Project Comeback provides job-readiness training, real-time work experience, Adult Basic Education, hard skills training and job placement assistance.

Project Comeback participants attend job-readiness workshops where they build the skills needed to obtain and maintain employment.

Participants gain work experience on community maintenance crews. Each crew has a supervisor who guides and coaches participants, teaching them how to be successful employees.

Project Comeback offers Adult Basic Education classes in literacy and math, in addition to computer training. Project Comeback also offers hard skills training, including OSHA Construction Safety Training and Food Protection Certification.

All participants conduct a search for permanent, full-time employment under the close supervision of Project Comeback job developers.

Participants receive a stipend for workshops, classes and work experience training, and accrue financial incentives to be awarded upon successful completion of the program.

Participants graduate from Project Comeback upon securing full-time, permanent employment.

Project Stay is our life-long employment retention program that supports graduates as they acclimate to the world of work and transition to self-sufficiency.

Project Stay offers case management services, weekly groups and networking events. Graduates who maintain employment are eligible for financial incentives and a scholarship to Metropolitan College.

Project Home is a housing program that offers a 3-year subsidy to select Project Stay participants. The goal of Project Home is to provide a stable environment from which participants can pursue vocational growth, increased earning power and develop independent living skills.

Admission Criteria

• Free Admission

• Housing: all applicants must have a history of homelessness.

• Sobriety: all applicants must have at least 30 days of documented sobriety.

• Criminal History: applicants may not have a violent or aggressive criminal history.

• Medical and Behavioral Health History: applicants must be able to lift, stand and walk for an 8-hour shift; applicants on medication for an Axis-1 diagnosis must have six months of documented stability; applicants cannot have had an inpatient psychiatric hospitalization in the previous six months.

• Other Requirements: applicants must be at least 21 years of age and be a US citizen or legal resident.
“If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.”

Martin Luther King, Jr.

ACE (The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless)

Mission Statement

Established in 1992, ACE – The Association of Community Employment Programs for the Homeless – is a SoHo based non-profit that provides vocational rehabilitation services for homeless men and women from throughout New York City, helping them find full time employment and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

Our program participants are a visible presence in downtown Manhattan, working hard to keep our streets clean while learning the rules and responsibilities of the workplace.

With the recent establishment of Project Home, ACE’s unique housing program, and a host of supplemental services including literacy classes, introductory computer training and lifelong employment retention services, ACE continues to be one of New York City’s best known and most innovative vocational rehabilitation programs.

We are proud of our success in helping homeless individuals reclaim their lives and look forward to continuing to provide a pathway to economic independence to our fellow New Yorkers struggling with homelessness.