



**The Justice Education Center's
Career Pathways Technology Collaborative
Technology Training for At-Risk and Justice-Involved Youth
in Partnership with the City of New Haven**

Overview

The Career Pathways Technology Collaborative provides credentialed technology training to at-risk, over-age and under-credited 16-24 year old New Haven youth and young adults who attend traditional and alternative high schools, adult education programs as well as youth who are no longer attending school or are recent graduates.

Launched in New Haven six years ago, the national award-winning program enables at-risk students to acquire credits toward their high school diplomas or GEDs, obtain entry or competitive level employment or seek further technology certifications through union or community college programs.

The Collaborative focuses on contextualized learning - encouraging students to make the important connections between Math and English requirements and their careers. In some instances, college credits are also awarded while completing high school requirements. When needed, assistance with numeracy and literacy remediation is provided.

Advanced employability skills are integral to Career Pathways and include financial literacy, resume writing, social and emotional learning, workplace culture, behavior in the workplace, and portfolio development.

Career Pathways Technology recognizes that encouraging a student's aptitudes and interests will lead to the successful completion of high school, apprenticeships, immediate entry into long-term sustainable careers, or future study in two and four year institutions.

Collaborators

Through an initial and the on-going investment by the Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods program (PSN), the Connecticut General Assembly and the City of New Haven, Career Pathways has created a network of state, municipal, business, foundation and workforce board collaborators, among them: the Office of the US Attorney District of Connecticut; Connecticut Department of Labor; State Department of Education; the American Federation of Teachers; the New Haven Board of Education; New Haven Manufacturers Association; the Laborers International Union of North America; Carpenters Union; The Workforce Alliance; and, Gateway Community College. This collaboration has enabled Career Pathways to increase its financial and in-kind resources to offering expanded technology trainings to youth throughout New Haven.



Technology Training Program Overviews

After School Career Pathways at Eli Whitney Technical High School

Following the traditional school day, the Career Pathways Technology Collaborative offers a unique, after-school program which maximizes the resources available at Eli Whitney Technical High School. It provides students who are at-risk for justice system involvement, over-age and under-credit with the opportunity to obtain over 100 hours of classroom per semester and hands-on training in fields such as plumbing, carpentry, culinary arts, and manufacturing. Manufacturing technology students are able to receive over 200 hours (two semesters) of direct training.

Credits toward high school graduation are offered and certifications in OSHA 10, First Aid/CPR, and Serv-Safe Allergen are offered. Emphasis is placed on social and emotional learning, workplace culture and team-building skills. The student/teacher ratio is 12:1 with 48 students participating per semester.

Mandatory training lessons are held in the beginning of each semester to address safety procedures prior to the use of any school equipment or tools. Full-time technical high school instructors are utilized as much as possible to maintain stronger control over the technology equipment and detailed knowledge of the facility.

In-School Career Pathways Technology Corridor at Hillhouse High School

Laborers

The Career Pathways Technology Corridor at Hillhouse High School students offers 200 hours of technical training in partnership with the Laborer's International Union of North America (LiUNA) and Laborers Local 455. The program focuses on Construction Math, Scaffolding, Mason Tending and Masonry, Concrete, Demolition, Highway and Road Safety, and Pipework. Soft skills and job readiness skills for all participating students is emphasized. Students who complete the program are eligible to become a LiUNA apprentice and attend the multi-week training program at LiUNA's training center in Hopkinton.

Carpenters

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners will be offering a certified training program for Hillhouse students in the field of carpentry. Upon completion, Local Union 24 will encourage interested students to become full-time apprentices, enabling them to begin work immediately while in training.

Manufacturing and Welding-for-Manufacturing

A new partnership with the New Haven Manufacturing Association was developed for New Haven students. The goal is to educate students on today's manufacturing technology and Industry 4.0 while also earning pre-apprenticeship hours, certified by CT DOL, Office of Apprenticeship Training. A special Welding for Manufacturing Training area will be built this year and made available to an additional class of Hillhouse students.



