



Helping Organizations Impact Communities

Public Works Partners is a planning and consulting firm whose work strengthens the organizations that strengthen communities. Our clients include government agencies, nonprofits, foundations and funders, community, cultural organizations, real estate developers, and urban planning organizations. We help clients to launch and administer complex new programs; improve operations and increase impact; and promote organizational excellence. Clients come to us because our team's hands-on experience and expertise allows us to design and implement customized solutions to complex problems that make the most sense for each organization we serve.

How We Help Organizations Maximize Impact

Through years of delivering high-quality support to public and nonprofit organizations, we have developed rigorous methods of data collection and synthesis, performance management, and program evaluation to develop clear, actionable strategy for our partners. But our job doesn't end there. Our systems are designed to ensure continuous improvement and learning through evaluation so that our partners can focus on serving their communities.

Our work centers around **agile assessments** which evaluate program impact and efficiency, provide performance management and optimization, and offer actionable feedback for clients. Alongside assessments, we provide outcome-oriented **qualitative research**, mixed methods **implementation studies** to help clients transition from evaluation to action, and assist with **survey development** to maximize stakeholder impact on program strategy and development.

Certifications

Public Works Partners is a certified **woman-owned business (WBE)** with the City and State of New York, State of New Jersey, City of Philadelphia, Nassau County, Port Authority of NY/NJ, and the Women's Business Enterprise National Council.

We are also a certified **disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE)** with the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Our Services

- Stakeholder survey development, dissemination, and analysis
- Mixed methods implementation studies and process analysis
- Performance management and optimization
- Program evaluation and process improvement
- Agile assessment of impact and efficiency
- Strategic, outcome-oriented qualitative research



Case Studies

Lincoln Center Scholars Program Evaluation



Public Works Partners conducted a year-long evaluation of the Lincoln Center Scholars program, a training and certification model that supports artists to obtain a master's degree in arts education while teaching full-time in New York City public schools. To assess program outcomes, we paired quantitative and qualitative analysis – including online surveys, interviews, focus groups, and classroom visits – to contextualize program outcome data with the experience of its stakeholders. This allowed us to both measure program effectiveness and explore the broader impact of increased access to arts education for youth. By highlighting the factors that drive success, our findings positioned Lincoln Center to use data-driven insights to speak to program effectiveness and the impact of youth arts education. The project culminated with a synthesis of our evaluation findings and recommendations detailed in a final report, as well as an executive summary which Lincoln Center can use to present the impact of the Scholars Program to funders.



Impact Evaluation

WE NYC is an initiative operated by the NYC Department of Small Business Services (SBS) to connect women entrepreneurs to the resources, education, and peer support they need to start and grow their businesses. Since early 2019, Public Works Partners has supported WE NYC by developing new systems, tools, and protocols to track participant and program outcomes. Public Works researched data collection and dashboard tools, designed and implemented participant surveys, facilitated participant and vendor focus groups, held training sessions with WE NYC staff, piloted the new systems and protocols with the WE NYC team, and continues to provide ongoing technical assistance and data management support through the first year of implementation. With the support from Public Works, WE NYC is positioned to report on program success and advocate on their own behalf so they can continue to offer their resources to women entrepreneurs.



Theatrical Workforce Program Evaluation

The Roundabout Theatre Company engaged Public Works Partners to conduct a two-year evaluation of its Theatrical Workforce Development Program (TWDP), a multi-year pilot program that aims to prepare young New Yorkers from underrepresented communities for vibrant careers in technical theatre. To begin the evaluation, our team leaned on its workforce development expertise to design a methodology that would identify the program's unique indicators of success to benchmark our findings against similar workforce development programs. The key performance indicators identified included the program's ability to: effectively train and place the youth in jobs and internships, provide the wraparound services to support its fellows, help fellows establish the professional networks necessary to develop careers in a gig economy, and improve diversity within the technical theatre industry. Drawing on quantitative and qualitative research activities such as surveys, focus groups, expert interviews, and site visits, our team conducted ongoing data analysis to produce four evaluation reports that identified participant outcomes, benchmarked these outcomes against similar programs, and recommended strategies to position the program for continuous growth. Throughout the two years, Roundabout has applied our evaluation findings and recommendations to continuously strengthen TWDP by enhancing its staff capacity, approach to fellow support, and processes for employer engagement.



Center for Youth Employment Case Study

The Mayor's Fund engaged Public Works Partners to develop a clear and compelling analysis of the Center's impact since its founding in 2015, lessons learned, and opportunities for the future direction of the Center's work. Through focus groups, interviews, and surveys, we gathered perspectives from each of these stakeholder groups to better understand CYE's role in the public workforce system and its impact. In June 2018, we published a case study that highlights CYE's achievements and outlines a vision for the future, positioning CYE to tell its story to funders and other cities considering replication alike.