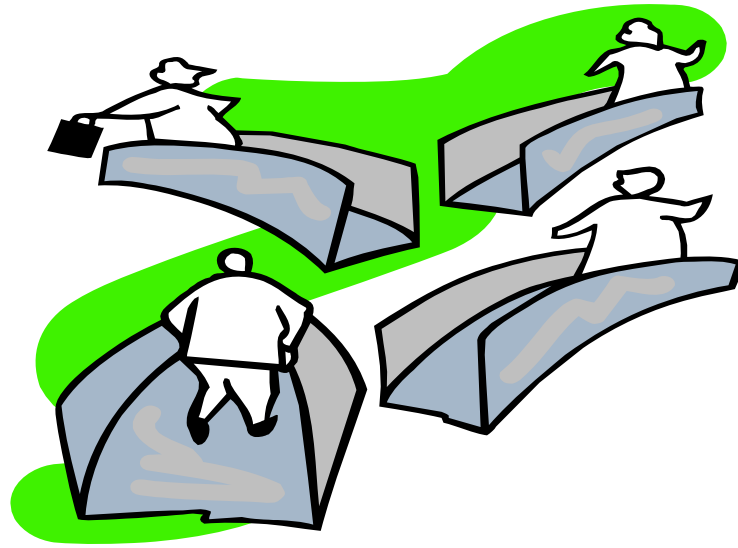


# YOUTHBUILD LANCASTER



# What is Lancaster YouthBuild?

YouthBuild Lancaster was started in January, 2003 with the following mission:

- To provide young adults with the opportunity to prepare themselves to become leaders in their community through specialized occupational training, an individualized academic program, life skills training and community improvement projects.

# Why was YouthBuild Lancaster Started?



- 33% Dropout Rate
- 60% of adults in Lancaster County function at or below NALS Level 2 (capable of doing only routine, semi-skilled jobs)

# Know Your Community



- Lancaster has been a textile town for over 100 years
- These jobs are now gone
- Result was a need for culture change

# COMPONENTS OF LANCASTER YOUTHBUILD



- Education
- Vocational Training
- Counseling
- Leadership Development
- Graduate Resources

# Comprehensive Youth and Community Development Program

Must be viewed as a whole – as the  
whole is certainly MORE than the  
sum of its parts

# Why is YouthBuild Lancaster Successful?

- Strong Community Support
- True Partnerships
- Meets Needs of Participants
- Dedicated Staff

# PARTNERSHIPS



- Habitat For Humanity
- Employment Security Commission
- York Technical College
- Counseling Services of Lancaster
- Christian Services
- Lancaster Housing Authority



# Partnerships Continued



- Homebuilders Assoc.
- Dept. of Juvenile Justice
- Voc. Rehab.
- City of Lancaster
- County of Lancaster
- Faith Community

# PARTNERSHIPS



- Department of Social Services
- Department of Mental Health
- Founders Federal Credit Union
- Community

# Target Population

17 – 24 year old low income youth  
who have dropped out of school

# RETENTION

# Strategies to Increase Retention

- Stipends
- Outreach – Address all needs of participants
- **RELATIONSHIPS!!!**

# Relationships

- Staff and Staff attitudes – Programs don't change people, people change people
- Participants viewed as young leaders, not as clients. How students are viewed effects how they view themselves.

# Leadership Development

- Students are made a part of the program's decision-making process by means of the policy committee
- Service Learning – Students are given the opportunity to plan ways they can improve their community. Many have never had the opportunity to “give back”. It is a strong, perhaps the strongest, motivator.

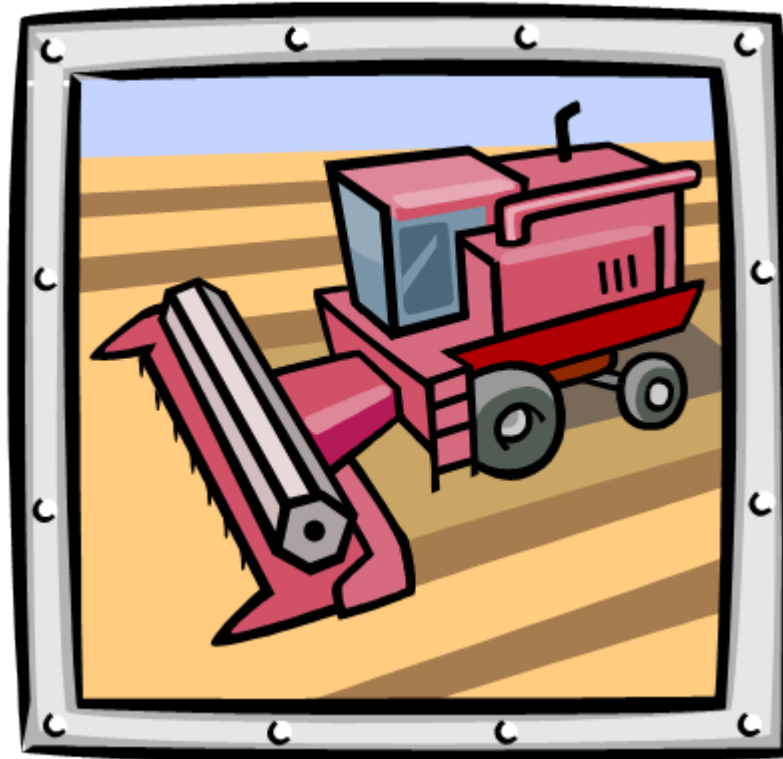
# Partnerships and Sustainability

You can't have one without the other



# Sustainability

- Partnerships are the foundation of sustainability
- True partnerships lead to more effective programs which lead to better outcomes which lead to multiple funding sources which lead to strong community support



# Outcomes



- Stronger Community