DEFINING THE CHALLENGE

Youth employment is at its lowest point since the Great Depression. Regardless of academic success, many youth leave school with no work experience, few references, and little idea of how to present their potential to employers. Data shows a lack of early work experience has long term impacts on career and college attainment.

**Signal Success** is a comprehensive curriculum designed and tested by workforce development and education partners to help young people develop employer identified soft skills. Students receive systematic instruction in communication, dependability, initiative, and collaboration while engaging in meaningful future planning steps for successful school to career transitions.

DELIVERING THE SKILLS AND SUPPORT

**Signal Success** does much more than teach youth how to create a resume or pick a career at random; it equips young people with the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and behaviors that they need to be successful. With **Signal Success**, participating schools and organizations benefit from up to 120 hours of competency-based curriculum with three key features:

- **ADAPTABLE**
  - for different populations (ESOL, At-risk Youth, Special Education needs)
- **FLEXIBLE**
  - so it can be adjusted to fit different program models
- **MEASURABLE**
  - using built-in assessment tools to track participant progress

**Participation in Signal Success Since 2014**

- **59** CBO & School Partnerships
- **375** Instructors Trained
- **18,500** Youth Impacted

**Signal Success** educates youth to:

- Take **initiative** on the job and in their own career planning
- Practice effective nonverbal/verbal **communication**
- Advance **collaboration** skills to increase effectiveness
- Develop habits that support **dependability**
- Manage their personal finances
- Navigate online applications
- **Signal Success** during the interview process
DEVELOPING SYSTEM-LEVEL CAPACITY

This workforce and education partnership supports the future growth and success of youth, schools, and the community by embedding necessary skills instruction into current educational programing and equipping partners with the tools to endure and expand.

YEAR 1

Customize and Train
- Customize curriculum based on needs assessment
- Train key teachers and staff to effectively deliver the curriculum

YEAR 2

Expand & Embed
- Expand curriculum to reach more students
- Embed Signal Success into school by coaching teacher and student champions

YEAR 3

Support & Contribute
- Support students with comprehensive education that leads to successful careers
- Contribute to the Signal Success community through ongoing feedback and improvement

To get involved in our expansion effort or to learn if Signal Success is right for your students please contact us at SignalSuccess@commcorp.org or by calling 617.727.8158.

"Having a turnkey curriculum that we are all using is fantastic. Having a beginning, middle, and end allows us to give all of our kids the same consistent information. I’ve seen young people, with little or no work experience, grow by leaps and bounds."

~ Peg Crowe, YWCA Malden

"What I struggled the most with was punctuality and timeliness and this program has been helpful to me in finding ways to do better with that. The program motivated me to take care of myself."

~ Marianna, Boston

Commonwealth Corporation, created by the Massachusetts Legislature in 1997, designs and executes workforce strategies in partnership with businesses, educators, and training providers across the state. Signal Success is a new Commonwealth Corporation initiative designed to help teens and young adults bridge the gap between high school and workforce.