

# ELEVATING TOMORROW'S LEADERS

## PEEKSKILL YOUTH BUREAU'S 2025 HIGHLIGHTS



*Submitted by:  
Tuesday McDonald  
Executive Director*



# MISSION:

The City of Peekskill Youth Bureau is dedicated to empowering the youth of our community through programs that promote *Education*, *Leadership* and active *Civic Engagement*.

Our mission is to create an inclusive environment where youth can develop their skills, build resilience and foster positive relationships.

## Full Time Staff

Executive Director - Tuesday McDonald  
Sr. Youth Advocate - Darryl Francis

## Part Time Staff

Sr. Office Asst.- Diane Testa  
(Started November 3, 2025)

## Grant Staff

Devon Mincey - WDAY  
Matt Benson (P/T) - Project Elevate  
Alvenia Smith (P/T) - Project Elevate  
(Started June 2025)



## City of Peekskill Youth Bureau 2025

### Youth Bureau Citywide Events

**Citywide Juneteenth** June

**Citywide Back to School  
Supply Giveaway** August

**Citywide Thanksgiving  
Giveaway** November

**Youth Bureau Family  
Toy/Giftcard Giveaway**  
December

**Partner Collaborations @  
Youth Bureau Location**  
ARTS 10566

Black Diamonds Academic  
Success Program

ELOC (Environmental Leaders  
of Color)

Hass' Way (Peekskill Schools)

Peekskill Girl Scouts

PNW BOCES - GED program

Sloyd Woodworking

## Project Elevate

Preparing students 14 - 18 for post-high school success.

### WDAY

(Workforce Development Academy for Youth)  
Job readiness for out of school students - 16 - 24

Youth Advisory Council  
Youth 12 - 18

Community Service  
Opportunities

S.R.A.E.P.  
Sexual Risk Avoidance  
Education Program  
Youth 14 - 18

Summer Youth Camp  
Youth 10-14

CLUB INSPIRE  
Collaboration with Peekskill Middle School

GRANDPAS UNITED  
Group Mentoring

RISING TIDE  
(Building boats together)

