worked to persuade the men leading the movement that they, too, should do more work behind the scenes. Baker believed in helping ordinary people to work together and lead themselves, and she objected to centralized authority. In her worldview, "strong people don't need strong leaders." After graduating from college Baker moved to NYC and began her long career of organizing, helping to establish customer owned businesses during the Depression. She joined the NAACP's staff in 1938 and spent half of each year traveling in the South to build support for local branches, which would become the foundation of the Civil Rights Movement. In 1946 she reduced her NAACP

responsibilities to work on integrating New York City public schools. Baker was one of the visionaries who created the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957, and she drew the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. to it. She served two terms as the SCLC's acting executive director. In 1960 four black students in Greensboro, North Carolina, were refused service in a university cafeteria, setting off sympathetic sit-ins across the country, and Baker seized the day. Starting with student activists at Shaw University, her alma mater, she founded the legendary Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), which gave young blacks, including women and the poor, a major role in the Civil Rights Movement. Baker returned to New York City in 1964 and worked for human rights until her death.

HERE ARE GREAT, HIGH-PAYING JOBS YOU MAY HAVE NEVER THOUGHT OF EVEN IF YOU HAVE A FELONY



Elevator Installer

Annual Earnings: \$64,000

Aircraft Service Technician

Annual Earnings: \$48,000

Power Line Installer

Annual Earnings: \$51,000

Drafter

Annual Earnings: \$42,000

Engineering Technician

Annual Earnings: \$53,000

Art Director

Annual Earnings: \$68,000

Laser Technician

Annual Earnings: \$41,000

Air Traffic Controller

Annual Earnings: \$117,000

Chef

Annual Earnings: \$50,000

Flight Attendant

Annual Earnings: \$54,000

Web Developer

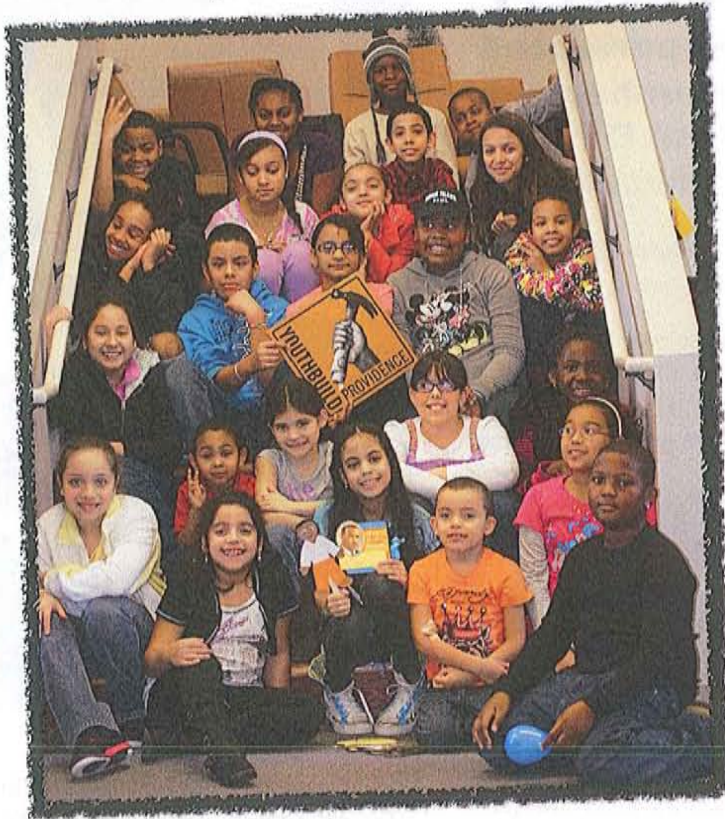
Annual Earnings: \$82,000

Occupational Therapist

Annual Earnings: \$60,000

For more great jobs like these visit the YBP library

YBP Serving the Youth in the Community On Dr. MLK, Jr. Day



ANNUAL COMMEMORATION OF THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HOLIDAY HAS BEEN AN IMPORTANT PART OF YOUTHBUILD PROVIDENCE'S ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

This years MLK Day of service learning project continued the YBP tradition of community engagement in Olneyville. In the past YBP has worked to cultivate a relationship with Webster Ave Elementary School.

YBP hosted wonderful fifth graders from Webster Ave at both its academic complex and tech center. YBP's dedicated staff gave their time to facilitate a day of fun and intellectually engaging activities for the bright fifth graders.

Webster students gathered at YBP's academic complex to participate in a teach-in style book reading about Dr. King's inspiring life of service to the oppressed. Students participated in creative arts and crafts projects which helped to reinforce the importance of respecting the differences of others. At YBP's tech center students enjoyed an opportunity to learn basic building skills by constructing of their own tool boxes.

