



# BUILDING SKILLS NY

## 2024 IMPACT REPORT

Building Skills & Building Futures





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# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear supporters,

Thank you for powering us through another year of building skills and building futures. As our city continues to contend with underemployment and inequality, your generosity has enabled us to create career pathways where they are needed most. In 2024, we brought our construction job placement and skills training services to East New York, where we helped to shape the careers of New Yorkers like Michael Mobley. A valedictorian with his heart set on a construction career, Michael completed four months of rigorous training en route to a job with the affordable housing developer Monadnock Construction.

Through partnerships with Monadnock and the trusted community-based organization Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation, Building Skills NY made 13 job placements and issued 161 certifications in East New York last year. Our work in East New York accounts for only a fraction of the services we've provided throughout New York City. Please join us in taking a look back at a year of tremendous growth for our programs and life-changing accomplishments for the people we serve.

As always, I'd like to thank our team — Rose Fathers, Felicia Forster, Chan Henry, Ariel Leyva, Tatanisia Lumley, Taylor Smith, Olivia Torres, and Lola Yona — for their dedication to our mission. And thank you, our supporters, for joining us as we **build skills and build futures**. We couldn't do our work without you.



David Meade  
*Executive Director, Building Skills NY*







# MISSION

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## *Building skills & building futures*

Building Skills NY (BSNY) helps underemployed New Yorkers **build meaningful careers**. Our mission is to **prepare local job seekers for employment in construction and the skilled trades** while helping employers find a ready, willing, and able workforce.

### JOB PLACEMENT

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We partner with 100+ real estate developers, general contractors, and subcontractors to match job-ready workers with good-paying opportunities.

### CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACCELERATOR

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We collaborate with New York City's finest community-based organizations to provide no-cost, advanced skills training in construction basics and skilled trades.



# BUILDING SKILLS BY THE NUMBERS



construction job  
placements to date



Construction Career  
Accelerator graduates  
to date



## PARTICIPANTS

**99%**

people of color

**100%**

low-to-moderate  
income

**30%**

young adults in 2024



## IMPACT

**\$7,000+**

annual income boost for  
BSNY participants

**110**

employer partners  
in 2024

**\$7,095**

in PPE provided to  
2024 CCA graduates



# LOCAL FOOTPRINT

- 1

Since 2017, Building Skills NY has made 660 job placements for Bronx residents.
- 2

