



# Workforce Development

## WHY COVENANT HOUSE

At Covenant House, our commitment to youth facing homelessness goes way beyond their first moment of crisis. In order to truly help a young person change their life, we know that opening a door is just the initial step in a long journey. We must provide transformational programs that give our youth the tools and support they need to build a future of their own.

## PROGRAM DETAILS

We recently launched a multi-year education and workforce development plan, designed to help young people overcoming homelessness break into the workforce and into long-term self-sufficiency and sustainability. Through our collaboration with thought leaders and partners, including youth participating in our programs, we are jointly creating a strategic program model that will lead to improved employment opportunities and outcomes for our young people.

This new career pathways program includes career training and employment placement, both identifying opportunities and preparing young people overcoming homelessness for jobs that pay a living wage, do not require a college degree, have lower potential for automation, are projected to grow post-pandemic, and that leverage our organization's global corporate partnerships.

## IMPACT

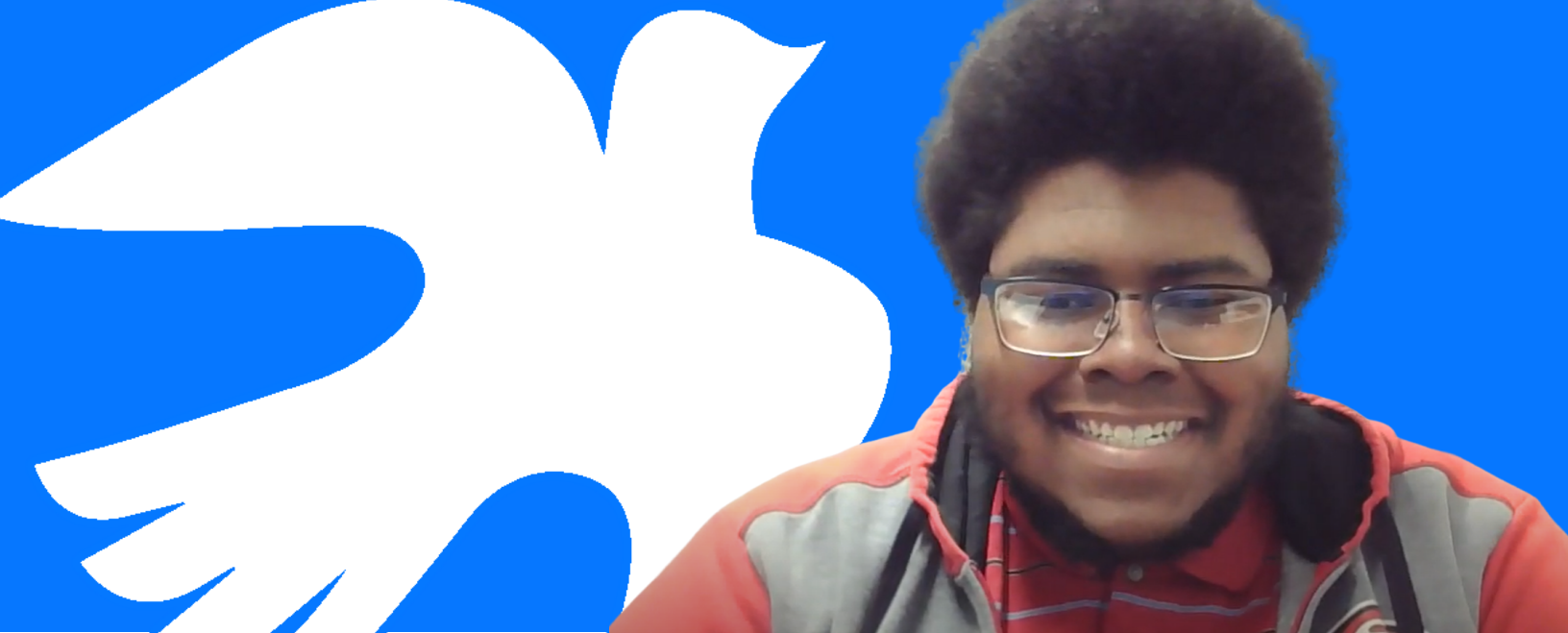
Our workforce development programs help young people transform their lives, not just for the time they are with us, but for a lifetime. The outcomes we anticipate are financial independence and long-term housing stability, reducing the risk of future homelessness for our young people.

## SERVICES



## LEARN MORE

[covenanthouse.org/program-investment](https://covenanthouse.org/program-investment)



## MEET JA'ROD

Ja'Rod was on a very different path before walking through our doors, and while some of his dreams have faded, new aspirations have emerged.

Ja'Rod, who is originally from California and is the oldest of four boys, excelled in sports. He received a full-ride scholarship for football to a university in his state. While he was on the team, he had a stroke and was paralyzed. He was hospitalized for six months and in that time he lost his scholarship. Ja'Rod says, "Because I am from a low income family, I was not able to return to school due to the high cost of classes and dorm rooms."

He made his way to Georgia, where he found Covenant House, and he started receiving the support he needed right away. Mr. Isaac, a staff member at Covenant House Georgia, noticed Ja'Rod's interest in gaming and computers and encouraged him to consider the IT Career Pathways program. Mr. Isaac gave him a new computer and set him up with training modules designed to build his knowledge base in computer science. Ja'Rod likes the flexibility of the program because he can choose the pathway that most interests him and he works at his own pace. While he hasn't yet completed all of the modules, Ja'Rod says the sales side of IT interests him greatly.

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

**Youth at Covenant House set goals, find their strength, their passion, and do something they love. They do not settle. They survive and move beyond.**

Research published jointly by MDRC and Covenant House includes direct input from over 400 young people experiencing homelessness and highlights the obstacles young people face while they aspire to not just survive but thrive in the workplace.

## ABOUT COVENANT HOUSE

Covenant House builds a bridge to hope for young people facing homelessness and survivors of trafficking through unconditional love, absolute respect, and relentless support. Our doors are open 24/7 in 34 cities across six countries and our high-quality programs are designed to empower young people to rise and overcome adversity, today and in the future.

