

New Jersey Youth Corps of Sussex County

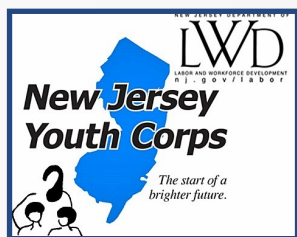
Serving Sussex & Northern Warren County

I dropped out of high school during my senior year in order to help my mother. My grandmother had had a stroke and my mother had to commute to work every day. Plus, high school was too slow and I was bored.

After I dropped out, I spent my time producing music. I use music software, and I play the trombone and the drums, and I can read music. I worked as a cashier at a restaurant and I worked at a temp agency. But I realized I needed that piece of paper to get anywhere.

Participating in the New Jersey Youth Corps has changed me. I used to be a calm, cool, quiet, keep-to-myself kind of guy. Here I am a leader. I find myself going above and beyond. My favorite subject is life skills. The academics are really like a refresher to me since I was a senior when I dropped out. After I graduate, I will miss that high school feeling of coming to school and seeing your friends.

Without the New Jersey Youth Corps, I probably wouldn't be on track to fix my life. I want to go into sports medicine. I gave up playing sports but the medical field is in high demand. I will do 2 years at Sussex County Community College, and then go into the Navy. I would fight for my country.



To enroll, or to find out more about the New Jersey Youth Corps, call 973-940-3500 or visit www.projectselfsufficiency.org.

- High School Equivalency Diploma Education
- Work & Life Skills Training
- Personal & Career Counseling
- Help with Next Steps: College, Career, Military
- Transportation & Child Care
- \$100 Weekly Stipend



Hezekiah Todd-Givens, 20