



**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Brockton, MA – For the first time, Old Colony YMCA YouthBuild Brockton will be sending a student to the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC). Derrick Sanders, of Brockton, started YouthBuild in October of 2010, and attained his GED in March. He represented YouthBuild Brockton at the Conference for Young Leaders in Washington, D.C.

YouthBuild is a nationwide program serving young adults ages 16-24 who have not yet achieved their high school diploma. The program helps students to achieve their GED in the classroom and gain job skills at the same time.

AmeriCorps NCCC is a residential program for young adults, with a mission of building communities and developing leaders through community service. AmeriCorps NCCC partners with non-profit organizations, such as the YMCA, to complete community service projects throughout the country.

Derrick, 18, will be assigned to either Denver, Colorado, or Sacramento, California. His commitment will begin after graduating in July, as he becomes the first YouthBuild Brockton student to be accepted into NCCC.

Derrick, as a member of YouthBuild, has been active in the community. "I love giving and sharing with my community," he says.

He serves as a mentor for at-risk kids in the community. Derrick has also lobbied at the State House for YouthBuild funding. His remaining goal this year is to win the "Rudy Award," given to YouthBuild students across the country with a perfect attendance record.

Derrick's commitment to YouthBuild has continued to rise. He is a member of the Youth Policy Council (student government), and has already completed the necessary hours of community service to earn an Education Award through AmeriCorps.

**OLD COLONY YMCA**  
320 Main Street, Brockton, MA 02301  
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Derrick's involvement in YouthBuild has given him countless opportunities to better himself. "College has always been my goal, my dream," he wrote on his AmeriCorps application.

For more information about Old Colony YMCA YouthBuild Brockton, please contact: Jay Cassilli, Program Manager, (508) 894-2816.

### **About the YMCA**

Founded in 1887, the Old Colony YMCA is a non-profit charitable organization serving more than 111,000 people annually in 31 communities in Southeastern Massachusetts through eleven branches located in Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Middleboro, Plymouth, Stoughton, and Taunton. We are the largest childcare provider in Southeastern Massachusetts, the second largest YMCA association in Massachusetts, and one of the top 60 YMCA's in the country. Committed to developing strong spirit, mind, and body, our programs and services have continuously evolved in response to ever-changing community needs, and include health and wellness, fitness, aquatics, residential/community-based treatment, mental health services, workforce development, childcare at more than 40 sites, summer camping programs, literacy training, tutoring, workforce development, mentoring, youth asset building, leadership/character development, and family strengthening programs.

Learn more about the Old Colony YMCA: [www.oldcolonyymca.org](http://www.oldcolonyymca.org).

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