



Feels like  
**home.**

WE ARE PROUD TO SHARE

SUCCESSES FROM THE PAST YEAR.



**Our core purpose** is to  
empower young people  
to improve their lives  
and the lives of others.

# I've learned how to cool my temper.

KEMYNE, 10



## YEP ENRICHES

Kemyne has been a regular at YEP Enriches' after-school and summer camp programs since he was 7, attending with two older brothers, a younger sister, and two cousins. He enjoys basketball, art, helping in the kitchen, and playing in the drumline. Music instructor, Mr. Don, has taught Kemyne more than drumming. "When I get mad, he brings me upstairs to talk and gives me tips," Kemyne said. "I've learned how to cool my temper." The fifth grader added, **"YEP feels like it's my home because they feed us, they take us on field trips, and they help us in lots of ways."**

# I feel like I am replenished.

KYAH, 15



## YEP MENTORS

Kyah hopes to focus on performance studies in college and already has had major roles in high school plays. She attributes that success to YEP Mentors. She engaged with the program from ages 9 to 14 after she needed support dealing with the unexpected loss of her mother. **"YEP taught me how to be aware and conscious of my actions. Without that, there is no way I would make it in acting and singing because I wouldn't be able to express myself or be truthful with myself the way I am now."** She added, "Everyone makes mistakes in life, and I've made mistakes, but I feel like I am replenished."



# I am able to socialize better.

TYRELL, 22



## YEP WORKS

Tyrell joined YEP Works at 18 to gain hands-on experience and work-readiness training. While in the program, she interned at YEP Thrift Works and secured part-time employment there after she had completed her training and earned her National Retail Federation credentials. She credits YEP with helping her find meaningful employment; she now works at a childcare center. “YEP changed my life,” Tyrell said.

**“I am able to socialize better in different environments, and I’ve made some great friends. The people at YEP—they take care of you.”**

# I tell everybody all the time: Yep, I did it.

DENNIS, 52



## YEP EDUCATES

For Dennis, earning his high school equivalency diploma in 2020 through YEP Educates was pivotal. “Everything changed,” he said. Dennis became a peace officer with the Orleans Parish Sheriff’s Office in August 2022. He continued his learning by completing the FBI Citizens Academy and is currently a deputy clerk of Orleans Parish Criminal District Court. “Because of YEP, wherever I want to go, I go. Why?

Because I have that one little bitty piece of paper [a high school diploma]. That makes all the difference in the world. **I tell everybody all the time: Yep, I did it; YEP, that’s where I went; and yep, I’m going to keep moving.”**

# OUR IMPACT

YEP served **890** individuals last year.

**605** people have earned their HiSET diploma through YEP, **54** last year alone.

**2,500** youth have been paired with a mentor since YEP's inception.

Last year, YEP opened in our **5th neighborhood**, launching in New Orleans East to reach more young people where they live. Additionally, YEP began offering HiSET en Español for Spanish speakers seeking their high school equivalency diploma and partnered with Children's Bureau of New Orleans to provide in-house mental health counseling to YEP's young people.

**Our mission** is to engage underserved young people through community-based education, mentoring, enrichment, and employment readiness programs to help them develop skills and strengthen ties to family and community.



# YEP + YOU

EMPOWERING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROJECT | 504.522.1316 | [youthempowermentproject.org](http://youthempowermentproject.org)

