



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**INSPIRE, EQUIP, and GUIDE
Urban Youth to LIVE!**



www.ydc.org

(713)-861-9470

6050 Bretshire Dr, Houston, TX 77016

Message From The Executive Director



Trust matters.

For over 25 years, YDC has been a beacon of trust and hope for at-risk youth in Houston's Greater Fifth Ward. With a focus on literacy and math, we are committed to helping students who have fallen behind catch up and excel. Our methods are proven. Our results are measurable. Every young student who walks through our doors and participates in our after-school remediation program makes verifiable academic gains.

But it's not just about numbers; it's about names. It's not just about statistics; it's about stories. We are impacting real children who are part of real families who live in real neighborhoods. We are positively changing the trajectory of their lives—in and out of the classroom.

And in so many ways, we are just getting started.

Housed in a new state-of-the-art campus on 9 acres, YDC is a hub of activity that serves the whole child and the whole community. In addition to our foundational after-school program, we now provide resources for senior citizens, preschool children, and other non-profit professionals in our city, and that list is growing by the day.

We invite you to tour our campus, meet our team, and see the smiling faces of the kids who are being transformed at YDC. Thank you for your support and consideration. Together we inspire, equip, and guide urban youth to live!

Sincerely,
Jason Skaer
Executive Director



YDC Mission

The Youth Development Center's mission is to INSPIRE, EQUIP, and GUIDE Urban Youth to LIVE



We accomplish our mission by providing an intensive after-school remediation program for 120 elementary students in grades 1 through 6 in Houston's Greater Fifth Ward. Through technology-based instruction and under the supervision of certified teachers, YDC's students improve their literacy and math skills to become more successful students.

As a result, we are helping at-risk families in predominantly Hispanic and Black communities balance career and family care while improving their child's prospects of living fulfilling lives.

Our Work In Action

For over 25 years, our non-profit organization has provided academic services for at-risk students completely free of charge. YDC is licensed through the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services. Each Monday through Thursday of the academic year, our program provides the following for our students:



- **Results-oriented academic development in classrooms supervised by certified teachers**
- **Summer enrichment programs**
- **Leadership training and character development**
- **Transportation from selected campuses to YDC and home at the end of the day**
- **Field trip opportunities during the school year**
- **Nutritious hot meals**



Why Literacy?

Literacy Is Everything

According to the Children's Reading Foundation, academic, emotional and social issues are associated with poor readers. "Children who are behind their peers in reading struggle with low self-esteem and feelings of inadequacy. Low achievement in reading is also the common denominator in school discipline, attendance and dropout problems, and juvenile crime."

They continue, "Academically, children who are not reading on grade level by the end of third-grade struggle in every class, year after year because over 85 percent of the curriculum is taught by reading. Reading is the skill by which students get information from books, computers, worksheets and boards to learn math, science, literature, social studies and more."

YDC's accredited program helps address this problem by offering at risk students the education necessary to catch them up for a brighter future.

"Houston ISD Students Are Falling Behind In Reading."

"Less than half of Houston ISD first, second and third graders are reading at grade level, creating concern among educators about a possible domino effect that could put students behind for years.

...About 44 percent of first graders are reading on grade level at the beginning of this school year, down ten percentage points from the same time in the 2018-19 school year...

Second graders fared similarly with 46 percent reading on grade level, a four percentage loss from pre-COVID times. Third graders remained stagnant at 46 percent. "

-Houston Chronicle
Dec 23, 2022



**"Once you learn to read, you will be forever free."
-Frederick Douglas**



Results

Most of our students are two to three grade levels behind in their studies when they join the YDC family. However, with decades of proven experience, our staff can guide these students to significant gains in reading and mathematics.



Parent Testimonials

"We cannot thank YDC enough for helping our child catch back up in school!"

"We can tell the difference in her confidence! Thank you YDC!"

"As a single mom, I don't know where I would be without YDC! They have made all the difference in my child's life!"