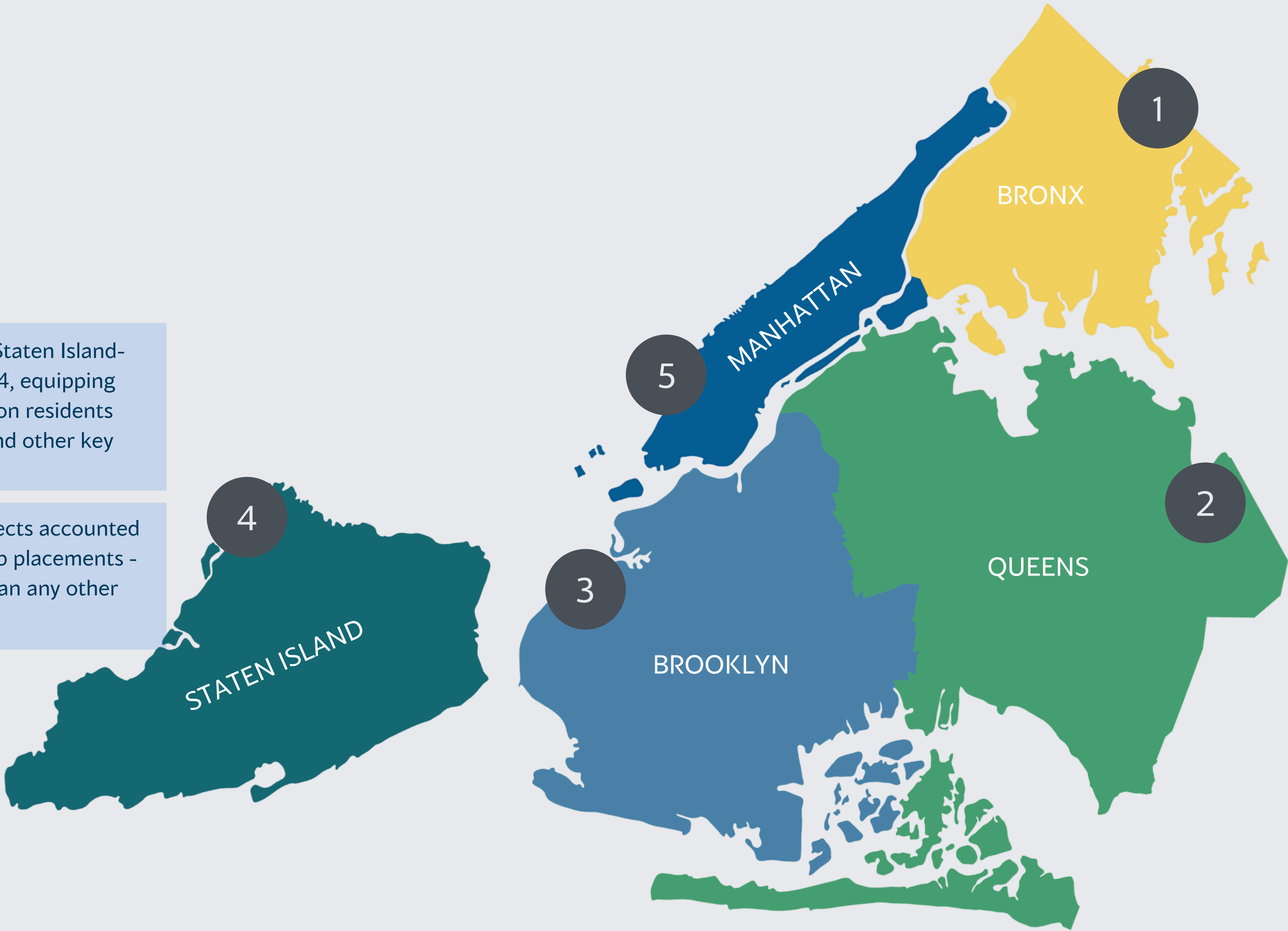
Since 2023, BSNY has provided 9 advanced skills training classes in Queens, in partnership with Commonpoint.
- 3

30% of the individuals we served in 2024 resided in Brooklyn, leading all boroughs.

- 4

BSNY offered its first Staten Island-based trainings in 2024, equipping dozens of West Brighton residents with their OSHA-30 and other key safety certifications.
- 5

Manhattan-based projects accounted for 33% of our 2024 job placements - a higher percentage than any other borough.





# OUR WORKERS

The people we serve set an example daily with their drive to succeed and commitment to continued learning. We are honored to play a part in their stories, two of which are shared here.



## DAQUAN WILLIAMS

*“If I could work seven days a week, I would.”*

Brooklyn native **Daquan Williams** found Building Skills NY in 2022 at a moment of personal transition. He was grieving personal losses, and his career was stagnating. He'd dreamed of being an architect but found his options limited without a high school diploma. When his wife alerted him to an upcoming Construction Career Accelerator course, a new way forward emerged. Daquan earned his Core and Electrical Level 1 certifications from the program, which uses the curriculum from the National Center for Construction Education and Research. Since graduating in 2023, Daquan has remained steadily and happily employed within the BSNY network - and has even returned to training as a graduation speaker. Looking back, he calls the training "the best thing that could have happened to me."

*Daquan's story was made possible by the generous support of the Amazin' Mets Foundation and the TD Charitable Foundation.*





# DENIVERT CHARLES

*“I didn’t know where construction would take me, but I knew there was a lot of possibility.”*

**Denivert Charles** has always believed in the value of hard work. He lives by the motto “time is not a problem,” because effort and perseverance will bear fruit eventually. Born in Haiti, Denivert moved to NYC as a child and showed an early aptitude for math. When he found himself lacking direction in college, the range of possibilities in construction and the skilled trades intrigued him enough to secure his certifications. After **St. Nicks Alliance** referred him to Building Skills NY in 2024, he quickly secured his first full-time construction role as a Fireguard.