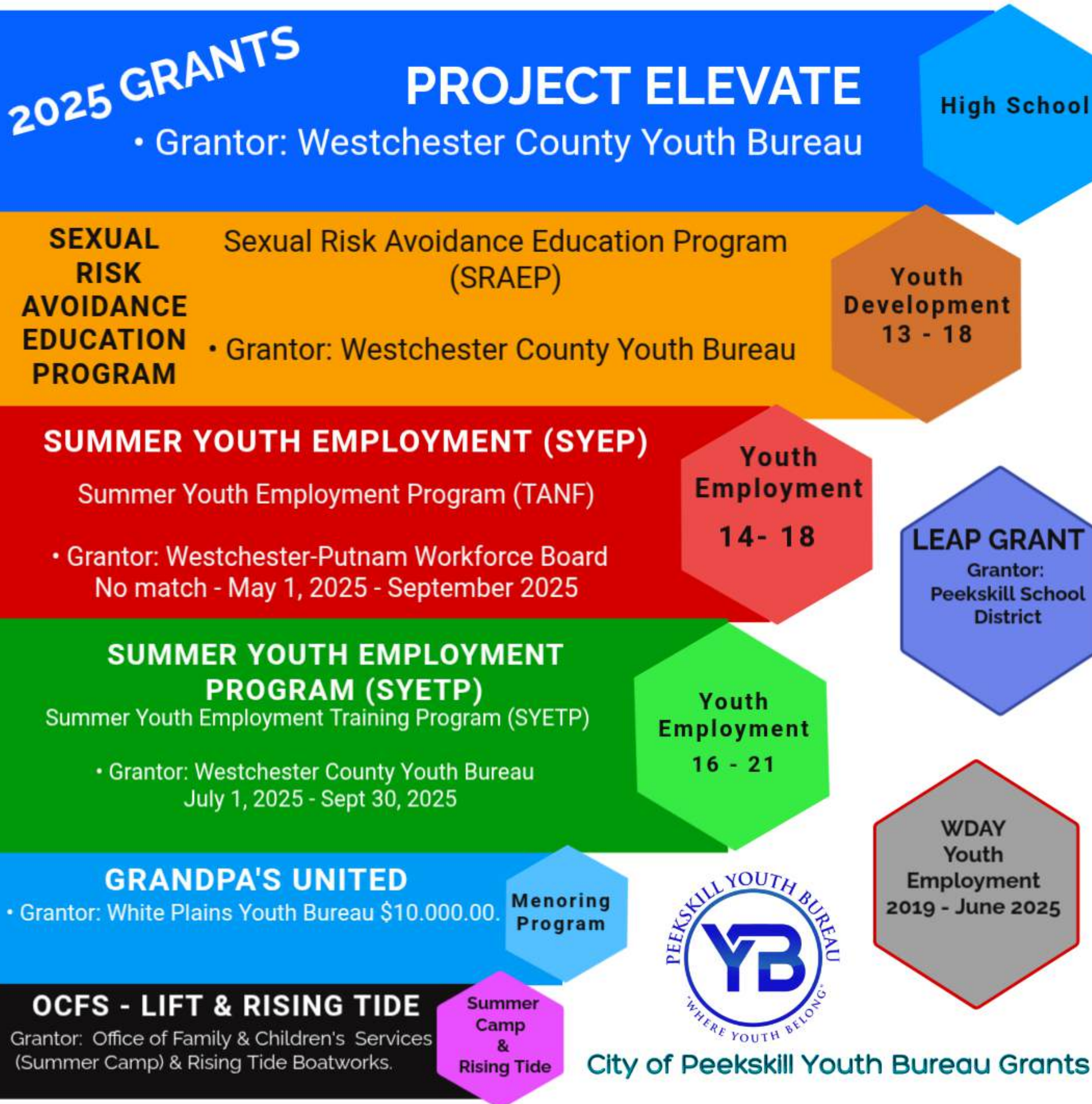
Summer Youth Employment  
Summer employment for Youth

HASS' WAY  
Out of School suspension program  
w/ Peekskill School District





# GRANTS FUELING YOUTH SUCCESS (2025)



## THANKS TO OUR GRANTORS, OUR YOUTH:

- MAPPED OUT LIFE AFTER HIGH SCHOOL THROUGH THE **PROJECT ELEVATE PROGRAM**
- SPENT A SAFE, CURIOSITY-FILLED SUMMER AT THE '**RISING STARS**' CAMP.
- EARNED FIRST PAYCHECKS AND JOB SKILLS AT THE **SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM.**
- MEASURED, SAWED, AND LAUNCHED BOATS AT THE **RISING TIDE PROGRAM.**
- GAINED WISDOM AND ENCOURAGEMENT FROM **GRANTPAS UNITED** PROGRAM.
- ENABLED 16-24-YEAR-OLDS TO SMASH BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT WITH **WDAY.**
- EMPOWERED TEENS THROUGH THE **SEXUAL RISK AVOIDANCE EDUCATION PROGRAM**, WITH PAID SUMMER WORK AND LEADERSHIP ACTIVITIES.



# IN SYNC FOR SUCCESS: THE PARTNERSHIP MODEL

## ANNUAL SKI TRIP



THE PEEKSKILL HIGH SCHOOL SKI CLUB

IN PARTNERSHIP  
W/THE  
PEEKSKILL  
YOUTH  
BUREAU

# SKI TRIP

Catamount  
Mountain  
Resort  
78 Catamount Rd.  
Hillside, New York



## Club Inspire



Club Inspire is a 3 year partnership between the Youth Bureau and the Peekskill School District. The Youth Bureau's Youth Aide provides mentorship, and guidance to student at the Middle School - 3 days a week



## 3 ON 3 BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT



## COLLABORATIONS WITH THE PEEKSKILL SCHOOL DISTRICT 2025

## IMPACT Statement

Through our robust partnership with the Peekskill School District, we empowered countless students with mentoring, academic support, and dynamic programs, driving significant gains in engagement and resilience that help transform their futures.

