

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

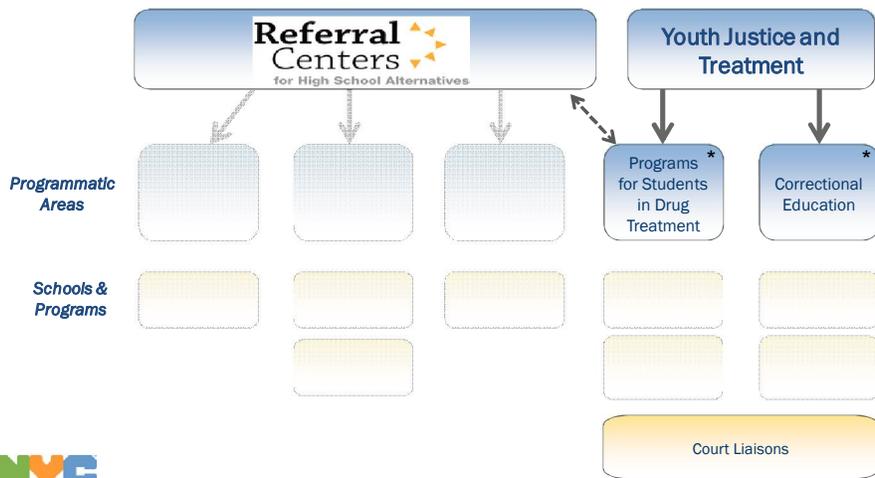
Who Are We?

- * 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**



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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



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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:

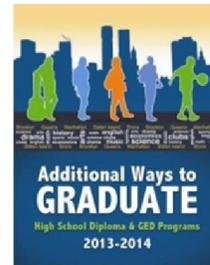
- * Students returning to their **home school** (that were attending school prior to their arrest) are automatically reenrolled in school
- * Students not previously enrolled in school will visit a **referral center** to meet with a counselor and enroll in a program or school
- * **Counselors and transition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

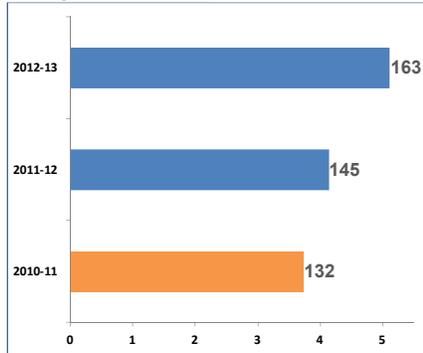
- * District 79 has **5 Referral Centers**, 1 in each borough of NYC
- * 4-6 **Guidance Counselors** per center
- * Help students understand their educational **rights**, discuss **goals**, and navigate educational options (such as HS, GED program, YABC, transfer school*)
- * Provide **referrals** to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



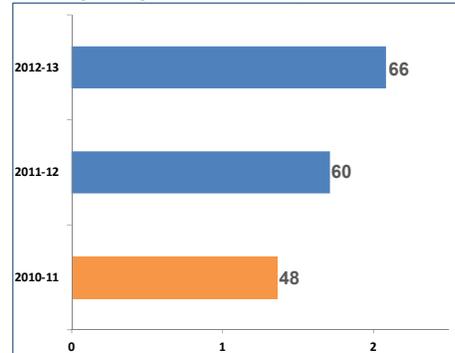
*find more information on graduation options available to NYC students at goingforme.org



Percentage of ERA Students Visiting Referral Centers



Percentage of ERA Students Enrolling through Referral Centers



District 79 Alternative Schools & Programs Court Liaisons

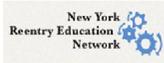
Assist court-involved students, their families, and the agencies that support them

- * 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



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District 79 Transition Tools

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



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Sample Transition Planning Tools

Student Passport

Plan to Succeed (Online ILP)

The collage features several key resources:

- Student Passport:** A document from the East River Academy (ERA) with sections for 'Returning to the Community', 'EKA Transition Team and Referral Centers', and 'Referral Centers'. It includes contact information for various support services.
- Educational Opportunities:** A flyer from the Department of Education listing various programs like 'Young Adult Programs', 'City Job Corps', and 'Community Opportunities'.
- New York Reentry Education Network:** A flyer providing a central hub for resources, including a list of 'LINKS' and 'CENTERS FOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES'.
- Plan to Succeed NYC:** A screenshot of the online ILP portal, showing a user's profile, course selection options, and various support services like 'Financial Aid' and 'Career Planning'.

Sample Transition Planning Tools

Community-Based Partnership Resources

The grid lists various community-based partnership resources:

- Police Athletic League (PAL):** Youth ages 16-21, offering school support, tutoring, and life skills training.
- NYC Justice Corps:** For 18-29 year olds, providing school support, job training, and financial aid.
- Fortune Society:** For 17 and older, offering job help, career exploration, and financial aid.
- CASES (16-24 Year Clubs):** Providing pre-GED and GED support, career exploration, and financial aid.
- CUNY Catch (at LaGuardia Community College):** For 16-21 year olds, offering GED support, college prep, and financial aid.
- Future Now (at Bronx Community College):** For 17-24 year olds, providing GED support, college prep, and financial aid.
- Getting Out and Staying Out (16-24 Year Old Men):** Offering school support, career exploration, and financial aid.
- DREAMS YouthBuild (16-24 Year Olds):** For those with a GED or high school diploma, providing college preparation and job training.
- College and Community Fellowship (16-24 Year Olds):** Offering college preparation, financial aid, and job training.
- Center for Employment Opportunities (16-24 Year Olds):** Providing job training, career exploration, and financial aid.
- Friends of Island Academy (16-19 Year Olds):** Offering school support, career exploration, and financial aid.
- Osborne Association (16 and older):** Providing career exploration, job training, and financial aid.
- The Doe Fund (16+):** Referred through the Dept. of Homeless Services, offering GED, life skills, and financial aid.

Central Graphic: "YOUR NEXT STEP STARTS HERE. Talk to your counselor for more info!"

District 79 Resources and Contacts

District 79 website: schools.nyc.gov/District79

Alternative Ways to Graduate Info
for NYC Students: goingforme.org

Email us if you have more questions:

General Info: D79YouthHelp@schools.nyc.gov

Alex Pederson: apederson@schools.nyc.gov

Stacey Oliger : soliger@schools.nyc.gov