



Brooklyn Workforce
INNOVATIONS

**2025-2026
ANNUAL REPORT**

**A LEGACY OF
OPPORTUNITY.
A FUTURE OF
POSSIBILITY.**

DEAR FRIENDS,

Over the past two years, one thing has become increasingly clear: as New Yorkers navigate rising costs, shifting industries, and growing competition for good jobs, access to training, mentorship, trusted relationships, and meaningful career pathways remains essential to expanding economic opportunity. At BWI, that belief has guided our work for more than 25 years.

BWI has helped more than 12,000 people secure employment, immediately increase their annual earnings by more than 240%, and change their trajectory. Along the way, we partnered with thousands of employers across New York City. Behind every performance metric is a person whose future changed because BWI invested in their potential.

This report highlights our impact, the progress we have made, and the pathways we continue to build for New Yorkers. BWI's programs meet the needs of both jobseekers and employers alike, preparing New Yorkers for careers in growth industries and strengthening routes to economic mobility. Over the past two years, we have expanded opportunities in advanced manufacturing and maritime transportation, while continuing proven pathways like commercial driving, technology, and television and film production. Together, these efforts reflect BWI's commitment to adapting to a changing economy while ensuring that more New Yorkers can access the careers and opportunities ahead.

A legacy of opportunity calls us to keep looking ahead. BWI will continue to adapt, preparing New Yorkers for emerging industries while ensuring that economic growth creates lasting opportunity for the communities we serve.

The achievements in this report are possible because of the resilience of our training program beneficiaries, the dedication of our staff and partners, and the generosity of all our supporters. Thank you for investing in expanding opportunity for others and helping build a stronger New York City.

With gratitude,



Aaron Shiffman,
Executive Director
Brooklyn Workforce Innovations

BWI's mission is to empower low-income New Yorkers by creating living-wage employment opportunities and access to career paths. Our programs counter prevailing market inequalities, especially those based on race or gender, and contribute to a broader movement for economic justice.



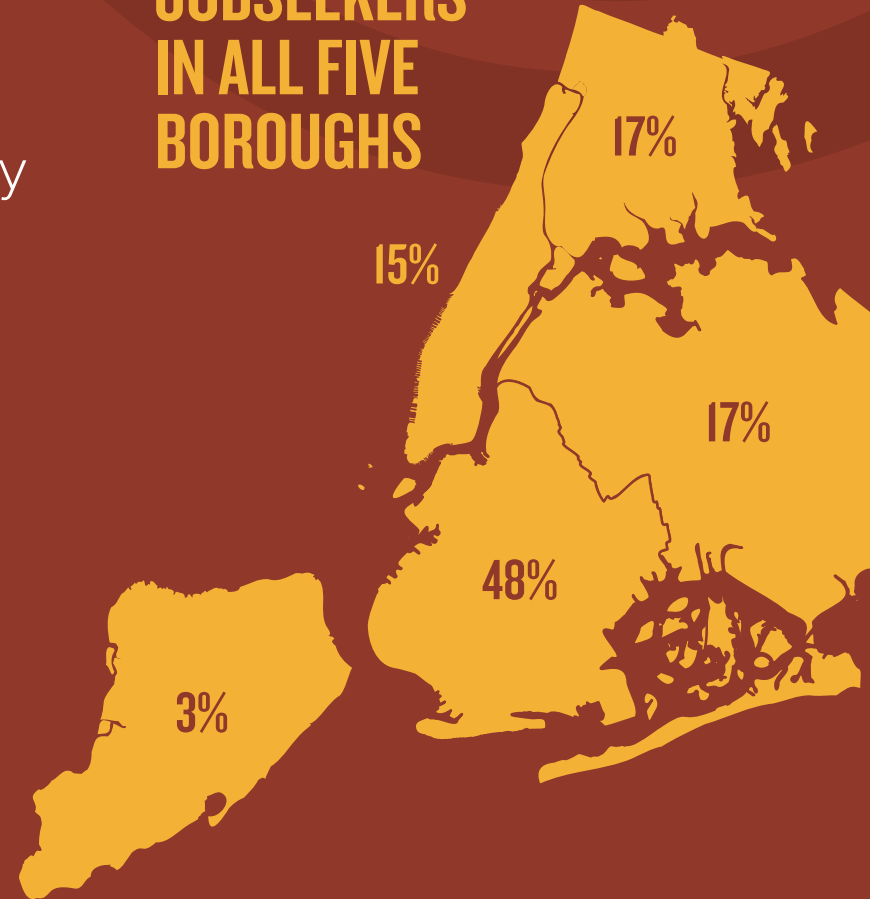
The staff helped me not only get a job but also grow in my career. I'm a Relocation Manager now and I love being able to help people. I am so proud to be a graduate of Housing Career Pathways. I tell everyone if they want a career, they should do the program!"



Hongyu Gao

Graduate of Housing Career Pathways

EMPOWERING JOBSEEKERS IN ALL FIVE BOROUGHES



OUR IMPACT

BWI trains hundreds of New Yorkers each year. Graduates are not only accessing jobs but building careers with opportunities for long-term economic mobility.