## YOUTH LEGISLATIVE DAY IN ALBANY, NY



PEEKSKILL YOUTH BUREAU  
&  
PEEKSKILL SCHOOL DISTRICT



YOUTH  
LEGISLATIVE  
DAY  
2025

Albany, New York

Tuesday,  
February 4, 2025

Special Thanks to:  
  
Senator  
Pete Harckham  
&  
Assemblywoman  
Dana Levenberg



# HASS' WAY



Hass' Way is a 6 year partnership between the Youth Bureau and the Peekskill School District. Hass' Way is an out-of-school suspension program that provides tutoring; counseling and restorative justice.

## BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

10TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

FREE Bookbags & Supplies

THURSDAY,  
AUGUST 21, 2025  
4:00PM - 6:00PM

Peekskill Youth Bureau  
828 Main Street  
Peekskill, NY

SPONSORS

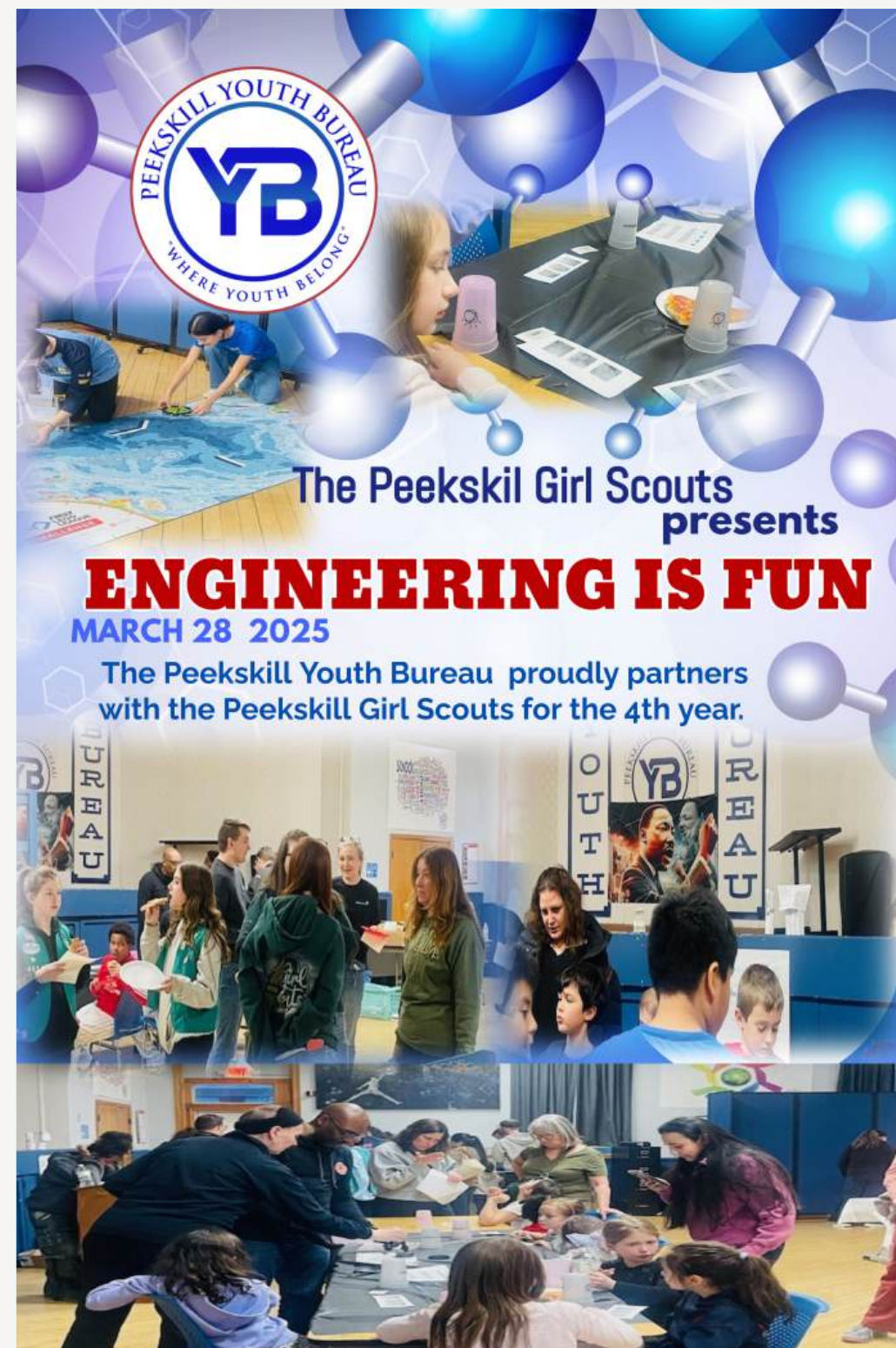
Mount Olivet Baptist Church  
mibc  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Xi Chi Omega Chapter  
CONGRESSMAN MIKE LAWLER  
OFFICE OF ASSEMBLYWOMAN Dana Levenberg  
STATE SENATOR PETE HARCKHAM  
WASTE INNOVATIONS PERFORMANCE FOR THE PLANET  
Rotary Club of Peekskill  
Mt. Olivet Housing Corp.  
United Way of Westchester & Putnam



