



NEW BEGINNINGS

We provide free English language and cultural literacy skills to immigrants, refugees, and their families.

OUR MISSION

LearningWorks reimagines learning through innovative programs that help children, adults, and families realize their potential and build thriving communities. | VOLUNTEER | DONATE

<h3>LearningWorks AfterSchool + Summer</h3> <p>LearningWorks AfterSchool provides free, high-quality after school and summer programs to more than 900 elementary students (grades 2-5) in Portland, South Portland, Biddeford, and Waterbor</p>	<h3>AIMS HIGH AmeriCorps</h3> <p>AIMS HIGH AmeriCorps volunteers provide free one-on-one classroom support to struggling students in elementary schools throughout Southern Maine.</p>	<h3>English Language + Literacy</h3> <p>Our English Language & Literacy Program provides free language instruction, one-on-one tutoring, and cultural literacy skills to more than 150 new immigrants and refugees each year.</p>
<h3>Service Works</h3> <p>Service Works provides opportunities for young people to complete mandated community service, learn life skills, and rehabilitate harmed relationships.</p>	<h3>Youth Building Alternatives</h3> <p>Youth Building Alternatives serves teens and young adults who have dropped out of school by providing free alternative education, HISET exam preparation for high school equivalency test, leadership development, and job and life skills.</p>	<h3>Volunteer</h3> <p>Join other LearningWorks volunteers who support these innovative programs that help children, adults, and families realize their potential, and help our communities thrive.</p>

OUR STORIES





NEWS + EVENTS



“LearningWorks awarded grants for after-school programs in Portland and Biddeford.”

LW IN THE NEWS | LEARNINGWORKS AFTERSCHOOL
June 20, 2017

PRESS HERALD: LearningWorks has received grants totaling nearly \$1.5 million over three years to support after-school and summer learning programs in Portland and Biddeford.

MORE ►

Search News

FILTER BY CATEGORY

- 50 Stories
- English Language + Literacy
- AIMS HIGH AmeriCorps
- LearningWorks AfterSchool
- Youth Building Alternatives
- Service Works
- Summer Programs
- High School Dropouts
- The Board
- LW in the News

FILTER BY MONTH

July 2017



Donna Galluzzo

50 STORIES | THE BOARD
July 18, 2017

Donna Galluzzo was a LearningWorks board member from 1999 to 2006. During that time, she held every position on the executive committee as our Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President, and President. Her time as a board member significantly shaped who we are today. Currently, she is the executive director of the Frannie Peabody Center in Portland.

MORE ►



Wilfreid Plalum

50 STORIES | YOUTH BUILDING ALTERNATIVES
June 16, 2017

Over twenty years ago, Wilfreid Plalum found himself in the right place at the right time. He was 20 years old, and had just arrived in Maine with his family from South Sudan. “I was playing soccer with some friends across the street from LearningWorks, when two staff people stopped over and informed us of a new program at LearningWorks called Youth Building Alternatives.”

MORE ►



CTN News Interview on Youth Building Alternatives

LW IN THE NEWS | YOUTH BUILDING ALTERNATIVES
April, 22, 2015

Soni Waterman, Director of Youth Building Alternatives, was joined by two students who

WATCH ►



“Portland organization celebrates 50 years of helping those on the margins.”

LW IN THE NEWS
April, 22, 2015

FORECASTER: LearningWorks, which started out as a grassroots neighborhood advocacy group 50 years ago, has grown into an organization dedicated to helping young people on the margins reach their full potential.

MORE ►



VOLUNTEER

JOIN THE TEAM

DONATE ▶

"It imbues me with a feeling of relief to know that there is support available for young people who may not have succeeded in the education system or who have had run-ins with the law. LearningWorks' services are available to people of all colors, nationalities, and religions. In this welcoming environment, education is the gateway to success."
 – Susan Abt, LearningWorks Donor

Each year, over 3,000 people reach out to LearningWorks seeking support in realizing their potential: Students who can't find their way in the traditional education system; Immigrants and refugees who need to learn English and transition to a new culture; Youth who have fallen into the criminal justice system and want a way out. With your help, we can reach more people to support academic and personal success. Together we can build thriving communities.



There are many ways to donate:

- Make an individual donation to support the agency as a whole or a particular program or project.
- Make a recurring monthly or annual donation.
- Make a bequest or planned gift to LearningWorks to help ensure our educational programs and services will continue to help our kids and families find a pathway to success.

1,000

local elementary students are benefiting from free afterschool + summer programs

80%

of our English Language + Literacy students increase proficiency and enter the workforce

90%

of our Youth Building Alternative students go on to jobs and education

Tax Info: LearningWorks is a federally recognized 501(c)(3) public charity. Our EIN number is 01-0353682. Your donation may be tax deductible; please check with your financial advisor. LearningWorks is eligible for company matching gifts. We do not share personal information. Please see our [Privacy Policy](#) for assurances on how we use information collected.

Download our latest Annual Report ▶

87% to Programs
 9% to Administration
 4% to Fundraising



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 We are grateful for your check made out to LearningWorks. Please mail to 181 Brackett Street, Portland, ME 04102.

or

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AMERICORPS APPLICATION

HALF TIME 2017-2018 AIMS HIGH MEMBER AMERICORPS

This application is for a **900 hour Half Time AmeriCorps position** during the 2017-2018 school year and summertime program. Please fill out all fields and upload your resume or CV. Applicants must be 17 or older and eligible to work in the United States and have a High School Diploma or equivalent. Service is contingent upon an interview, selection process, and successful criminal background check.