Automotive

The Career Pathways Technology Corridor has expanded its technology training opportunities during the school day to include a partnership with Gateway Community College's Automotive Technology Program. The year-long program will include a first semester of training will take place at the high school. Students will attend classes and learn systems and shop practices which will include introductory automotive skills such as basic car parts, tire changing and rotation, oil changes, and an online safety training course. Upon successful completion of the first semester, students will transition directly into Gateway Community College's introductory automotive course, learning alongside college students. They will have access to all learning labs at the college and will earn both high school and college credits for completion of the year-long program.

Rehabilitation of the Automotive Technology Center area at Hillhouse was approved in 2019 and an RFP has been issued for renovations. In addition to installing car lifts inside the Hillhouse Automotive Center, area business leaders are seeking assistance from the Connecticut Auto Dealers Association and specific automotive companies for support. All architectural drawings needed for the Hillhouse Automotive Technology Center's renovation were donated. The goal is to begin operationalizing the Automotive program in September, 2020.

Summer Academy for At-Risk Youth

In collaboration with the New Haven Board of Education and New Haven Youth Services, The Justice Education Center coordinates a 5-week New Haven Summer Academy for at-risk students. The goal is to provide an innovative school experience that will promote interactive educational learning coupled with physical and emotional wellness opportunities.

The Academy's objectives are to:

- Incorporate STEM learning and sciences as much as possible in traditional school subjects
- Offer technology credentials
- Emphasize on small interactive settings and social-emotional supports through experiential learning to promote wellness and resiliency
- Promote student voice, self-esteem, team building and sense of community
- Promote family engagement opportunities
- Incorporate introductions to a range of potential technology careers

The range of education, technology and social-emotional enrichment offerings within the New Haven Summer School has been designed to both offer choices and personalize each student's experiences. The purpose is to encourage each student to become active & energized in a variety of planned and well-organized time periods.

Students obtain credits toward graduation and technology credentialing, some prepare for entry into 9th grade, others will work toward credit recovery, and all have the opportunity to take part in a range of exciting enrichment activities.

This past summer, 2019 Summer School included the following: 60 Upper Classmen, 60 Rising Freshman
10 Special 12th Graders Total: 130 Students



Career Pathways Technology Collaborative Performance Summary: Multiple Positive Effects

Improvement in School Attendance

- The average number of days absent decreased from 31 to 17

Improvement in English and Math Grades

- 33.3% of the participants improved their English grades, while 28.6% improved their Math grades.

Reduction and/or Avoidance of Disciplinary Incidents in School

- The overall pattern of disciplinary incidents improved from 2015-2016 to 2018-2019 (more students with no incidents, fewer with more than 1), and *81.8 percent* of students reduced their number of incidents from 2017-2018 to 2018-2019

Very High Program Completion Rates and Low Attrition Rates

- 90% completion rate

Attainment of Credits toward High School Graduation

- 70.6% of participants received credits toward graduation

Attainment of Pre-Apprentice Credentials in a Range of Technologies

- 90% receive pre-apprenticeship credentials
- 72% receive OSHA 10
- 15% receive ServeSafe

Reduction in the Likelihood of Justice Involvement or Re-Offending

- One hundred and forty-five (145) youth were recruited to take part in a PSN intervention designed to warn about the dangers of violent crime and gun possession, and provide subsequent services. On enrollment, 29 participants (20%) had justice involvement prior to enrolling in the program. Following the PSN intervention, the total number of youth with justice involvement since enrollment decreased to 11 participants (7.6%).

Impact of Participation on Completion, Employment, Post-Secondary Education

- Since implementation in FY 2014-2015, 204 students have participated in the Career Pathways program at Eli Whitney and Bullard-Havens Technical Schools and 183 students graduated from the programs. 56 additional students have attended the Career Pathways program at Hillhouse High School in New Haven. All 56 students completed the program.



About The Justice Education Center, Inc.

Throughout The Justice Education Center's 43 year history, its core belief is that efforts to improve our system of justice and reduce youth involvement in juvenile crime requires working partnerships between State and municipal governments and the communities they serve. For this reason, The Center's Board of Directors includes leaders in Connecticut's juvenile and criminal justice systems as well as those within state and municipal government, local communities, police, business, and education.

The Center's ongoing focus on both public policy, programming innovations and collaboration has established The Center as a strong leader in building and maintaining long-term collaborations among leaders in the public and private sectors. <http://www.justiceeducationcenter.org/>