# POWERED BY PARTNERSHIPS 2025

## PEEKSKILL GIRL SCOUTS Engineering Is Fun Expo

MARCH 28, 2025



**YOUTH SERVED:** 75+

**Impact:** Hosted the Girl Scout's Engineering is Fun Expo, at the Youth Bureau with interactive activities desired to spark interest in STEM.

## PROFESSIONAL WOODWORKING INSTRUCTORS

### Sloyd Youth Woodworking

MARCH 2025 - DECEMBER 2025



## SLOYD YOUTH WOODWORKING

Professional Woodworking Instructors

Sloyd Youth Woodworking is more than simply woodworking for youth. The Sloyd Experience helps provide an educational completeness to children through the linkage of the hands, head, and heart. These experiences translate into a mindset that lasts a lifetime.

Peekskill Youth Bureau  
828 Main Street  
Peekskill, New York 10566

For more information, please contact  
Tuesday, Paige McDonald, Executive Director  
at 914-734-4149/tmcDonald@cityofpeekskill.com



Please Join Us!

Every Wednesday  
4:00pm - 5:30pm

2025

Class size limited;  
sign up today

Instructor:  
Kurt Steger  
530-277-1106

<https://bit.ly/4aUEEGG>

**YOUTH SERVED:** 25

**Impact:** This program encouraged our youth to explore their creativity, leading to the development of hands on practical skills in woodworking.

## ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS OF COLOR Summer Energy & Environmental Program

JULY 8, 2025 - AUGUST 7, 2025



**YOUTH SERVED:** 10

**Impact:** Our youth gained valuable knowledge about energy efficiency and the environment through science experiments and demonstrations.



# POWERED BY PARTNERSHIPS 2025

## Community Partners Back to School Supply Giveaway August 21, 2025

10TH ANNUAL BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY

**FREE Bookbags & Supplies**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 21, 2025**  
4:00PM - 6:00PM

Peekskill Youth Bureau  
828 Main Street  
Peekskill, NY

**SPONSORS**

Mount Olivet Baptist Church  
Peekskill Youth Bureau  
City of Peekskill  
mlbc  
CONGRESSMAN MIKE LAWLER  
STATE SENATOR PETE HARCKHAM  
NewYork-Presbyterian Hudson Valley Hospital  
Office of Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg  
WASTE INNOVATIONS PERFORMANCE FOR THE PLANET  
Rotary Club of Peekskill  
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Xi Chi Omega Chapter  
Sunmark  
Mt. Olivet Housing Corp.

