



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

CRCD has developed an expertise and is uniquely qualified to serve disconnected transition-age youth, young adults ages 16-24, who are out of work and out of school, and face barriers to success that traditional institutions cannot accommodate.

Our experience shows “Opportunity Youth” to be energetic and well equipped to meet challenges with ingenuity, courage, and drive. They want to succeed. Youth in CRCD’s service area are deeply impacted by concentrated poverty: 45.6% of the 197,539 residents here live below the federal poverty line and workforce participation is low. In CRCD’s targeted zip codes, 28.2 percent of youth 16-24 are unemployed, compared to a nationwide average of 16.9%.

CRCD offers workforce development, leadership, occupational training, and job placement for youth and young adults, based on best practices. We operate the CRCD Academy, an accredited high school on the campus of LATTC, the South Los Angeles YouthBuild program, and the Vernon-Central Network YouthSource Center, which is part of a network of centers funded by the City of Los Angeles. 100% of the youth CRCD serves in these programs qualify as underserved and “at-risk.” 60% identify as Latinx; 40% as African-American.

We have a comprehensive approach to serving young people:

- First, we assist youth and young adults to further their education, pursue career pathways, and meet basic needs.
- Second, we address the longstanding neighborhood conditions where young people reside – such as poverty, unemployment, public safety issues, and the lack of affordable housing.
- Finally, we engage in genuine collaborations to improve the policies and systems impacting young people’s lives, such as education, justice, and foster care.

CRCD collaborates with diverse partners who share our mission including young people, residents, businesses, community-based organizations such as All Peoples Community Center, educational institutions such as Los Angeles Trade-Technical College, national organizations such as YouthBuild USA, Opportunity Youth United, local government, the justice and foster care systems, foundations, corporations, donors, and others.