School Year 2021-2022 Results

3rd-6th grade students made an average gain of 1.77 grade levels in literacy

3rd-6th grade students made an average gain of .77 grade levels in math

100% of our 1st & 2nd-grade students took steps to become independent readers

YDC tracks and verifies each student's annual improvement through nationally recognized assessment testing. We administer Slosson's DST:R and DST:M at the beginning and end of each academic year.



Schools We Serve

YDC currently serves 120 students from 22 neighborhood elementary school programs in our newly constructed state-of-the-art campus in Houston's Greater Fifth Ward.



- Atherton Elementary
- Betsy Ross Elementary
- Coop Elementary
- Dogan Elementary
- Eastex-Jensen Elementary
- Felix Cook Elementary
- Fonwood Elementary
- Harbor Christian School
- Herrera Elementary
- Hilliard Elementary
- Isaacs Elementary
- James Berry Elementary
- Kashmere Gardens Elementary
- KIPP 3D Academy
- Marcario Garcia Elementary
- McGowen Elementary
- Orange Grove Elementary
- Roderick Paige Elementary
- Scarborough Elementary
- Sherman Elementary
- Victory Prep Academy
- YES Prep North Forest Academy



Campus Vision

Trust is often slow to cultivate and a barrier for many families who seek assistance. Cultivating trust over 25+ years, we are utilizing our property as a conduit for YDC and other organizations that seek to help the residents of the Greater Fifth Ward.

Leveraging our onsite library, community gardens, cafeteria, full-service kitchen, and extra office space, we are filling our walls with resources for the entire surrounding community.



Our vision is to be a community hub of resources for our students and their families. With over 20,000 square feet of occupied space and 4.5 acres of undeveloped land, the opportunities to expand our services are endless.



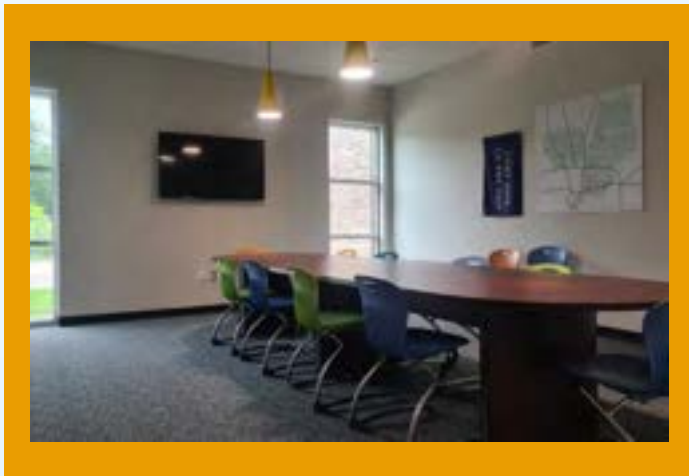
Community Investment

In addition to our first-in-class after-school program, Youth Development Center invests in the whole child and the whole community. Leveraging our beautiful campus as a neighborhood hub of resources for underserved people in all stages of life, we currently offer the following supplemental services:

Daily Preschool for Local Toddlers



Office Space for Other Like-Minded Non-Profits



Weekly Neighborhood Senior Citizens Gathering



Student & Community Gardens



What's Next

Although we've existed for over 25 years, in many ways, we feel like YDC is just getting started. Now that we have a long history of expertise and proven results, we stand ready to make an even bigger impact on the kids and community of our great city.

Here are a few of the projects we are working on:

Outdoor Learning Center

Development is underway in constructing a much-needed playground, sports court, and outdoor learning center so that we can expand our educational opportunities for our students.



4.5 Acres Undeveloped

We are at the beginning stages of investigating how we can best beautify and utilize the undeveloped land we own immediately adjacent to our YDC campus for the use and enjoyment of the whole community.

Additional YDC Locations

With a proven track record of success, we are exploring other locations in Houston (and possibly the state) that would benefit from our after-school program and supporting resources.



Leadership

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**Thank you to all of our generous supporters
who are helping INSPIRE, EQUIP, and GUIDE
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