

*"The mission of Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow is to help disadvantaged youth and adults recognize their own self-worth and advance towards self-sufficiency and financial security through job training, academic reinforcement, improved life skills, job placement, and support services."*



## HISTORY & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1983** OBT was founded by Sister Mary Franciscus to serve at-risk youth, providing them with High School Equivalency (HSE) classes, job training, and job placement.
- 2001** OBT opens a second training site in Bushwick/Williamsburg and doubles the number of youth served to 240 annually.
- 2006** After the untimely passing of Sister Mary Franciscus, OBT hires Randy Peers, former Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce Vice President, as CEO.
- 2007** OBT launches an evening Adult Literacy program at its Bushwick/Williamsburg site providing ESOL, Adult Basic Education, and HSE classes.
- 2009** OBT opens its third location, the Bushwick Workforce Resource Center (BWRC), to better serve adult residents of Bushwick and Ridgewood.
- 2012** NYS Secretary of State Cesar A. Peralas delivers a proclamation from Governor Andrew Cuomo recognizing OBT's success in providing new Americans with job-skills training and education.
- 2013** OBT launches the first Y Roads Center in partnership with the YMCA of Greater New York in Jamaica, Queens.
- 2014** OBT launches its second Y Roads Center in partnership with the YMCA of Greater New York in the Bronx.

## PRINCIPLES

**Confidence:** OBT's programs instill confidence in participants, increasing their self-esteem and improving their chances to succeed.

**Discipline:** OBT's training model stresses personal discipline. OBT's high standards and expectations hold participants accountable for their own success, making no excuses if they fail.

**Professionalism:** All of OBT's programs are modeled after a "simulated" corporate work environment. Participants are required to dress and groom professionally, arrive on time each day, handle work assignments with deadlines, and behave as they would be expected to behave at work.

## OUR NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED - YOUTH EDUCATION & JOB-TRAINING MODEL

- Nationally recognized workforce development program provides youth, ages 17 to 21, with courses in Business English, Business Math, World of Work, Office Procedures, Computer Skills Training, Keyboarding and High School Equivalency (HSE) preparation.
- Applied learning modules include: Public Speaking and Communications, Service Learning, Speed Networking, and Virtual Enterprise. These modules connect learning to "real world" situations.
- A typical day is modeled after a full-time corporate workday, with trainees in attendance five days a week for a total of 20 weeks. Youth are required to dress, groom, and act professionally and are evaluated based on their performance.
- Counselors assist trainees who are experiencing personal challenges by providing support services and referrals to social service agencies.
- In addition to the HSE, trainees can obtain two vocational credentials: Microsoft Office Specialist Certification (MOS) and the National Retail Federation's (NRF) Customer Service Certification.
- Upon successful completion, trainees are provided with job placement assistance and college access services. OBT places youth in "career oriented" settings, leveraging their training and soft-skills.



## GET INVOLVED

### Donations:

To donate, make an in-kind professional clothing contribution, or become a corporate sponsor, please contact **Sophia Tsororos** 718-369-0303 [tsororos@obtjobs.org](mailto:tsororos@obtjobs.org)

### Volunteer with OBT:

To become a mentor, a guest speaker, English conversation partner, or lend support in any other way, please contact **Evelyn Ortiz** 917-530-1495 [eortiz@obtjobs.org](mailto:eortiz@obtjobs.org)

### Hire an OBT Grad:

To consider hiring one of our trainees, setting up an internship site, or arranging a "Speed Networking" event with our youth, please contact **Terri Saucier** 718-387-1600 [tsaucier@obtjobs.org](mailto:tsaucier@obtjobs.org)

## LEADERSHIP

**Sean Lafferty**  
Chairperson

**Randolph Peers**  
Chief Executive Officer

**Annie Norbeck**  
Chief Program Officer

**Janet Tsakos**  
Chief Administrative Officer

**Bryant Lee**  
Chief Fiscal Officer

**Darren Latanick**  
Senior Director of Adult Services

## CONTACT US

[www.obtjobs.org](http://www.obtjobs.org)  
[info@obtjobs.org](mailto:info@obtjobs.org)

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**Hablamos Español**

## OTHER OBT PROGRAMS

### Young Adult Internship Program

Provides five weeks of job readiness classes, followed by an 11-week paid internship at corporations, small businesses, government agencies, and nonprofit organizations; it serves youth ages 17-24 in Bushwick, Bed-Stuy, and Jamaica, Queens.

### Office For New Americans (ONA)

Legal Immigration, Citizenship, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) assistance, plus entrepreneurship workshops.

### Adult Employment Assistance Programs

Job readiness classes and assistance with job placement, obtaining the Microsoft Office Specialist Certification (MOS), and the National Retail Federation's (NRF) Customer Service Certification.

### Adult Education & Literacy Programs

Includes four levels of English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL), Pre-HSE, and HSE classes. Classes meet for 16-week cycles (3 cycles a year) during the morning, afternoon, or evening; it serves 800 people annually.

### Medical Administrative Assistant Program

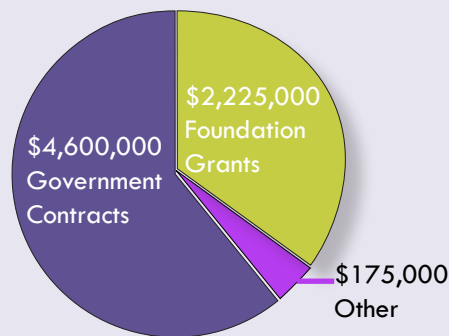
Certified training course includes medical terminology and office procedures as well as an internship in a medical setting. Program includes a lunch and transportation stipend.

### College Access Program

Academically prepares and advises trainees about the college process including degree options, application requirements, deadlines, and financial aid. One-on-one counseling services are also provided to students.

## ANNUAL BUDGET

OBT's annual budget is approximately \$7 million. OBT has over 70 employees who work out of six locations.



85¢ of every dollar goes to program services.

## YOUTH OUTCOMES

Completion	95%
HSE Attainment	75%
Vocational Credential	85%
Job Placement	72%
Job Retention	68%
Avg. Starting Wage	\$10.15

## LOCATIONS

**Y Roads Jamaica**  
161-04 Jamaica Avenue  
Jamaica, NY 11432  
212-630-9727

**Y Roads Bronx**  
332 East 149th Street  
Bronx, NY 10451  
718-215-6980

**Bushwick/Williamsburg**  
25 Thornton Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11206  
718-387-1600

**Bushwick Workforce Resource Center**  
280 Wyckoff Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11237  
718-381-3222

**Bed-Stuy**  
20 New York Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11216  
718-399-9700

**Sunset Park (Administrative Office)**  
783 Fourth Avenue  
Brooklyn, NY 11232  
718-369-0303