Subcontractors on Denivert’s first job site noticed his diligence and attention to detail. Soon enough, he’d landed his next role as a Plumber’s Helper. Denivert takes pride in earning his supervisor’s trust: “It’s gotten to the point where he trusts me enough not to worry about what I do.” In the future, he hopes to continue to advance in plumbing and start his own company.

*Denivert’s story was made possible by the generous support of the Robin Hood Foundation.*





# OUR PARTNERS

Productive partnership is central to our mission. Just as we encourage our participants to cultivate relationships with their peers, we rely on our own network of employers and community-based organizations to enhance our impact. The pages that follow highlight a few of the relationships that yielded tangible results for our participants in 2024.



## MONADNOCK CONSTRUCTION

Brooklyn-based affordable housing contractor **Monadnock Construction** turned to Building Skills NY for help sourcing skilled workers for their Innovative Urban Village (IUV) project. Planned for the heart of East New York, the mixed-use development will include both community space and more than 1,000 units of affordable housing.

Building Skills NY leveraged expertise developed through our Construction Career Accelerator training program to provide recruiting, case management, and consulting services for an intensive training designed as a funnel directly into job opportunities at IUV. To date, the partnership has produced 21 training graduates and 12 placements into career-track jobs.





# CYPRESS HILLS LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Generous support from **The Pinkerton Foundation** enabled us to bring the Construction Career Accelerator to Brooklyn for the first time, in partnership with **Cypress Hills Local Development Corporation (CHLDC)**. A trusted community-based organization with deep roots in the East New York area, CHLDC supplemented our employer relationships and industry insight with the case management and wrap-around supports that empower participants to thrive in a rigorous training environment.

Our collaboration with CHLDC has allowed us to provide more young-adult-focused training courses, creating a launchpad for New Yorkers entering the workforce at a uniquely challenging time.

*This partnership was made possible by the generous support of The Pinkerton Foundation.*







# HUDSON COMPANIES

Our ongoing partnership with leading housing developer **The Hudson Companies** illustrates the important role that employer relationships play in creating tangible outcomes for our city's workforce. In recent years, this partnership has shined through in-person hiring events designed to connect vetted, job-ready talent directly to the construction employers who need their skills.

In November 2024, Building Skills NY and Hudson collaborated with **Gilbane, Broadway Builders**, and **Mutual Housing Association of New York** to host a hiring event that resulted in 9 hires out of 18 interviews - a significantly higher success rate than a standard job fair.



# NEW BOARD MEMBERS

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**Marlee Busching-Truscott**  
Hudson Companies

Marlee Busching-Truscott is a Managing Director of Development at The Hudson Companies, where she has worked for over 8 years. She has overseen a diverse mix of affordable and market-rate projects throughout her tenure and strives to make a positive impact on the city she has loved since her undergraduate days at NYU. Marlee joined the Building Skills NY Board of Directors in September 2024.



**Rick Gropper**  
Camber Property Group

Rick Gropper is Founding Principal at Camber Properties and has more than 20 years of experience in New York City real estate development. He has dedicated his career to the construction and preservation of affordable housing throughout the five boroughs. Rick joined the Building Skills NY Board of Directors in September 2024.



# 2024 IN PHOTOS



Queens Borough President Donovan Richards, Jr. addresses guests at the 2024 Best of Building Skills NY fundraiser.



BSNY Business Services Director Rose Fathers (second from right) visits a project in Far Rockaway with job seekers and employer partners.



BSNY attends a Canarsie job fair with team members from L+M Development Partners and Congressman Hakeem Jeffries (first from left).



Construction Career Accelerator participants in class at the Cypress Hills East New York Community Center.



BSNY Training & Operations Director Tatanisia Lumley (left) celebrates graduation with participant Abdoulaye Diop.



