The Young Adult Opportunity Program

The SDNY Young Adult Opportunity Program (YAOP) provides selected young adult defendants (ages 18-25) with intensive supervision by Pretrial Services and regular interaction with the supervising federal judges, Hon. Ronnie Abrams and Hon. Sarah Netburn. The Program provides these young adult defendants with structure and access to employment, counseling, and treatment resources. If they are successful, Program participants may receive a shorter sentence, a reduction or deferral of the charges filed against them, or nolle/dismissal of the charges entirely.

Graduates of the YAOP have continued to be positive and contributing members of their communities. Graduates have become EMTs, flight attendants, store managers and union laborers. They have continued their education, from obtaining their GED to enrolling in graduate school. They have purchased homes and started families. They have paid taxes, often for the first time. None of the Program participants has been re-arrested after graduating.

All participants are charged with non-violent offenses.

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Demographic	Active	Graduated
Men	18	21
Women	3	10
Financial Charges	13	18
Drug Charges	8	13

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of graduates who have been rearrested

"Through YAOP, I was connected with the resources I desperately needed to turn my life around."

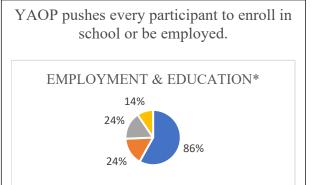
- YAOP Grad

"One thing I'm really proud of is going back to school. I was out of school for 4 years but now I have that extra push from the Program, it is definitely great to have the encouragement and support I needed to start."

- YAOP Grad

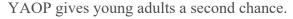
"If it was not for this Program honestly speaking, I would've never launched my own clothing line or even believed that I could."

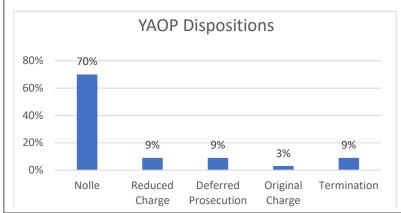
- YAOP Grad



*Active participants

Working School Both Neither





"The program changed me as a person, I learned to be responsible and self-regulated."

- YAOP Grad

For more information, please visit:

Young Adult Opportunity Program | U.S District Court (uscourts.gov)

March 25, 2021