

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 27, 2023

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**DOZENS OF DISTRICT ADULT STUDENTS COMPLETE N.J. YOUTH CORPS PROGRAM**  
*Program graduates, GED recipients honored at special ceremony at City Hall*

\*\*\*Photos attached: see end of release for captions.\*\*\*

PATERSON – Paterson Public Schools Superintendent Eileen Shafer, Adult High School Principal Nora Hoover, and Mayor Andre Sayegh were among those who honored the dozens of adult students who completed the N.J. Youth Corps program today at the City Council Chambers in City Hall.

“The New Jersey Youth Corps, The PACE School, and the Adult High School are all founded upon the idea that there is no one pathway to success. A pathway to success should be as unique and as singular as the person who charts it,” said Superintendent of Schools Eileen F. Shafer. “It is my hope that the adult students we celebrate today will continue to pursue knowledge as part of their own journeys of lifelong learning.”

Nora Hoover, principal of the Paterson Adult Continuing Education school, had a simple message of support for the adult students today.

“Always remember we are here to help you,” Hoover said. “If you need us, call us. You were a great class, and we will miss you.”

“Education is the key to upward mobility for countless residents in our City,” said Mayor Andre Sayegh. “I am proud of our graduates and our GED recipients for reaching this important milestone. As a result of this investment in education, new doors of opportunity are now open.”

Among the students who were honored today:

- 15 have earned their high school equivalency diplomas
- 22 have completed the N.J. Youth Corps program and will soon take the high school equivalency exam
- 8 are entering the workforce
- 2 are entering college

The students who earned certifications through the program are as follows:

- 28 are certified in CPR and First Aid
- 26 are certified Food Handlers, which will help you enter the food services industry

The New Jersey Youth Corps is one of the largest youth service and conservation corps in the United States. Youth Corps is a year-round, voluntary program that engages young adults (ages 16 to 25) without a high school diploma in full-time community service, training, and educational activities. Guided by staff who serve as mentors and role models, teams of youth called “crews” carry out a wide range of service projects.



Photo 1: Superintendent Shafer, right, congratulates Emily Cruz, one of the adult students who completed the N.J. Youth Corps program.

Photo 2: Principal Hoover congratulates one of the adult students who completed the N.J. Youth Corps program.

Photo 3: Board of Education Commissioner Della McCall gives encouraging remarks to the adult students who completed the N.J. Youth Corps program.

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