YBP's committed staff made sure all the children were well fed throughout the day by plentifully providing a healthy breakfast, lunch, and tasty snacks. Each child left YBP with a smiling face and an inspiration to help strengthen their communities.

GED'd Up!

YouthBuild Providence
Class 14

| | |
|------------|------|
| Josheph | Pass |
| Darey | Pass |
| Khontheasa | Pass |
| Catarina | Pass |
| Elijah | Pass |
| Chris | Pass |
| Jovan | Pass |
| Jamique | Pass |

Stay tuned because there are a bunch more coming!

Ladaisha Jones Sits Down with YBP's Most Experienced Staff Member -- Associate Director Robert Nyahkoon

by Ladaisha Jones

Graduate

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Ladaisha Jones was visiting Rob's office, but this time it wasn't because she was being kicked out of Miss P's math class -- at least not this time.

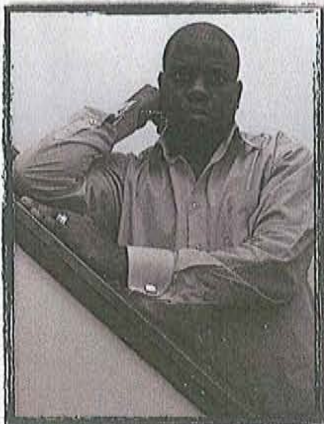


She was there to conduct a brief interview with the most experienced (and some say the most handsome) member of YBP's staff, Associate Director Robert Nyahkoon.

Jones: "Mr. Nyahkoon can you talk what motivated you to choose a career working with young people?"

Nyahkoon: "I've seen too many good people fall into traps, and I've always wanted to do whatever I can to show young people better alternatives."

ANTHONY HUBBARD



YOUTHBUILD
Providence

FROM THE DIRECTOR

YouthBuild Providence has a fourteen year history of running a high quality program with proven results in terms of GED attainment, postsecondary education and job placements in construction and other sectors; the only thing missing is the ability to offer a High School Diploma. After conversations with district partners we are excited about the opportunity to pursue this pathway, which will help YouthBuild Providence better equip our students for life after the program.

-Anthony Hubbard

FORMER NBA STAR VISITS YBP



From URI to NBA to motivational speaker; that was the path that Cuttino Mobley. After a successful NBA career Mobley didn't retire to a life of luxury to spend all his money on parties and cars. Instead, he visits schools and community centers speaking to youth about the wisdom of knowing when to change lanes in life after you discover that the path you're taking will lead you in a bad direction.

Mobley took time to answer students questions about starting a successful business and clever ways to save money.

Jones: "I've heard that you are delivering the keynote address at this year's graduation. What message do you plan to send?"

Nyahkoon: "Try life."

Jones: "Why do you feel the need to help young people better their lives?"

Nyahkoon: "I want to make sure that they understand and appreciate all that life has to offer."

Jones: "Lastly, can you confirm reports that you once were involved in an altercation with Celtics star Ray Allen, and met privately with actress Nia Long to..."

Nyahkoon: [interrupting Jones] "That's it! This interview is over! Get back to Miss P's math class!"

The End

What Are YBP Students Thinking About?

LUIS

Animals
The Bible
Symbols on money

DUAN

Family
Cars
Money

VANID

College
Childbirth
Animals

HOMMEY

Basketball
Green Technology
Cars

WILLIAM

Sports
Tsunamis
Video games

QUINTON

Books about adventure
Fixing things
Traveling

EDSON

Sports
UFC
Cars

Ever Wondered What the Top 5 Best and Worst Jobs Are?

