



Happy New Year from all of us at Cultivating Youth!

As we welcome 2026, we reflect with gratitude on the lives impacted, the barriers removed, and the partnerships that made our work possible in 2025. Because of your support, Cultivating Youth continues to provide youth & family holistic support, reliable transportation, work force development, safe transitional housing, and reentry support that helps individuals and families move toward stability and opportunity.

Thank you for supporting our mission to cultivate opportunity, stability, and hope. We look forward to growing together and making an even greater impact in the year ahead!

Cultivating Youth's 2025 Impact

During the 2025 Cultivating Youth:

- Enrolled approximately 40 youth in the After-School Enrichment Program and 20 youth in the Summer Enrichment Program
- Provided 3,200 hours of tutoring and academic support in the After-School Enrichment Program
- Provided 1,600 hours of physical fitness during the After-School Enrichment Program and 3,500 hours during Summer Enrichment.
- Provided 1,200 dinner meals for the After-School Enrichment Program
- Provided 1,400 breakfast meals and 1,400 lunch meals for 8 weeks during the Summer Enrichment to enrolled and employed youth & young adults.
- Provided 15 youth with weekly 1 hour, independent therapy sessions
- Hired 16 teens & young adults for Summer Enrichment
- Provided 30 college students & adults with paid volunteering opportunities two times a month, sometimes more
- Mentored 5 teens through the work study fellowship
- Took 18 youth and young adults on a summer trip
- Provided physical fitness, mentoring & post release planning to 60 justice-involved youth at the Juvenile Justice Intervention Center
- Provide weekly transportation to school, CY's Enrichment Programs, reentry assistance, medical appointments, etc.
- Gave away 20 free laptops to students in partnership with Son of a Saint, Cox Communications and PCs for People
- Housed 3 formerly incarcerated individuals through Cultivating Youth Transitional Home
- Provided holiday gifts for 20 enrolled youth and utility credits towards their household utilities



Cultivating Youth's 2025 Monthly Review

January

Tulane Service Award - Cultivating Youth was honored to participate in the King Freedom and Justice Brunch and to receive the Tulane University King Freedom and Justice Community Service Award. This recognition affirmed our shared commitment to equity, justice, and community empowerment. We are deeply grateful to Tulane University for their partnership and continued support of our mission.



February

Purchased Passenger Van - Cultivating Youth proudly eliminated a long-standing program barrier by investing in a passenger transportation van. This critical resource expanded our reach beyond our immediate neighborhood and ensured reliable transportation for youth and participants attending programs, educational activities, community events, volunteer opportunities, career exploration experiences, etc.. Transportation access directly increased participation, consistency, and opportunity across all CY programs.

Super Bowl - Cultivating Youth had the pleasure of participating in the Super Bowl brunch, welcome events & work the Super Bowl LIX Game through our work force development opportunity!





March

Individual Therapy - Cultivating Youth introduced weekly individual therapy sessions with licensed therapists for program youth, expanding access to consistent mental health care. This initiative supports emotional wellness, coping skills, and overall stability—recognizing that mental health is foundational to academic success, healthy relationships, and long-term well-being.

Hired Teen & Young Adults - We opened hiring for Summer Enrichment Staff, creating paid opportunities for teens, teachers, college students, and young adults to pour into our youth during the summer months. This initiative strengthened our programs while building leadership, employment experience, and career pathways for young adults in our community.

April

Juvenile Justice Intervention Center (JJIC) - A family fun day filled with love, crawfish and gaming at the Youth Study! Thank you to all of you who show up for our youth!

Jazz Fest - Thanks to the generosity of the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Foundation, Cultivating Youth and families were able to attend Jazz Fest. This experience provided cultural exposure, family bonding, and joyful moments rooted in New Orleans tradition.





May

Impact Mixer - Cultivating Youth invited all of its community partners, supporters, participants and families for an end of the Spring Session Impact Mixer. This evening of impact allowed for CY's supporters to network and to witness a live showcase of how we are changing the lives of our youth together.

June

Summer Enrichment - Cultivating Youth Athletic & Summer Enrichment assists girls and boys 8-12 years old in the community with discovering a healthy lifestyle coupled with athletic skills, literacy, life skills, entrepreneurship, different career exploration breakouts, a summer trip & more! [More Information](#)

Summer Jams - We partnered with Rock of Ages BC and brought youth and families together for positive bible study service, recreation and community connection. Events like these promote physical activity, safe spaces, and relationship-building while keeping youth engaged during the summer months.

July

Campcation - Campcation is a three-day trip earned by Summer Enrichment campers using proceeds from their youth-led small business Friday sales. This experience allowed campers to witness the direct results of their hard work, discipline, and teamwork—reinforcing entrepreneurship, accountability, and pride.