**Community Table Vendors:**

United Way of Westchester & Putnam  
Alzheimer's Association  
MVP Health  
Fidelis Care

**PARTNERS**

ST. PETER'S CHURCH  
Peekskill Resource Center Elizabeth McCorvey  
Homeless Remedies Inc.  
Class with Capri  
BLACK DIAMONDS  
NICKIE'S NATURALS  
JUMP FOR JOY Day Care & Learning Center  
NAACP Peekskill Branch - 2170  
Sun River Health  
FIRST HEBREW CONGREGATION OF PEEKSKILL

For more information, please contact Tuesday Paige McDonald, Executive Director at [tmcdonald@cityofpeekskillny.gov](mailto:tmcdonald@cityofpeekskillny.gov) or 914-734-4149

**YOUTH SERVED:** 1,100  
**COMMUNITY IMPACT:**  
41 Sponsors; 38 Volunteers &  
5 Community Event Vendors  
\*With our Community Partners, we  
provided 1,100 students with essential  
tools for the school year!

## Westchester Children's Association Civics & Youth Advocacy October 2025


**Youth**

**STAND UP & USE YOUR VOICE**

Civics & Advocacy Class - October 2025

Westchester Children's Association  
Children's Champions Since 1914

Peekskill Youth Bureau  
WHERE YOUTH BELONG



**YOUTH SERVED:** 26  
**IMPACT:**  
WCA successfully trained 26 youth;  
equipping them with Civics and  
Advocacy skills so they can actively  
participate in community decision making.  
The student's completed 3 (two hour) sessions.

## Westchester Cars & Coffee

**Toy Drive:** October 19, 2025 **Toy/Gift card Distribution:** December 18, 2025  
**Food Drive:** November 2, 2025 **Thanksgiving Distribution:** November 14, 2025

**WESTCHESTER CARS & COFFEE**

**TOY DRIVE**

5th Annual  
Sunday, October 19, 2025



Westchester Cars & Coffee  
7 John Walsh Blvd.  
Peekskill, NY 10566

**FOOD DRIVE**

5th Annual  
Sunday, November 2, 2025



**THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE**  
**Youth (Families) Served:** 46  
**Impact:** The Thanksgiving  
Food Drive provided  
Turkeys and trimmings to  
46 families; fostering  
a sense of community  
and care. Due to the  
generosity of WCC,  
we were also able to  
distribute donations to  
CHOPP.

**TOY DRIVE**  
**YOUTH SERVED:** 200+  
**Impact:** The Toy Drive provided toys and gifts to over 75+  
Youth, ensuring that they had a happy holiday season.  
In addition to the toys, community members and organizations  
purchased over 50 (\$10.00) gift cards to the Five Below store. We were  
happy to also share toys with the Department of Social Services and  
Sun River Health for their Annual 3 King's Celebration,



# PROJECT ELEVATE'S "ENGAGE & ELEVATE" LAUNCH 2025



The City of Peekskill Youth Bureau  
PROJECT ELEVATE  
PRESENTS

## ENGAGE & ELEVATE

A LUNCHTIME THINK TANK FOR  
YOUTH ADVOCATES

**FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025**  
12:30PM - 1:30PM

Peekskill Youth Bureau  
828 Main Street, Peekskill, NY

Come and join us for  
an open discussion over lunch,  
where youth advocates/community leaders  
can share ideas and  
collaborate to champion real progress!



### ENGAGE & ELEVATE FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025

#### ATTENDEES

Sun River Health  
Lailaa Cunningham

Antonia Arts  
Scarlett Antonia

Westchester County Youth Bureau  
Ernest McFadden, Executive Director

City of Peekskill Youth Bureau  
Team

Assembly District 95  
Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

Congressman Mike Lawler's Office  
Ashton Coleman, D.R.