BEST

1. **Biologist**

2. **Actuary**

3. **Financial Planner**

4. **Computer System Analyst**

5. **Accountant**

WORST

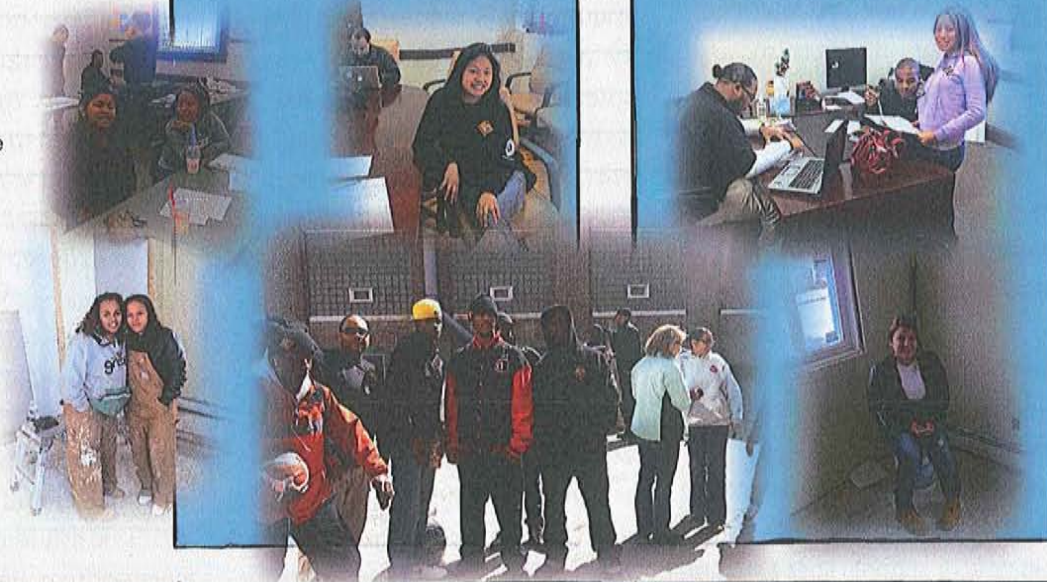
2. **Fisherman**

3. **Roustabout**

4. **Lumberjack**

5. **Cowboy**

6. **Stevedore**



HOW TO DEAL WITH TOUGH QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR BACKGROUND IN A COLLEGE OR JOB INTERVIEW

1. Give the information asked for -- and no more. This is not the time to confess all your past negative behaviors.

- Maintain good eye contact throughout. Remember, you don't want to appear dishonest by not looking the interviewer in the eye.
- Talk briefly about what you have learned from the mistake you made in the past. Acknowledge and take responsibility for your actions.

- Talk about what steps you've taken to change this aspect of your life. Hint: you graduated from YouthBuild!
- Make your comments positive and concise. Do not ramble on and on.
- If you must bring up your past don't do it at the beginning or the end -- only in the middle. You want the first and final thing the interviewer hears about you to be positive.

YouthBuild National Schools Initiative...

(continued from page 1)

by **YouthBuild USA**

Somerville, MA

...

"YOUTHBUILD STUDENTS ENROLLING IN COLLEGE NEED CONTINUING SUPPORTS TO COMPLETE THEIR EDUCATION;"

Today's investment continues the work of YouthBuild's National Schools Initiative for five more years. YouthBuild first received a grant from the Gates Foundation in 2003 to establish 10 new YouthBuild schools throughout the United States and to strengthen and expand 23 existing YouthBuild schools. The new Gates grant continues this work for five more years and expands it to new schools. The first group of schools is in California, the District of Columbia, Georgia, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas and Wisconsin.

The additional seven schools, which will be selected over the next three years, will be a combination of new and existing YouthBuild charter and alternative schools that re-engage young people who have dropped out of high school or who are at risk of dropping out. The schools prepare their students for college and careers.

"This grant advances our goal of preparing more low-income young people to succeed in college and become community leaders," said Dorothy Stoneman, president of YouthBuild USA. "Our nation faces a dropout crisis as millions of students - many of them young men of color - have dropped out of high school. We can break the cycle of poverty if we empower this population of young adults to compete in the global economy and participate in changing the conditions of poverty in their communities."

Schools in the National Schools Initiative incorporate active inquiry teaching methods that help students link new information to their personal experiences, in-depth learning through projects and problem-solving, and performance-based assessments - including national construction trades testing and certification. They work to develop students' academic, technical, personal, and critical thinking skills to meet the standards required for success in both higher education and the job market. They build a sense of leadership responsibility toward active citizenship.

Since the YouthBuild National Schools Initiative began, more students are earning their diplomas and going on to college. In 2006, more than half the

students in schools in the first cohort of NSI, attained diplomas, 40 percent of graduates entered college. Most YouthBuild students, who have left high school without a diploma, enter YouthBuild with no expectation of ever going to college. Their experience in YouthBuild schools, coupled with their earning an AmeriCorps Segal Education Award in exchange for their service building affordable housing, changes their aspirations.

"YouthBuild students enrolling in college need continuing supports to complete their education," said Sangeeta Tyagi, vice president for education at YouthBuild USA. "We plan to deepen the college preparation work while they are with us - a stronger, more rigorous curriculum to prepare for college, early assessments, strong college applications and financial aid support, life skills and financial literacy. We plan to focus on reading, writing, math, technology and advanced study skills so students can enter and succeed in college and we plan to expand their access to scholarship assistance and individual development accounts geared for college."

<http://www.youthbuild.org/site/c.htIRJ3PIKoG/b.3885577/>

YouthBuild Students Working On Service Projects to Better the Community!

