Camden Coalition
of Healthcare Providers

AFTER A LONG JOURNEY, CAMDEN COALITION'S INFORMATION TECH ADRIA BOULTIN SPEAKS AT PHILLY TECH WEEK

Once in shelter and out of work, the Hopeworks 'N Camden alum participates in a panel on "Equity in Tech"

Adria Boultin, the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers' program assistant for strategy & information, spoke at Philly Tech Week on a panel entitled "Equity in Tech: Ensuring Everyone Wins, Online and Off" today in Philadelphia's Old City section. Ms. Boultin is an alum of the Hopeworks 'N Camden youth development program, which trains young people for academic success and life readiness with an advanced curriculum in website design and development, geographic information system mapping (GIS) and Salesforce, a customer relationship management (CRM) system.

"Getting to speak at an event like Philly Tech Week is the kind of thing I dreamed about when I was applying to the Hopeworks program while working to move into stable housing and go back to school," Ms. Boultin said. "I've been working at the Camden Coalition for nearly two years now, studying and building my skill set. Now my dream is to inspire other black women who've been impacted by trauma and adversity to pursue opportunities in tech. I think I can also inspire employers to open doors to people who haven't had all the advantages and opportunities, but who – with training and mentorship – could be really successful in the right situation."

The Camden Coalition is a nonprofit healthcare innovator that convenes experts and uses data to pilot new models and integrate proven interventions that improve wellbeing for people with complex health and social needs. Having partnered with Hopeworks since 2015, the Camden Coalition has had three interns from the 17-year-old organization and currently employs three staff members who have completed the program. Ms. Boultin, whose journey from a shelter to the IT office was chronicled in a 2016 Philadelphia Business Journal cover story, has thrived in her job. Though she concedes some days are still hard, she has moved through her second act with enthusiasm and curiosity.

"The job is not easy," said Abigail Fallen, Ms. Boultin's supervisor. "Adria's always been very hard working and willing to try new things. She recognizes the areas where she still needs to learn, and she's motivated to learn those things. This speaking engagement is huge, because it

gives her a chance to talk about her journey, not just from point A to point B, but from B to C, and beyond."

Hopeworks 'N Camden is a nonprofit that has been working for over 17 years with Camden youth. Using an advanced training curriculum in website design and development, GIS and Salesforce, Hopeworks works with youth aged 14 to 26 to get back in school, earn permanent jobs, and achieve their dreams. The organization uses education, technology and entrepreneurship to partner with young men and women as they identify and earn a sustainable future. Their goal is to work together to seize the opportunity to heal and thrive in the midst of violence and poverty.

Hopeworks Executive Director Dan Rhoton expressed pride in the alumni at Camden Coalition such as Felicia Santiago who does web design and development on the communications team and Justin Connor, who is implementing Salesforce.

Ms. Boultin's appearance at Philly Tech Week means a lot, said Mr. Rhoton. "To see Adria reach this milestone -- after coming so far -- really reminds me every day of the amazing capabilities of the young people we see each day."

About the Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers
The Camden Coalition of Healthcare Providers is a citywide coalition of over 25 hospitals, primary care providers, and community organizations working together to deliver better health care to vulnerable citizens in Camden, NJ. Founded by Dr. Jeffrey Brenner in 2002, the Coalition knits together a fragmented health care system for patients with complex needs and repeated, ineffective and expensive hospitalizations, using smart data and holistic, multi-disciplinary team care. We believe if we can deliver better care at lower cost here in Camden, it can be done for everyone, everywhere in America.

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