

Subrecipient Spotlight – Teen HYPE



Founded in 2004, Teen HYPE (Helping Youth by Providing Education) has reached more than 35,000 Detroit-area youth, parents and stakeholders through community outreach services and programming that assures every young person reaches their potential. Additionally, more than 600 teens have been trained as Peer Educators who are dedicated to leadership, community service and social justice. They host Youth Summits in the Detroit area which engage key community stakeholders about the issues that impact youth in their community as well as annual theatrical productions designed to address social issues.

Teen HYPE's Peer Educator program is funded through the City of Detroit's Neighborhood Opportunity Fund (NOF). Its goal is to increase the number of youth that possess readiness abilities to successfully transition from secondary education to career and/or college. The program's primary objective is to provide youth development programming and leadership education through a research-based framework to a target population of low-income Detroit youth 13-18 years old. This entails structured education, defined as activities and experiences that build skillsets and mindsets that express readiness abilities. HYPE's approach equips youth with 21st century skills that allow them to develop themselves, their city and the world through arts, leadership and service.



HYPE's impact is best expressed by a Client: "Before I came to Teen Hype, I was very lost. I didn't know who I really was. I used to attend a predominantly white school and it was very confusing for me to find my TRUE identity. When I joined Teen Hype I saw that there were so many diverse personalities and styles. I felt like I could really be myself. I started to be more confident and loved being my true

self. I am grateful for a safe place to learn and hang out. After I lost my dad, all of the Peer Educators and staff were there for me whenever I needed it. If it wasn't for this program and the funding, I don't know where I would be." - Alizé S

Teen HYPE appreciates the flexibility that NOF funds afford to them to respond to community needs. Even in times of crisis, like that of the recent COVID-19 pandemic, the Peer Education program still serves youth as they provide accurate information and encouragement to the Detroit community. HYPE is virtually hosting a group of young leaders, who even in the face of this public health crisis, are currently poised to lead through service. HYPE staff meet with the Peer Educators virtually to assess community needs, connect their families to supportive resources, emphasize readiness skills and mindsets to overcome the unforeseen challenges they may face.

To learn more visit www.teenhype.org