

MENTORING IN A NOT-FOR-PROFIT YOUTH PROGRAM

The Issue

YouthBuild USA is a nationally recognized leader in helping reclaim the lives of at-risk youth, while encouraging and assisting youth to take an active role in rebuilding their local communities.

In 2008, the leadership of YouthBuild USA and the Department of Labor recognized that the life-transformations that occurred during the course of the program could be enhanced through the addition and integration of a mentoring component.

“DMT’s work was excellent and they worked to ensure the mentoring model was useful and flexible to our many different needs.”

*- Rochelle Lindsey, National Mentoring Coordinator,
YouthBuild USA*

Our Client’s Challenge

Research has shown that positive adult role models are critical to the success of at-risk youth. However, with constrained resources and the unique nature of the population of at-risk youth in the program, YouthBuild USA required a mentoring model that fit with their program philosophy of empowering and transforming youth.

Conventional mentoring models did not fit the YouthBuild culture. After much searching, YouthBuild and the Department of Labor found the help they required through the expertise offered by Dare Mighty Things.

Enter Dare Mighty Things

Dare Mighty Things’ rich, eighteen years of experience in the field of mentoring populations of at-risk adolescents, and expertise in the field of youth-initiated mentoring proved to be unique qualification to help YouthBuild USA expand their program to include a mentoring component while maintaining the program’s philosophy and focus on youth-empowerment.

Working alongside YouthBuild’s Academy for Transformation, Dare Mighty Things created a new and unique mentoring model to integrate the qualities of the YouthBuild program and the needs of their youth. DMT then trained YouthBuild pilot sites and facilitated implementation of the model.

Results

DMT helped our client create a flexible, customizable, replicable mentoring model and trained 16 successful pilot program sites, positioning the YouthBuild mentoring initiative for nationwide expansion.

