

Partners

1010 Development Corporation
www.1010dev.org

Ashoka's Youth Venture
www.genv.net

Immanuel Presbyterian Church
www.immanuelpres.org

Koreatown Youth & Community Center
www.kyccla.org

MBI Media
www.mbimedia.com

New Song Community Corporation
www.newsongharlem.com

Photopiece
www.photopiece.org

Restore
www.restorenyc.org

Southeast DC Partners
www.southeastdcpartners.org

World Vision U.S. Programs
www.worldvisionusprograms.org

Sponsors

Barefoot Wine
www.barefootwine.com

Georgetown Public Policy Institute
www.gppi.georgetown.edu

Pangea Foundation
www.pangeafoundation.org



Leadership

Edith Yang

Founder

New York City Area Director

Edith Yang articulated the vision and strategic direction of WorkUp and brings innovative, evidence-based practices to grow and evaluate WorkUp's programs. She is a Research Analyst in MDRC's Low-Wage Workers and Communities policy area.

Ruth Chan

Program Development

Washington, DC Area Director

Ruth Chan designs, manages, and implements all of WorkUp's asset-building and educational programs. She is the Interim Executive Director/Director of Programs at New Community for Children, a community-based nonprofit organization in DC that provides education services for children in low-income families.

Caitlin Halferty

Communications & Community Affairs Director

Caitlin Halferty implements strategic communications and community engagement initiatives with WorkUp's stakeholders, corporate sponsors, and private donors. She is a Senior Consultant at IBM Global Business Services, West Coast Region.

Samuel Chu

Development & Public Affairs

Los Angeles Area Director

Samuel Chu is the Director of Relational Ministries at Immanuel Presbyterian Church in Los Angeles, CA and chairs One LA-Industrial Areas Foundation, the nation's largest broad-based organization of dues-paying congregations, schools, community organizations, and labor unions committed to developing leadership and power for social and economic change.

For more information, email samuel@workupla.org.



Youth Building Assets for a Viable Future

www.workup.org

DC | LA | NYC

Values

We believe that individuals, regardless of their current circumstances, have innate talents and resources they can use to take ownership of their lives.

We believe that workers of all income levels have the ability to build their financial assets.

We believe that people of all socio-economic backgrounds can actively contribute to improving the quality of life in their neighborhoods and communities.



The Need

Between 2 and 5 million young adults aged 16 to 24 in the United States are disconnected from school and work. Low levels of education and employment skills and limited access to healthcare, childcare, and transportation make it difficult for low-income youth to secure or advance in living-wage jobs. Although resources and services to support these youth are available in their communities, they are often isolated from each other and narrowly targeted to individual needs. This results in incrementally positive changes in the lives of some youth while larger, institutionalized barriers to social mobility persist.

WorkUp brings together cohorts of youth to build their own personal assets and to design networks of supports that produce systemic change for underserved communities.

Mission & Goals

Launched in the nation's capital in November 2006, WorkUp operates in Los Angeles, New York City, and Washington, DC and helps youth succeed in four foundational areas:

Economic security. Build financial assets through access to mainstream, fair-priced banking instruments and services.

Post-secondary education. Raise educational achievement through individual coaching, remedial instruction, test preparation, and financial aid opportunities.

Career advancement. Develop career paths that lead to living-wage jobs with benefits through professional and life-skills training.

Vibrant neighborhoods. Create social capital through youth-led social enterprises that engage and improve their local and global communities.

Donate

We welcome your financial investment in the lives of our youth! All donations are tax-deductible through Pangea Foundation, our fiscal sponsor.

Please send checks to:
Pangea Foundation - WorkUp
3368 Governor Drive, Suite F#181
San Diego, CA 92122

Or donate online at www.workup.org

Our Approach

WorkUp equips low-income youth with life skills and asset-building resources, inspires young adults to be the caretakers and stewards of their neighborhoods, and builds meaningful relationships across historical ethnic and socio-economic barriers to enable youth to improve their lives and bring hope to their communities.

These relationships – between adults, youth, neighborhood institutions, and community organizations – form a mutually transforming environment where young adults gather regularly to accomplish:

Goal setting. Youth develop realistic financial, educational, and professional goals.

Asset building. Youth manage their savings through customized accounts with matching funds from WorkUp or WorkUp's partners.

Collaborative learning. Youth receive financial education, post-secondary education preparation, life-skills development, and job training. They participate in entrepreneurial activities and network with professionals from business, governmental, and civic sectors.

Social ventures. Youth receive training, mentoring, and seed funding to create programs and advocate for policies aimed to improve their neighborhoods, broaden financial education, and expand opportunities and resources for building individual and community assets.

Reinvestment. WorkUp alumni facilitate workshops, mentor other youth, and provide learning or volunteer opportunities for new program participants.

In partnership with local and national organizations, WorkUp collaborates with youth to build a network of high-quality programs focused on the four foundational areas of upward social mobility.