Name

<input type="text" value="first"/>	<input type="text" value="last"/>
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Best Email to reach you *

Best Phone Number to reach you * **other number**

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Home Address *

<input type="text" value="city"/>	<input type="text" value="state"/>
<input type="text" value="zip"/>	<input type="text" value="country"/>

Do you have a high school diploma (or high school equivalency) *

Which AIMS HIGH school location is your first preference? *

Half time members serve on average 20 hours per week with specific schedules determined at their school site. How many hours per week are you able to commit to AmeriCorps service?

The AIMS HIGH program year runs from September through August. When are you available to start AmeriCorps service?

Have you ever served as an AmeriCorps member before? *

Yes - I completed my previous service term

Yes - I did not complete my previous service term

No - I haven't previously served as an AmeriCorps member
If yes, when did you serve? What program did you serve in?

Please upload your resume or CV:

Youth Building Alternatives serves teens and young adults who have struggled to find their way in the traditional education system. Since 1994, we have worked with youth ages 16 ½ - 24 who have dropped out of public high school to help them successfully transition to adulthood through alternative education, HISET exam preparation for high school equivalency test, leadership development, job skills, and life skills. The program helps these students obtain important certifications including PACT, NCCER, OSHA-10, and GED, and advance toward post-secondary education or career-oriented employment. Upon successful completion of the program, our YBA graduates receive follow-up services for at least one year.

<p>90%</p> <p>of our Youth Building Alternative Students go onto jobs and further education.</p>	<p>70+</p> <p>young people who have dropped out of school are served each year.</p>	<p>83</p> <p>Maine Youth Building Alternatives participants have rehabbed four units of housing in the last three years</p>
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Why join Youth Building Alternatives?

Youth Building Alternatives can help you get your GED and marketable skills that will make you a desirable candidate in the job market. It includes the following core components:

- Education
- Vocational
- Jobs for Maine Graduates
- Leadership
- Community Service
- On-site Counseling (group and individual)

The program runs for nine months, but could be shorter or longer depending on individual needs and strengths. Daily schedule is similar to traditional high schools, Monday-Friday from 8am to 2pm. You will also get holidays off and school vacations throughout the year. The first step to join the program is to fill out an application. Once we process the application, we will contact you to schedule an interview.

[APPLY NOW](#)



Program Partners

We work in tandem with Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) to support our graduates.



MEET GRACE VAN ETTEN



After just nine months in our Youth Building Alternatives program, Grace graduated from high school, enrolled at Southern Maine Community College, and is pursuing a career in early childhood education.

[Grace's Story](#)

VOLUNTEER FOR YBA

Interested in helping youth achieve their full potential? Volunteer to provide students with individualized support to advance toward post-secondary education and employment.

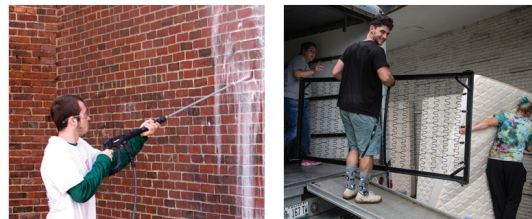
[VOLUNTEER](#)

Service Works provides community service projects for young people making amends for non-violent offenses as a positive alternative to suspension and incarceration. We employ restorative justice-based practices because studies show that youth who engage in service make positive connections to their community and gain confidence from finding success in meaningful work. Program participants spend time writing about their experiences, setting goals for the future, and giving back to the community through volunteering for a homeless shelter or food pantry, serving a community meal, or rehabilitating a public space by [removing graffiti](#).

<p>125</p> <p>youth each year stay on track in school and out of the juvenile justice system through Service Works</p>	<p>97%</p> <p>of youth engaged with the Service Works program do not re-enter the juvenile justice system.</p>	<p>35%</p> <p>decline in youth incarceration in Maine is partly attributed to restorative justice programs like Service</p>
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Who should join Service Works?

If you have been given community service hours by your Juvenile Community Corrections Officer or Juvenile Court, Service Works provides positive community service projects and opportunities for you to learn life skills and start mending harmed relationships. Service Works offers an alternative to suspension and incarceration while giving you an opportunity to get involved in the community and serve worthy nonprofit organizations throughout Cumberland and York counties.



Program Partners

Our Community Service projects include partnerships with Maine Department of Corrections, The Compass Project, Wayside Food Pantry, Preble Street Resource Center, Goodwill, [Graffiti Busters](#), and many more.



MEET PJ SANGUEDOLCE



Since participating in our Service Works program, PJ's days in the corrections system are behind him. He remains connected to his community, is currently working, and hopes to start a new job in construction.

[PJ's Story](#)

GRAFFITI BUSTERS

Do have a graffiti removal request for our Service Works students? We work with the city of Portland to determine our projects. Please contact the city directly to share know your graffiti removal request.

[GRAFFITI REMOVAL](#)

MORE INFO

Please contact Service Works Director [Tim Delahanty](#): 207-775-0105 ext. ?

tdelahanty@learningworks.me

Email Tim with form below:

First Name	Last Name
Email	
Message	

[SUBMIT](#)