# SUPPORTERS & FINANCIALS

## SUPPORTERS

- BFC Partners

Book Culture

Broadway Builders

Bronx Community College

Bronx Pro Group & Home Builders 1 LP

Brookfield Properties

Brooklyn Sail

BRP Companies

Building Efficiency Services

Commonpoint

Con Edison

Consigli

Dean Arfanis
- Debra Kenyon

Emma Rotenberg

ETC Companies

Fairstead

Foundations Music

Gilbane Building Company

Glo Electric LLC

Ira W. DeCamp Foundation

Katherine Sarci-Tucker

L + M Development Partners

Labor Control Associates

Lelias Blake

Lettire Construction
- Mega Contracting Group

New York City Council

New York Safety and Training

New York State Department of Labor

NYC Employment and Training Coalition

Penta Restoration

Rae Linefsky

REBNY Foundation

Robin Hood Foundation

Sheila Lopez

Steven Gause

The Amazin' Mets Foundation

The Arker Companies
- The DOE Fund

The Heckscher Foundation

The Pinkerton Foundation

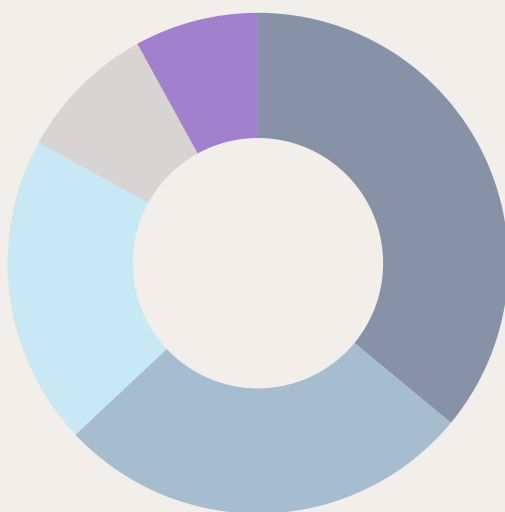
The TD Charitable Foundation

Trinity Church Wall Street

Triton Construction

US Department of Labor

## FINANCIALS



TOTAL REVENUE: \$1,527,767

- Foundations

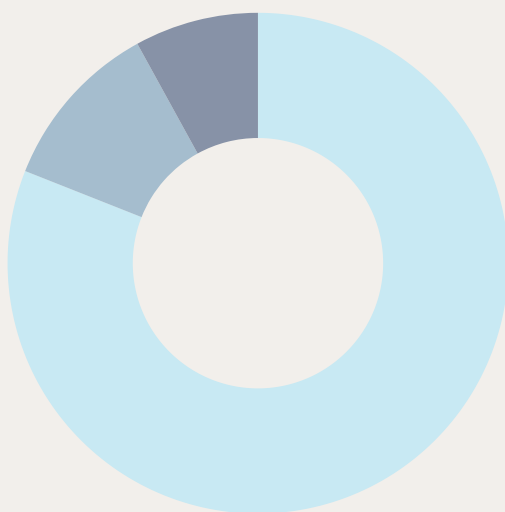
36%
- Industry

27%
- Government

20%
- Special Events

9%
- Earned Revenue

8%



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$1,521,955

- Program

81%
- Fundraising

11%
- Management

8%

Thank you for supporting our mission of building skills & building futures.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(as of FY2024: 1/1/2024 – 12/31/2024)

- Alex Arker

The Arker Companies

Andre Banks

Brookfield Properties

Brandon Baron

BFC Partners

Marlee Busching-Truscott

Hudson Companies

Rick Gropper

Camber Property Group

Matt Gross

Lettire Construction

Debbie Kenyon

L + M Development Partners

Aaron Koffman

Milestone Development LLC
- Sheila Lopez

Braven

Jennifer Mitchell

The DOE Fund

Ron Moelis

L + M Development Partners

Angela Pinsky

Google

George Poulon

Mega Contracting Group

Mary Serafy

BRP Companies

James Whelan

REBNY

Jacqui Williams

99 Solutions





# 2024 IMPACT REPORT

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