Back to School Give-A-Way - In partnership with the Lady Buck Jumpers Social Aid & Pleasure Club, Cultivating Youth supported families with free school uniform vouchers, supplies, haircuts, braids, food, and entertainment. This initiative helped students start the school year confident and prepared.

Summer Tween Party - Recognizing a critical gap for youth ages 8-12, Cultivating Youth & Empower You NOLA hosted a Tween Summer Party focused on age-appropriate fun, safety, and engagement. By intentionally centering this often-overlooked group, CY ensured tweens felt seen, supported, and connected.

PC Laptop Giveaway - We partnered with Son of a Saint, Cox Communications and PCs for People to give students Free laptops for school.

August

Propeller's Impact Accelerator - Cultivating Youth we successfully completed Propeller's 2025 Impact Accelerator Cohort. This intensive program strengthened our organizational capacity through strategic planning, leadership development, and sustainability-focused training. Participation in the Impact Accelerator has further equipped Cultivating Youth to expand our impact, deepen community partnerships, and continue delivering high-quality programs that support youth and individuals transitioning back into the community.

September

Fall After School Enrichment - CY's Fall After-School Enrichment Program, offering free homework help, nutrition support, fitness activities, individual therapy sessions, life skills development, and mentoring. This comprehensive model supports academic success while nurturing whole-child development. [More Information](#)



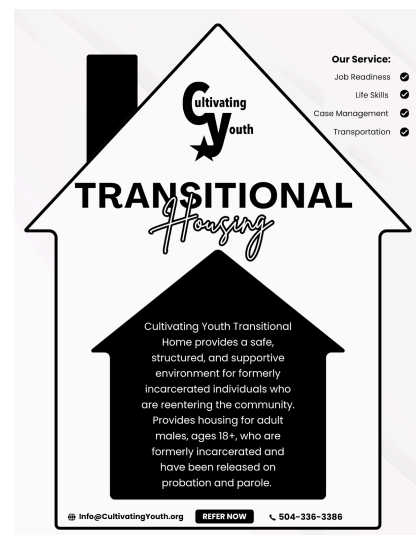
October

Tulane Department of Theatre & Dance- Cultivating Youth partnered with Tulane's Department of Theatre & Dance to create a movement and musical performance inspired by Nutcracker music with an animal theme, titled *Animal Cracker*. This creative collaboration fostered artistic expression, confidence, and teamwork among participating youth.

Fried Chicken Festival - Healthy Blue generously provided tickets for Cultivating Youth participants to attend the Fried Chicken Festival, creating a fun and meaningful community experience. The outing gave youth and families an opportunity to enjoy local culture, connect outside of the gym, and feel celebrated in a joyful, inclusive environment. Support like this helps Cultivating Youth continue building positive experiences that strengthen relationships, exposure, and community belonging.

November

Transitional Home - Cultivating Youth officially launched its Transitional Home, providing a safe, structured, and supportive environment for formerly incarcerated individuals reentering the community. The home promotes stability through housing, employment support, life skills development, 24-hour supervision, and access to supportive care reducing recidivism and strengthening pathways to independence.



December

Friendsgiving - Cultivating Youth closed the year by bringing together community partners, supporters, participants, and families for Friendsgiving. This evening of fellowship celebrated shared impact over delicious food and featured a live performance of *Animal Cracker* by CY youth in partnership with Tulane Theatre & Dance.

Angel Tree - Through our Angel Tree initiative, Cultivating Youth partnered with Healthy Blue to fulfill holiday gift requests for youth. Parents were also supported through utility bill credits, helping ease financial stress during the holiday season.





Coming Up in 2026...

Spring After School Enrichment: Cultivating Youth's FREE After-School Enrichment program begins on **Monday, February 2nd - Thursday, April 30th**; except Mardi Gras Break February 16th - February 19th.

Students complete homework/studying with Tulane University students, actively work with mentors, participate in physical fitness activities or athletic training, receive dinner and individual therapy sessions. We operate after-school Monday - Thursday from 3:30pm - 6:00pm. Transportation is available! Register today at CultivatingYouth.org.

Juvenile Justice Intervention Center (JJIC): After a hiatus, due to internal restructuring, we are excited to get back to programming with the JJIC youth again! Starting in February, we will provide programming 2 days per week. We will provide boxing, cardio fitness, physical activities, nutrition education and mentoring. The mentoring approach focuses on recidivism prevention, advocacy and post release planning.

Board of Directors - If you're passionate about community impact, youth development, and second chances, we'd love to connect. Serving on our board is a meaningful way to help guide our mission, strengthen our programs, and support the young people and returning citizens we serve. Interested or know someone who might be a great fit? Reach out and help us cultivate the next chapter.

Youth Boxing: Our youth boxing program will begin Monday, February 2, 2026.

1st Annual Golf Tournament Fundraiser: Saturday, May 9, 2026.

Key Partnerships



Healthy Blue

PROPELLER



SON OF A SAINT

