

**Manhattanville in West Harlem Implementation Plan Report
October 15, 2024 Submission**

Declaration Reference and Key Data

Obligation Section Number: **5.07(c)(xv)**

Obligation Title: **Outreach for Disconnected Youth**

Obligation Page Number: **55**

Obligation Trigger: **Acquisition by ESD or CU of all Initial Stage 1 Condemnation Parcel(s)**

Obligation Start Date: **March 12, 2012**

Obligation End Date: **March 12, 2038* (8 Year Pilot; 25 Years from Commencement)**

Obligation Status: **In Compliance**

Obligation

Outreach for Disconnected Youth. Commencing with the acquisition by ESD or CU of all Initial Stage 1 Condemnation Parcels, CU shall initiate a targeted outreach, in partnership with community based organizations, to identify and engage disconnected youth in the community, ages 16-24 who have not completed high school or obtained a GED, in order to enroll them at no cost in existing NYCDOE high school programs or GED programs operated by community partners. Upon completion of a high school diploma or GED, youth will be referred for skills training, internships and work based learning opportunities through community based organizations. For youth successfully completing the GED program, CU will make a good faith effort to place qualified youth in positions with CU. To ensure coordination of program and placement services CU shall fund a position to coordinate program and placement efforts. The program will be reviewed by CU and ESD after eight years and, if effective, will be continued, subject to subsequent reviews of effectiveness for 25 years from commencement.

*Planning activities were still ongoing upon the obligation trigger date. Outreach for disconnected youth was conducted in 2013, one year after the trigger date. Therefore, this obligation will be in effect until 2038, 25 years from the commencement of the obligation implementation.

Evidence of Compliance

1. Annual report

Columbia University's Implementation Plan and all supporting documentation are made available on the Columbia Neighbors Webpage at <https://neighbors.columbia.edu/content/community-commitments>.

Annual Report: Connecting Youth Initiative

State Submission Annual Reporting Period: **October 2023 - September 2024**

Executive Summary

The Connecting Youth Initiative (CYI) is the title used to identify the program for the Outreach to Disconnected Youth commitment and is targeted for individuals ages 16-24, residing in Northern Manhattan and parts of the South Bronx, who are not employed, not in school and/or have not completed high school or obtained a high school equivalency degree.

Through a combination of direct services and collaborative partnerships, the CYI seeks to mitigate the obstacles (such as poverty, homelessness, teen pregnancy, incarceration, and disabilities) that prevent youth from achieving success in the areas of education and career development. The CYI also incorporates a school-based component that takes a preventative approach to disconnection by targeting students at-risk for drop-out or aging-out.

CYI is designed to assist youth and young adults experiencing disconnection to gain access to services that will ensure they achieve their goals in the areas of education and employment attainment. This is achieved primarily through two service pathways: group workshops and case management. Group workshops are used to provide soft-skill training a development for youth seeking to improve interpersonal skills that will lead to improving their employability. The case management service pathway allows CYI to meet individuals where they are and guide them towards educational and workforce opportunities, including potential job placements at Columbia University.

The Office of Government and Community Affairs is currently seeking a replacement for the director position that oversees both this program as well as the Workforce Training Program and has temporarily paused any activities in this initiative until that position is filled. For the reporting period covering October 2023 through September 2024, no activities occurred.

Additional Supporting Documentation

· None for this reporting period