



2019 YouthBuild Lake County Annual Report

15 Years of Strong Foundations

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thank you so much for supporting YouthBuild Lake County through another exciting and eventful year; our 15th year of service in this community! We are excited to mark this milestone with you and to share the successes you've helped to make possible.

Each year we receive incredible support from loyal donors, volunteers, and community members. Your generosity has enabled us to not only serve youth in our traditional YouthBuild program, which provides high school diploma attainment and construction training, but also to build capacity in our Career Access programming to alumni and other eligible members. Through Career Access, our youth pursue certifications and higher education in trades and in-demand career fields. We served more than 70 youth in the past year and are on track to serve 75 this year, all while continuing to support our growing number of alumni.

We are excited to report that for the first time in nearly 20 years YouthBuild Lake County and the Illinois YouthBuild Coalition have secured state funding for YouthBuild programs through the Department of Education. Our state representatives really stepped up to the plate for YouthBuild by championing this funding on our behalf, and this support helped us to overcome a gap year as we anxiously awaited the announcement of the 2019 Department of Labor grant recipients. We are proud to say that we were notified in December that we have been awarded the grant!

We are also excited to report the growing success we have seen in new employer partnerships. After completing career training courses, members have received on-the-job training through internships in coding and computer programming, warehousing and distribution, automotive, and healthcare. YouthBuild graduates are working in healthcare careers and as apprentices in carpentry, plumbing, air conditioning, and facility maintenance.

Thank you for being invested in our mission. Thank you for caring about the lives of the young people in our community. Thank you, thank you, thank you for your tremendous support.

With deepest gratitude,



Tameka Wilson
Executive Director



Career Pathways offered:

**Construction and Trades, HVAC, Transportation
Distribution and Logistics, Healthcare,
Information Technology, Automotive, Water Operators**

- ▶ 76 students served
- ▶ 81% diploma attainment
- ▶ 100% industry-recognized credential attainment
- ▶ 640 Mock Interviews completed
- ▶ 1,098 professional development hours completed



of internship placements: 30

of job placements: 52

of post-secondary education placements: 32

of community service hours completed: 9,465

of AMC scholarships: 24

ALUMNI APPRENTICESHIPS



YBLC is pleased to report that several recent alumni are actively completing apprenticeships in various high-demand industries.

CODY, CLASS OF 2018

Air Conditioning Apprentice, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) at Great Lakes Naval Base

After completing a successful year-long internship at YBLC and the first semester of a fast track Associates degree program at the College of Lake County, Cody has begun an apprenticeship in air conditioning. "Before you know it, I'll be permanent staff. I'll do 30 years on the job and then be able to retire. My family and I are all goal-oriented, driven people. There's always more out there to get."

LA'NELL, CLASS OF 2019

Plumbing Apprentice, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) at Great Lakes Naval Base

La'Nell is just a few weeks into his plumbing apprenticeship and is excited by all of the different skills he has the potential to master. "I learn something new every day. It was the same way at YouthBuild. I've realized that my YouthBuild journey was everything that I needed. No matter what I went through or how many times I wanted to give up, I always came back to finish what I started."

ZAUL, CLASS OF 2019

Apprentice Carpenter, Local 250 United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners

Zaul completed a six-week training program with Local 250 United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and is now a card-carrying Apprentice Carpenter. Zaul plans to own his own construction contracting business and build his own home. "During my time at YouthBuild, I learned to be more patient and make wiser decisions. I have matured into a better – even a tremendous – person. I left my past for a bigger and brighter future."

RYAN, CLASS OF 2005

Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Great Lakes

"After YouthBuild I got a job working for the Navy and am still at the same job. YouthBuild taught me carpentry skills and allowed me to figure out this is what I wanted to do long term. At YouthBuild I learned to take positive and negative feedback and to pay attention to detail. Today I set high standards for myself and my work. My long term goal is to pay for all five of my kids to go to college and make sure my family is well taken care of. I put in a lot of hours of work towards these goals. I work at it every day. I made a lot of friends and family at YouthBuild, and they still call to check on me regularly."

SOLOMON, CLASS OF 2012

Maintenance Technician, Lake County Housing Authority

"YBLC's commitment to their members was the battery I needed to propel myself forward. I found a better me. My dedication and determination revealed my self-respect, self-worth, and ability to lead by positive example. I started at the Housing Authority as a custodian in 2015, and I now assist in overseeing 495 properties throughout Lake County as a Maintenance Technician. YBLC and LCHA's partnership has been very beneficial for me and has helped me reignite my internal drive. To this day I am grateful to be a part of the YouthBuild family."

TATIANA, CLASS OF 2015

Construction Laborer, Core Development

"YouthBuild gave me the support, the training, the education, the love – everything you could name. It's very inspiring. I see myself doing big things. I'm looking at the big picture. I'm taking small steps now so I can make it there. I have to give back hundred-fold because this program changed my life."

CHELSEY, CLASS OF 2019

Bistro Staff, Lake Forest Place

"I didn't have as much guidance as I needed before YouthBuild and was on the verge of giving up. Coming to YBLC and seeing that people were actually here to help me felt good. All the mentoring I received helped me to change my perspective and invest in myself. YouthBuild helped me make the connections I needed to complete the Roberti Culinary Pathway and start classes at the College of Lake County, and now I'm on a path to achieve my dream of becoming a nutritionist."

