



A NEW ERA FOR COMMUNITY BIKE WORKS

Community Bike Works is proud to be a truly regional organization well-poised to engage a new generation of students in youth bike mentoring. As we expand to serve Easton youth, we continue our strategic priorities of engage more students, and engage them more deeply.

In the spring of 2021, Community Bike Works had the honor of having our teen students featured on the cover of internationally distributed *Bicycling* magazine. Seven youth leaders represented the organization as they told their Bike Works story and explained bike repairs they have learned through their time with us. ***“I keep coming back to Bike Works because of the relationships and connections I made,”*** Siana told *Bicycling*. ***“I didn’t know anything about how bikes worked. Then I learned to fix a tire and brakes, so now I’m confident.”***

1 OFFER BIKE MENTORING ACROSS THE LEHIGH VALLEY



OFFER EARN A BIKE AND JREAB TO YOUTH IN ALLENTOWN, BETHLEHEM & EASTON

More than 500 students each year—more than ever before—have access to our flagship bike mentoring programs. Earn a Bike and Junior Earn a Bike are now offered at our downtown and East Allentown bike shops, at partner organizations in Easton, and at community schools in Allentown, Bethlehem, and Easton. Of the students who completed Earn a Bike in 2020-21, 88% reported that Earn a Bike helped them improve their problem-solving skills, and 95% reported learning new things. Ninety-five percent of youth would recommend Earn a Bike to their friends.

MEET STUDENTS AND FAMILIES WHERE THEY ARE We know that Community Bike Works students and families may need additional support during these times. Since the start of the pandemic, we have provided \$10,000 in direct support for rent assistance and other basic needs.

2 ENGAGE STUDENTS IN CYCLING PROGRAMS



OFFER RECREATIONAL CYCLING The public health crisis made evident the importance of cycling to young people’s physical and mental health, and our cycling programs have increased significantly since June 2020. Recreational trail rides connect students of all abilities with opportunities to exercise and spend time in nature. In 2020-21, students rode 1,530 miles over 53 bike rides – more bike rides in one year than ever before!

OFFER COMPETITIVE CYCLING Our more advanced riders can join our mountain bike team. This year, thanks to brand new bikes from Trek, four teens were able to participate in the Lehigh Valley Interscholastic Cycling team, competing in races from Gettysburg to Elkton, MD.

SUPPORT COMMUNITY CYCLING Students are working with the City of Allentown on a bike lane audit, providing input on how city streets can be made safer for cyclists of all ages.

3 ENGAGE STUDENTS IN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS



OFFER YEAR-ROUND YOUTH LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES We take seriously our role in developing youth who are equipped to engage in their community as citizens and future leaders. In semester-long seminars, Community Bike Works teens have engaged in Allentown’s Vision2030 planning process, written and directed documentaries, and participated as leaders in racial justice efforts.

EMPLOY YOUTH APPRENTICES We currently employ three students as paid youth apprentices. These students are members of staff who are trained to teach classes and maintain our bike shops.

DEVELOP A YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL As part of our new organizational bylaws, we are developing a Youth Advisory Council that will bring youth from each of our bike shops together to provide input on the direction of Bike Works and build community leaders.