



## THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

### Disrupting Cycles of Poverty with Work-Readiness Initiatives

The impacts of poverty, trauma and neglect live far beyond the present. Youth coping with those factors today will often miss opportunities to build “soft skills”—time-management, problem-solving and other learned capabilities—that enable future success in the workforce. Without those skills, the likelihood is high that multigenerational cycles of poverty and trauma will only continue.

In keeping with our mission to help youth build the healthy futures they deserve, Hillside’s innovative work-readiness initiatives have already made a proven difference. Strong community support will allow us to do even more.

**A robust apprenticeship program** provides a sustained series of one-to-one sessions with Hillside employee mentors. Nearly 200 youth have taken part while in care in Hillside programs. These paid placements help youth build focused vocational skills from construction and food service to maple syrup production at our Snell Farm Campus.

**The Youth Employment Training Academy**, a soft-skills training program, was originally developed for Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection (HW-SC) and is now being piloted in residential treatment. Additionally, the HW-SC Jobs Institute has a long track record of successfully linking students to part-time jobs with community employers.

**Soft-skills development protocols** are being designed for integration into the full range of our residential treatment and community-based programs. This thoughtful integration will help youth in our care to prepare for tomorrow’s opportunities while they work to overcome today’s challenges.

Generous philanthropic support will enable these future-focused initiatives to bring long-term benefits to individual young people in need, and disrupt painful cycles of multigenerational poverty.

## Benefits of Work-Readiness Initiatives

- Hillside employment partners consistently report that YETA-certified youth come to their jobs with a **higher level of preparedness** for the rigors and expectations of their paid positions. They are more likely to succeed in their jobs, while putting their income back into their communities.
- Youth outcomes following successfully completed Hillside apprenticeships include increased self-esteem; improved hygiene, academic performance and attendance; and stronger pro-social behaviors. These correlate tightly with **positive therapeutic results**.
- Students in Hillside Work-Scholarship Connection consistently show **higher graduation rates** following successful YETA module completion and ongoing participation in part-time work with an HW-SC Employment Partner.



*“Working in the shop was pretty awesome. It taught me that if you work to the best of your ability you can actually get somewhere. Carpentry is something that I would never have thought about, but once I started I thought, ‘Yeah, I can do this.’”*

*Jacob, a former youth apprentice with a Hillside Facilities team member*

## The Impact of Your Support

Hillside programs and services make a powerful, proven difference for vulnerable young people and families. Your philanthropic support of Hillside’s mission makes you a partner in our work to change individual lives and strengthen whole communities.

***By supporting Hillside, you’re helping us provide pathways to employment that allow vulnerable youth to break the cycle of multigenerational poverty.***