SUCCESS STORIES

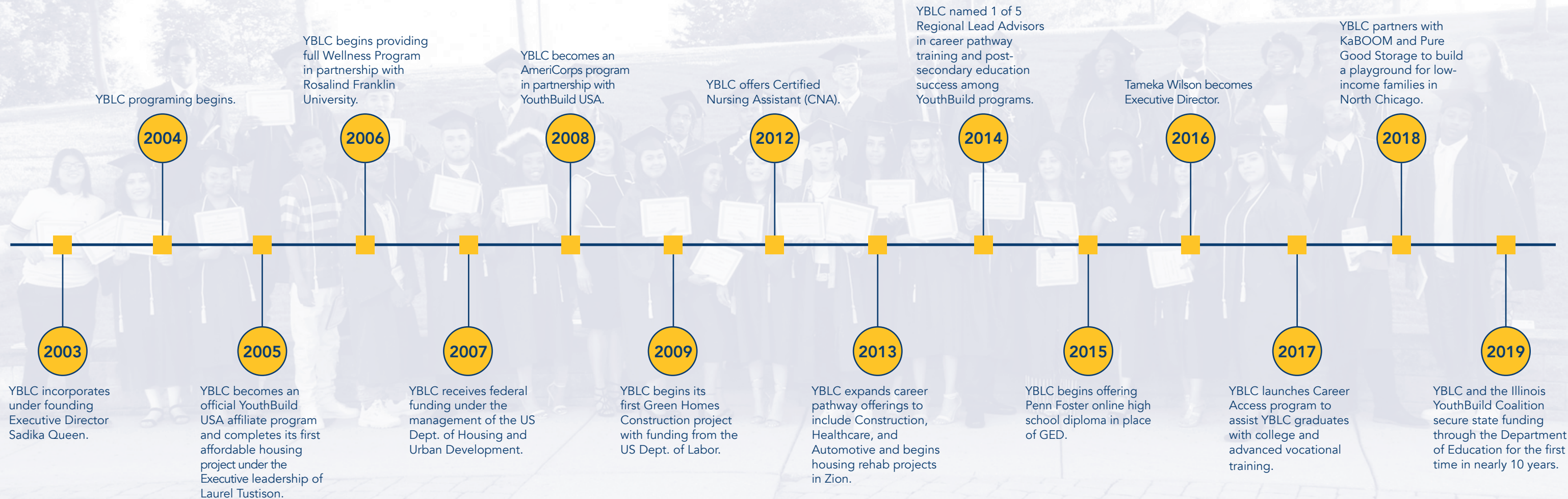


15 YEAR TIMELINE HIGHLIGHTS

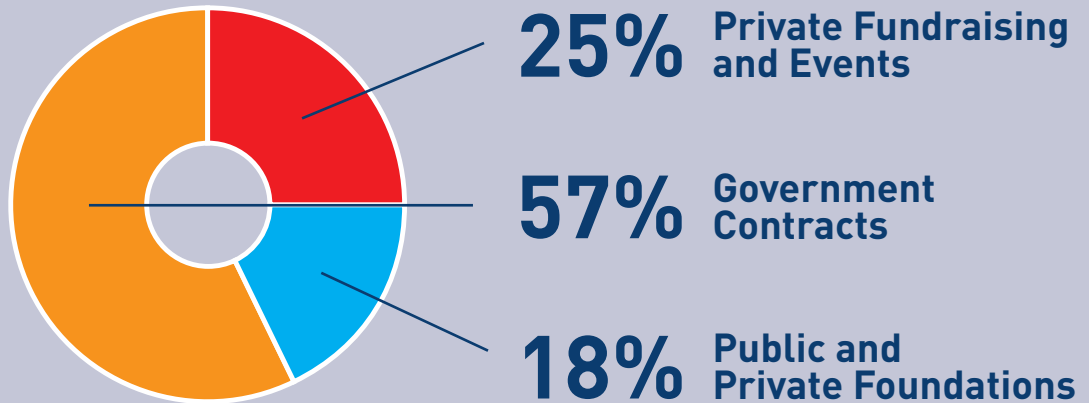


Affordable Homes Built or Rehabbed:

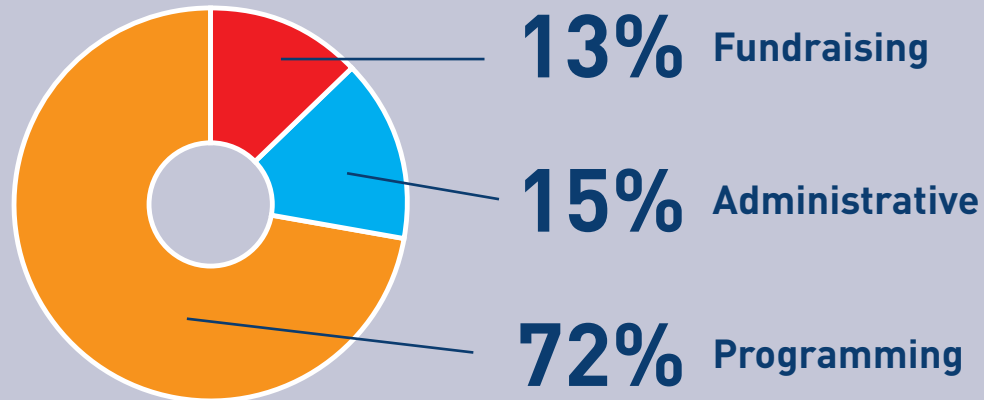
2005, 2008, 2009, 2013, 2014,
2016, 2017, 2018, 2019



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FY19 YEAR OPERATING EXPENSES



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