

# Exalt Youth Recent Milestones & Upcoming Goals

September 2017

## OUR IMPACT IN 2017

In FY2017 (July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017), exalt served 255 court-involved youth, achieving unparalleled results.



over 65% of participants were facing life altering criminal charges.



once at exalt, 99% of youth remained enrolled in school & 93% are on track to receive their High School diploma before age 20



0% of graduates received a new conviction 73% of eligible cases received sentence reductions

Programmatically, we achieved new milestones in partnership development and innovative responses to school needs:



our internship network grew by 25%, adding 27 new sites citywide across a variety of sectors



our monthly career development series quadrupled alumni engagement, serving over 100 graduates



*exalt* successfully launched a new program, the "Adopt a School Initiative", providing onsite services for DOE students and staff

## ORGANIZATIONAL GOALS

As we emerge from a decade of experience reducing recidivism rates for youth, we are poised for greater replication. To that end, we are formalizing a strategic method to scale exalt. As part of this planning process, we developed following organizational goals for the upcoming year:

• Expand our successful Core Internship Program to serve more youth annually.

Expand innovative alumni college/career opportunities for our growing pool of 700+ alumni through dynamic business partnerships.

- Continue piloting our Adopt-A-School (AaS) Initiative for larger adaptation and devise plans to replicate technical assistance models at other institutions.
- Diversify and grow our fundraising.
- Expand internal capacity to prepare for growth, including new staff and a new larger space.

## CLOSING

exalt is the only organization in New York designed specifically for youth involved in the criminal justice system in which they participate by choice versus compliance. What distinguishes exalt from traditional criminal justice agencies is that our goal is not simply or solely to reduce recidivism. Though our success at reducing recidivism rivals that of court-mandated programs, our primary aim is to inspire youth at a critical crossroads to believe that education can play a powerful role in their selfdevelopment. Most programs and schools strive to compel young people to attend school based on outdated paradigms of compulsion. *exalt* caters to our youths' desire for change and love of learning, while acknowledging the barriers they face, including the disconnect they feel between school and their lives.

### We thank you for your participation today and are grateful to the Andrus Family Fund and the American Youth Policy Forum for their commitment to juvenile justice issues.

We look forward to meeting you to continue the conversation on advancing Pathways to Education and Workforce Opportunities for Systems-Involved Youth

#### Questions? Don't hesitate to contact us.

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