City of Peekskill  
Councilman Rob Scott

Westchester County Board of Legislators  
Legislator Colin Smith

Sgt. Khalia Carter, Police Dept.  
Cassandra Redd, Clerk

Aero-Ba-Soul, Inc.  
Kecia Ann Palmer Cousins

Sunmark  
Max Schlubach

Peekskill NAACP  
Min. Micah Benson

Mt. Olivet Baptist Church  
Rev. James Perry, Pastor

Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church  
Rev. Gary Colter, Pastor

SLOYD Woodworking  
Ted Haber

Peekskill City School District  
Dr. Eudes Budhai

Kurt Steger

Grandpas United  
Dr. Jenna Ferris

James Taylor (Rising Tide)

Bill Archer

Dr. Bridget Holloman

FIDELIS CARE  
Suleima Ventura

Community Leader  
Alvenia Smith

Melanie Roman

Black Diamonds Academic Success, Inc.  
Martin McDonald

Peekskill Housing Authority  
Janneyn Phalen

Union Baptist Church/VITA  
Tamicka Hall

Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

XKS Chapter  
Lacola Patterson

Xi Chi Omega Chapter  
Tanisha Williams

Celeste Hill

United Methodist Church  
Rev. Valerie Paul Greenaway

New Era Creative Space (NECS)  
Jennifer Turner

First Baptist Church  
Krysel Heady

Caring for the Hungry and Homeless of Peekskill  
Candice Blyden-Gill

Student Assistance Services  
Kelly Marin

YWCA of White Plains & Central  
Westchester Javon Trottman-Floyd

Hope's Door  
Shaire D. Gadson

**ON MAY 30, 2025, WE INTRODUCED**  
"Engage & Elevate"

—an open forum uniting Youth Advocates to share best practices, spark ideas, and co-create strategies that accelerate progress for our scholars.

**GOAL:** To move beyond traditional silos and collaborate in a unified manner for the benefit of our youth.

**IMPACT:** 32 Community Organizations: 45 Community Partners; Youth & Adult Surveys completed; Formed 5 committees.

**LAUNCH:** Friday, May 30, 2025  
**2nd Meeting** - Thursday, September 18, 2025  
**3rd Meeting** - Thursday, November 13, 2025

**THE WORK:** Youth & Adult Advocates joined the following 5 committees:

- Mental Health
- Collaboration & Communication
- Safe Spaces & Opportunities
- Youth Leadership
- Digital & Social Media Impact



# PROJECT ELEVATE PRESENTS R.E.A.D.I. TRAINING 2025



R.E.A.D.I represents the workplace attributes businesses look for in the youth they hire:  
**Respect, Enthusiasm, Articulate, Dependable and Initiative**



*57 students received R.E.A.D.I. Training from Executive Director, Tuesday McDonald and (Certified as a R.E.A.D.I. Train-the-Trainer Instructor) Project Elevate's, Rec. Assistant. Matthew Benson 8 (two hour) trainings were held.*

*The students had 4 weeks to complete the 10 hours of training.*

*After graduating from the READI Youth Employment Program, students were prepared to work with the Summer Youth Employment Program led by Sr. Youth Advocate, Darryl Francis and the SRAEP Program led by Executive Director, Tuesday McDonald*



# 2025 PEEKSKILL YOUTH BUREAU CAREER & RESOURCE FAIRS

March 20, 2025 - 12 Community Partners

May 15, 2025 - 15 Community Partners

September 25, 2025 - 14 Community Partners

The Peekskill Youth Bureau's



## WDAY

### "IGNITE YOUR PATH" Career & Resource Fair

## March 20, 2025

- Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg's office
- Journey Allied Health Training Center
- New Era Creative Space
- Peekskill City School District
- Peekskill Human Resources Department
- Peekskill Fire Department
- Peekskill Police Department
- PK Blendz
- Putnam Westchester BOCES
- Safe Spaces Monitoring
- Sun River Health
- Westchester School for Medical and Dental Assistants



The Peekskill Youth Bureau's



## WDAY

### "NEXT GEN OPPORTUNITIES" Career & Resource Fair

## MAY 15, 2025

- CON EDISON
- CITY OF PEEKSKILL WATER DEPARTMENT
- IRS
- U.S. MARINES
- U.S. NAVY
- NEW YORK STATE POLICE
- NY FOR CLEAN POWER
- NY POWER AUTHORITY
- OPEN GATE
- PEEKSKILL COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE CORP.
- VNS HEALTH
- WESTCHESTER EOC
- WSMADA Medical & Dental Assistants
- UNIVERSAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE




  
**RISE UP!**  
Are you between the ages of 16-24?

Please join us for a workshop on:  
Career Guidance ★ Resume Building ★ Interview Preparation

**Thursday, September 25, 2025**  
3:30pm - 5:00pm

Peekskill Youth Bureau  
828 Main Street, Peekskill, New York 10566

For more information, please contact Devon Mincey, Youth Employment Worker at  
dmincey@cityofpeekskillny.gov or 914-862-5347

PLEASE REGISTER  
  
<https://bit.ly/3HZALXh>



## IMPACT Statement

We connected over 40 youth with local opportunities by hosting 3 Career & Resource Fairs, featuring 15+ community vendors to inspire future pathways for youth 16- 24.



# 2025 COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT ON THE YOUTH BUREAU



**Youth Bureau  
honored May 18, 2025**



**Youth Bureau selected for Youth  
Civic Engagement Program  
July 2025**



**Youth Bureau's Executive Director  
honored for her work in  
Community & Youth Bureau on  
September 27, 2025.**



# **PEEKSKILL YOUTH BUREAU**

## **FUTURES UNLOCKED: 2025 YEAR END IMPACT**

### **CAREER AND NEXT STEP READINESS**

Project Elevate  
R.E.A.D.I 10 Hour Youth Employment Training  
College Tours to Mercy University & WCC  
College Prep & AI Sessions by College Client  
WDAY  
(Workforce Development Academy for Youth)

### **STUDENT SUCCESS & MENTORING**

Grandpas United  
Club Inspire  
PNW BOCES - GED Program  
HASS' Way (partnership with PSD)  
Sloyd Wooworking  
Rising Tide  
Rising Stars Summer Camp

### **LEADERSHIP & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

Environmental Leaders of Color  
Girl Scouts "Engineering is Fun" Expo  
Youth Legislative Day, Albany, New York  
Community Service Opportunities for Youth  
Civics & Advocacy Training by  
Westchester Children's Association

### **COMMUNITY BUILDING & SUPPORT**

Engage & Elevate Community Think Tank  
Citywide Juneteenth Celebration  
Citywide Back to School Supply Giveaway  
Citywide Toy Drive  
Citywide Thanksgiving Food Drive  
Walmart's "Shop with a Cop" for YB Youth  
Family Line Dancing  
Community Partners  
Dads take Your Child to School

### **YOUTH EMPLOYMENT**

SYEP (Summer Youth Employment Program)  
Sexual Risk Avoidance Education Program  
SYETP (Employment Program)  
WDAY  
(Workforce Development Academy for Youth)

**"I believe in myself"**





# PEEKSKILL YOUTH BUREAU 2025 YEAR END IMPACT

## 1 CAREER & NEXT-STEP READINESS

- 65 YOUTH ENROLLED IN PROJECT ELEVATE
- 57 YOUTH EARNED R.E.A.D.I WORKFORCE CERTIFICATES
- 14 YOUTH EXPERIENCED ON-SITE COLLEGE TOURS TO MERCY UNIVERSITY AND WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE
- 20 YOUTH GAINED KNOWLEDGE FROM COLLEGE CLIENT ON COLLEGE PREP AND AI RESOURCES
- 40 YOUTH EXPLORED OPTIONS AT CAREER & RESOURCE FAIRS TO BENEFIT 16-24 YEAR OLDS
- INTRODUCED YOUTH TO CREATING THEIR OWN PODCAST

