

## *Where is Watson Academy located?*

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Watson Academy has office space and a resource center at the Robert J. Watson House, 66 Chestnut Street, Cambridge, MA. In addition, Watson Academy provides services at the individual program sites and in the community.



### **Watson Academy**

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## **WATSON ACADEMY**



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*Education  
Enrichment  
Program for  
At-Risk Youth  
and Adults*

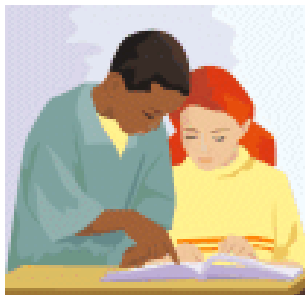
*66 Chestnut Street  
Cambridge, MA 02139*

**Watson Academy is a program of  
Community Resources for Justice**

## What is Watson Academy?

Watson Academy was created in 2006 as a Community Resources for Justice (CRJ) educational enrichment program. Watson Academy is a privately funded educational program designed to enhance the services our individual programs provide for our clients. Historically, Watson Academy focused on youth and young adults. With the creation of CRJ's new Social Justice Services (SJS) Department we are now able to extend a variety of educational resources and supports to our adult clients as well.

The mission of Watson Academy is to enhance and enrich education for all the clients within the SJS Department. The goal of Watson Academy is to empower our clients to live full, productive, successful and positive lives in their respective communities. Watson Academy looks at each client individually and addresses the specific educational goals of each.



## Who does Watson Academy serve?

Watson Academy is designed to provide educational support services to all clients involved with the programs of the SJS Department. These include both residential and community-based programs:

### **Dorchester Resources and Advocacy Program (D-RAP)**

Mary E. Sargent House

### **Somerville Community Re-Entry Center (SCRC)**

Somerville Transition Shelter (STS)

Brooke House

McGrath House

Coolidge House

## What services does Watson Academy provide?

### **GED Services:**

Watson Academy supports the GED program located at the SCRC through the provision of a part time Instructor. Upon completion, of the on-site classes the clients take their GED exams at community locations. Watson Academy also provides educational and financial assistance for GED attainment to clients from any SJS program .

### **“Getting beyond the System” (GBS) Seminars:**

Watson Academy has recently partnered with the Youth Advocacy Center (YAC) in New York City to bring GBS seminars to our clients. The GBS seminars take place in twelve-week cycles at Harvard University and are facilitated by a Harvard Law student. SJS Department clients between the ages of 16 and 23 are eligible to participate. This unique career program uses the Socratic method of teaching to provide participants with the opportunity to learn self-advocacy skills, culminating with an “informational interview” in the career field of each individual’s choice.

### **Life Skills component:**

Watson Academy offers a variety of life skill groups. Clients are eligible to participate in groups including: anger management and conflict resolution, financial literacy, independent living skills, decision making, self esteem building and transition planning. Our Life Skills program also incorporates a career component which includes: resume writing, job application skills, interviewing, communication, job readiness, and job searching skills.

### **Tutoring Services:**

Watson Academy partners with Tufts University students in providing educational support to youth in our care. Students from Tufts University visit our youth programs on a weekly basis throughout the school year to provide academic support to clients. These tutors provide instruction, information, resources, and often serve as role models to our young men.

### **Other services available through Watson Academy are:**

- referrals for clients to local schools, camps and recreational organizations
- cultural enrichment activities
- community service projects
- staff training and development
- curriculum resources