My instructors didn't just teach us how to do the job—they gave us real wisdom on how to navigate and conduct ourselves in this industry. Everything they shared, I've already seen play out, and I'm grateful I had their guidance to lean on."



Keara Bryant

Graduate of the "Made in NY"
Production Assistant Program

922
Total
Enrollment



\$44K

Average
starting wage

242%

Average wage
increase

92%

Graduation

72%

Job Placement

76%

Jobs with
benefits

82%

6-Month
Job Retention

SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMS

RED HOOK ON THE ROAD



BWI's longest running program prepares trainees for careers in commercial driving through classroom instruction, behind-the-wheel training, and career readiness support. Graduates earn their Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and pursue careers driving trucks, buses, paratransit vehicles, and airport shuttles.

BROOKLYN NETWORKS



Brooklyn Networks prepares trainees for long-lasting careers in communications technology through technical training, industry certifications, and job readiness support. Graduates launch careers in cabling, audio/visual systems, and telecommunications installation.

BROOKLYN WOODS



Brooklyn Woods prepares trainees for careers in woodworking, fabrication, and manufacturing through hands-on technical training, safety certifications, and career coaching. Graduates find opportunities with cabinetmakers, furniture makers, fabrication studios, and renovation firms, as well as with the program's own cabinetmaking social enterprise.

"MADE IN NY" PRODUCTION ASSISTANT PROGRAM



This program prepares underrepresented New Yorkers for careers in the television and film industry through hands-on production training and workplace preparation. Graduates are connected to Production Assistant opportunities across film, television, commercials, and digital media productions.

KINDWORK CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE FELLOWSHIP



KindWork prepares younger adults for careers in Customer Experience and Success at tech-enabled companies through a rigorous curriculum of digital skills training, professional development, and workplace readiness. Trainees gain essential soft skills, experience with industry software, and proficiency in AI-enabled tools—ensuring graduates are prepared to thrive in modern, tech-driven workplaces.

NYCHA RESIDENT TRAINING ACADEMY



In partnership with the NYC Housing Authority, BWI's NYCHA Resident Training Academy connects public housing residents to careers with NYCHA that start in caretaking and pest control roles. Trainees receive technical training, job readiness support, and pathways to union positions with opportunities for long-term career growth.

CUSTOMIZED TRAINING



BWI partners with employers and industry leaders to design workforce training that meets evolving hiring needs and creates pathways into growing industries. Recent offerings include Housing Career Pathways (HCP) for affordable housing careers and a Deckhand Training program, which prepares participants for careers supporting New York City's growing maritime industry.



KindWork was life-changing for me. I came into the program doubting myself, and I left knowing that I can build the life and career I want. Everyone at KindWork was committed not just to my success in the program, but to my life and my future.



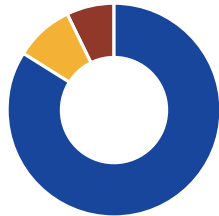
Joseph Robertson
Graduate of KindWork

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

2025 FINANCIALS



Revenue
\$8,227,050



Expenses
\$8,067,469

- Foundations 48%
- Corporations 12%
- Government 18%
- Social Enterprise 3%
- Individual 5%
- Special Event 3%
- Other 11%

- Program 84%
- Fundraising 9%
- Management 7%

CORPORATE & FOUNDATION

1834 Project
AICP Foundation
Amazon
Anonymous
Arbor Rising
BankUnited
Barker Welfare Foundation
Bernard F. and Alva B. Gimbel Foundation
Bloomberg Philanthropies
Capital One
CD&R Foundation
Con Edison
The Concordia Foundation
Consortium for Worker Education
The Decoded Futures Fund at The New York Community Trust
Donald A. Pels Charitable Trust
Enterprise Community Partners
Empire Offshore Wind LLC

The Essex Avenue Foundation
Francine A. LeFrak Foundation
Hyde and Watson Foundation
Janey Fund Charitable Trust
Joyce and Irving Goldman Family Foundation
JPMorgan Chase Foundation
Lawrence Foundation
M&T Bank Charitable Foundation
Meera & Ashok Vasudevan Foundation
Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies
Mary J. Hutchins Foundation
MDRC
Mizuho USA Foundation
Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
New York Post
NYU Community Fund
O'Connell Organization Family Foundation

The Pinkerton Foundation
Richard Lounsbery Foundation
Robin Hood Foundation
The Shippy Foundation
Social Justice Fund founded by Clara Wu Tsai
Steven and Alexandra Cohen Foundation
Thompson Family Foundation
Tiger Foundation
Truist Foundation
Workforce Development Institute
Zendesk Foundation

GOVERNMENT

NYC Council
NYC Mayor's Office of Media & Entertainment
NYC Workforce Development Corporation
NYC Economic Development Corporation
NYS Empire State Development
NYS Department of Labor
NYS Office of Strategic Workforce Development
NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance

BWI is grateful for the
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we receive each
year from all of our
institutional partners and
individual supporters



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* Joined the board in 2026

** Stepped down in 2025



Brooklyn Workforce Innovations

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