## 2 STUDENT SUCCESS & MENTORING

- 14 "GRANDPAS" INSPIRED YOUTH BUREAU STUDENTS
- CLUB INSPIRE GUIDED MIDDLE-SCHOOL STUDENTS
- 6 STUDENTS EARNED GED CREDITS VIA PNW BOCES
- 20 STUDENTS MASTERED TOOLS IN THE SLOYD WOODWORKING CLASSES
- 10 YOUTH COMPLETED THE RISING TIDE SUMMER PROGRAM AND BUILT BOATS
- 36 YOUTH THRIVED AT RISING STARS SUMMER CAMP
- HASS WAY KEPT SUSPENDED STUDENTS ON TRACK THROUGH ACADEMIC SUPPORT AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE
- YOUTH PLANTED 100 TREES WITH THE PEEKSKILL WATER DEPARTMENT

## 3 LEADERSHIP & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- 10 YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN THE ELOC (ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERS OF COLOR) SUMMER PROGRAM
- 55 YOUTH BUILT STEM SKILLS AT THE "ENGINEERING IS FUN" EXPO
- 34 YOUTH TRAVELED AND PARTICIPATED IN "YOUTH LEADERSHIP DAY" IN ALBANY, NEW YORK
- 36 STUDENTS LOGGED VOLUNTEER SERVICE HOURS
- 27 YOUTH COMPLETED A 6-HOUR CIVICS & ADVOCACY TRAINING WITH WESTCHESTER CHILDREN'S ASSOCIATION

## 4 COMMUNITY BUILDING & SUPPORT

- 30 PARTNER AGENCIES AND 15 YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN THE ENGAGE & ELEVATE THINK TANK
- 300+ NEIGHBORS CELEBRATED AT CITY-WIDE JUNETEENTH
- 1,100 BACKPACKS & SUPPLIES DISTRIBUTED TO YOUTH
- 200+ HOLIDAY TOYS FOR YOUTH BUREAU & DSS FAMILIES
- 40 \$10.00 GIFT CARDS FROM THE STORE, FIVE BELOW DISTRIBUTED TO YOUTH
- DISTRIBUTED 47 THANKSGIVING BAGS AND TURKEYS TO THE YOUTH BUREAU FAMILIES
- 25 STUDENTS RECEIVED \$50 WALMART CARDS FOR "SHOP WITH A COP" PROGRAM
- 150 COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS ACROSS 3 FAMILY LINE-DANCE NIGHTS
- 4 SCHOOLS JOINED "DADS TAKE YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL" WITH MALE MENTORS
- HOSTED A COMMUNITY TEA WITH SHE-SALT (SPOKEN WORD ARTIST) AND JUST THE PLACE DANCERS

## 5 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

- 65 TEENS EMPLOYED 6 WEEKS, 20 HRS/WEEK
- 7,800 TOTAL WORK HOURS
- \$128,700 WAGES EARNED AT \$16.50/HR
- WDAY WORKED HARD TO PREVENT BARRIERS TO EMPLOYMENT



To our **Grantors**, your trust and investment are the bedrock of our work, making everything that follows possible,

To our **Sponsors**, your support turned good ideas into real, vibrant programs and events for our youth.

To our **Community Partners**, thank you for walking with us. Your collaboration and shared mission mean we can reach further and support more effectively than we ever could alone.

To our **Volunteers**, thank you for showing up. We truly appreciate your help.

To our **Youth Board**, thank you for the role you played in our success this year.

We say thank you to our city's leadership, City Manager, Matt Alexander, Mayor Vivian McKenzie and Common Council.

A special and heartfelt thanks must go to community partners whose extraordinary commitment lifted our work this year:

- Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg
- Black Diamonds Academic Success Program
- Dr. David Mauricio, City of Peekskill School District
- Environmental Leaders of Color
- Ernest McFadden, Westchester County Youth Bureau
- Grandpas United
- Legislator Colin Smith
- New York-Presbyterian Hospital
- Peekskill Girl Scouts
- Peekskill Rotary
- Peekskill Resource Center (E. McCorvey)
- Senator Pete Harckham
- Sloyd Woodworking
- Trooper Raymond Renzo
- Walmart (Mohegan Lake)
- Westchester Arts Council
- Westchester Cars & Coffee
- Westchester Children's Association
- Win Waste

***THANK YOU!***