CamdenCorpsPlus
A DISCONNECTED YOUTH DEMONSTRATION PROJECT
NJLWD has been awarded $1,994,350 by the USDOL to serve the disconnected, out-of-school youth residing in Camden, NJ.

Following the successes of current Camden youth initiatives & with the partnerships of current community organizations, the CamdenCorpsPlus program will help engage and connect Camden City youth with training and employment opportunities.

- Partner Organizations:
  - Camden Mayor's Office
  - Camden Youth One-Stop
  - The Work Group
  - Camden Youth Court Forum

- YouthBuild - Camden
- Camden Youth Outreach Services
- Camden Special School Services District
- Local Employers
Camden, NJ is now one of the most poverty-stricken and unsafe cities in our country, with:

- A crime rate of **68 per 1,000** residents
  - 1 out of 15 will become a victim of crime
- A staggering **52%** of Camden’s youngest residents (under the age of 18) are living in poverty
- Only 5,027 of the 10,304 youths (ages 16-24) are in the labor force
- An overall Unemployment Rate of **18.7%**
- **Youth Unemployment Rates of 21.3% (ages 16-19)** and **15.9% (ages 20-24)**

*Source: NJLWD Office of Research and Information*
The Camden Solution: 3 Phases, 1 Goal

- A 12-month intensive program targeting:
  - 113 out-of-school youths (ages 16-24) living in Camden
- 2 Sub-Grantees:
  - Lead Agency | Training Provider
- 3 phases focused on building career pathways

Phase 1: Education & Work Preparation
Phase 2: Work Sampling
Phase 3: Internship

Over 12 Months

Goal: Retained Employment
Phase 1: Education & Work Preparation
(Months 1-6)

- **Integrated Basic Skills & Occupational Training**
  - English as a Second Language (ESL) & Basic Skills (GED/H.S. Equivalency)
  - Occupational training in retail & hospitality, construction, & health care

- **Career Readiness & Work Ethics**
  - Customer Service/Communications
  - Career Awareness/Planning
  - HUD Certified Financial Literacy

- **Community Service**
  - 2 days per week of community service
    - Youth will gain hands-on experience by carrying out projects in partnership with the Camden Special Services District
      - 12 hours per week, with $10/hr stipend
Phase 2: (Months 7-9) Work Sampling

- 2 days per week of education and training
- 3 days of sampling various occupations & jobs
  - Participants will receive a $10/hr stipend for 18 hours a week

Letters of support received from Camden City employers:

- Holtec International
- PCM
- The Philadelphia 76ers
- Eastern Metal Recycling
- Brandywine Realty Trust
Targeted Industries & Employers

Industries w/ the Most Job Openings Over the Past Year: City of Camden

- Restaurants & Other Eating Places
- Elementary & Secondary Schools
- Grocery Stores
- Home Health Care Services
- Colleges, Universities, & Professional Schools
- Special Food Services
- General Medical & Surgical Hospitals

- This chart shows job opportunities that require a High School diploma only, and are low-skilled, entry level positions
  - Ideal for CamdenCorpsPlus graduates

Source: NJLWD Office of Research and Information
Phase 3:  
(Months 10-12)  

Internship

**Employers w/ Most Job Openings Over the Past Year: City of Camden**

- Workinsports
- Freedom home Health Care
- Harvard Cleaning Services Corporation
- Amerada Hess Corporation
- Standard Parking Corporation
- PriceRite
- Aramark
- Cooper University Health Care
- Cooper University Hospital

- 5 days per week placement into a paid internship
- Subsidized with an on-the-job-training grant to participating employers
  - Planned incentive is $1,785 per participant

This chart shows job opportunities that require a High School diploma only, & are low-skilled, entry level positions

Source: NJLWD Office of Research and Information
Anticipated Outcomes
Minimum Standard Goals

Outcomes

Employment Retention of those placed in employment 70%

Receive Credential/Degree of those placed in training/ed. 50%

Enter Unsubsidized Employment/Post-Secondary Education 65%
“New Jersey, Come See for Yourself.”

NLWD Commissioner Hal Wirths at the Camden Youth One-Stop ribbon cutting.

U.S. Secretary of Labor, Thomas Perez visits Camden YouthBuild.

President Barack Obama visits Camden, NJ.