



Whole School Whole Child Approach

Accelerating Student Growth and Development through Positive Relationships and Social, Emotional and Academic Support

City Year helps students and schools succeed by delivering holistic support to students, classrooms and the whole school, working to ensure that students in systemically under-resourced schools are prepared with the skills and mindsets to thrive and contribute to their communities.

Founded in 1988, City Year currently partners with 350 public schools in 29 cities across the United States.

Diverse, trained teams of eight to 12 AmeriCorps members serve full time in schools as student success coaches—tutors, mentors and role models who are uniquely positioned to connect with and support students. In this role, AmeriCorps members partner with classroom teachers to help students build on their strengths and cultivate social, emotional and academic skills, whether that’s mastering fractions or learning to work in teams—skills that are important in school and in life.

City Year AmeriCorps members, who are supported and supervised by full-time, on-site City Year staff called impact managers, become integrated into the fabric of the school community. They collaborate with the school principal and teachers to deliver data-driven interventions and support that help the school achieve its vision for educational excellence for all students.

HOW CITY YEAR WORKS IN SCHOOLS

City Year works closely with the school principal and teachers to deliver a suite of interconnected services that cost-effectively and efficiently improve student, classroom and whole school outcomes.



One-on-one and small group instruction in English and math with embedded social-emotional supports



Use of data to monitor student progress and better meet student needs



Additional capacity in the classroom, supporting classroom routines and providing and enabling differentiated instruction



Extended-day activities: afterschool programming, homework assistance, enrichment curricula and civic projects that build and serve community



Small group social-emotional skill building sessions



Whole school activities that improve conditions for learning, engage families and inspire civic engagement



City Year’s 3,000 AmeriCorps members receive training and professional development throughout the year on topics including:

- Evidence-based instructional strategies designed to advance students’ social, emotional and academic development
- Student progress monitoring
- Strategies that help create welcoming and safe learning environments
- Community context, civic knowledge, social justice and equity

Impact managers oversee training to ensure AmeriCorps members are consistently improving their practice.

FOCUS ON RELATIONSHIPS: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS

City Year's approach is based on research about how students learn. City Year AmeriCorps members' near-peer status—mature enough to offer guidance, yet young enough to relate to students' perspectives—uniquely positions them to form **developmental relationships**¹ with students, improving both student readiness to learn and school-wide conditions for learning.

AmeriCorps members focus on reducing "early warning indicators" that place students at increased risk for dropping out of school: low attendance, poor behavior and/or course failure in English Language Arts and mathematics.²

Research shows that preventing one or more of these warning signs makes it three times more likely that a student will graduate from high school, dramatically improving their lifetime trajectory.³

AN EFFICIENT, COST-EFFECTIVE PARTNER

A 2017 analysis from Deloitte Consulting LLP⁴ indicates that in one year:

- The impact of a City Year team could generate savings that **recoup up to 97% of the cost** to our partner schools.
- For schools we partner with, City Year is **78% more cost effective** than contracting with individual providers to deliver City Year's holistic set of services.

Students in schools with City Year gained **one month of additional learning**, compared to similar schools without City Year.⁵

OUR RESULTS

According to research conducted in 2015 by Policy Studies Associates⁶ on 600 schools in 22 school districts, schools partnering with City Year—as compared to similar schools without City Year—were:

2x more likely to improve on state English assessments



up to 3x more likely to improve proficiency rates in math.

City Year helped **66% of students** identified as needing support to move on track in their social-emotional skills.⁷



Skills measured include self-awareness, self-management and relationship development, which research shows contributes to college and career readiness.⁸

ALUMNI EDUCATOR PATHWAYS

City Year is helping develop a new generation of talented and trained educators committed to student success. According to a 2018 survey, 47% of City Year's alumni work in the education sector, with 16% serving as classroom teachers.⁹ Each year, more than 300 City Year alumni decide to become teachers after their year of service.¹⁰

1 Search Institute. (2016). Retrieved from <http://www.search-institute.org/downloadable/Developmental-Relationships-Framework.pdf>; **2** Balfanz, R. & Fox, J. (Oct. 2011). Early Warning Systems – Foundational Research and Lessons from the Field. Retrieved from <https://www.nga.org/files/live/sites/NGA/files/pdf/1110EARLYDROPBALFANZ.PDF>; **3** Bruce, M., Bridgeland, Fox and Balfanz. (2011). On Track for Success: The use of early warning indicator and intervention systems to build a grad nation. Retrieved from: http://new.every1graduates.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/on_track_for_success.pdf; **4** In 2017, Deloitte Consulting LLP was engaged to aggregate and synthesize various industry and internal analyses to help City Year estimate and articulate ROI.; **5** Meredith, J., Anderson, L.M. (2015). Analysis of the Impacts of City Year's Whole School Whole Child Model on Partner Schools' Performance. Policy Studies Associates. Retrieved from: <https://www.cityyear.org/sites/default/files/PSAstudy2015.pdf>; **6** Ibid.; **7** 2017-2018, Gr. 3-9, SEL n=6,282 (SEL as measured by Devereux Student Strengths Assessment (DESSA), a validated observational assessment that measures social-emotional competencies in students in K-8.); **8** Why social and emotional learning and employability skills should be prioritized in education. (2016). Committee for Children and CASEL. Retrieved from: <https://www.cfchildren.org/wp-content/uploads/policy-advocacy/sel-employability-brief.pdf>; **9** 2018 City Year Alumni Survey. Retrieved from: <http://www.cityyear.org/sites/default/files/Comms/AlumniSurveyOverviewWeb.pdf>; **10** On end-of-year AmeriCorps member surveys from the past three years, between 10-12% of City Year AmeriCorps members (from a corps of approximately 3,000 each year) indicated that they were on-track to enter the teaching profession.



A proud member of the AmeriCorps national service network, City Year is supported by the Corporation for National and Community Service, local school districts, and private and corporate philanthropy.

Charity Navigator is America's premier charity evaluator. Since 2003, City Year has earned Charity Navigator's highest rating, certifying our commitment to accountability, transparency and responsible fiscal management. Less than 1% of rated organizations have received this distinction for at least 16 consecutive years, placing City Year among the most trustworthy nonprofits in America.



NATIONAL STRATEGIC PARTNERS



NATIONAL PARTNERS

