



Association of New York State Youth Bureaus

2014 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT BUDGET PRIORITIES

Make funding restorations to maintain prior year commitments to:

1. Restore \$1.28 million to the Youth Development Program to maintain the SFY 2013-14 levels for the previous YDDP/SDPP programs.

This action will allow for the promised, smooth transition of the county, town and village youth bureau system to the Youth Development Program, which was established in SFY 2013-14 budget. The newly developed program, a result of consolidated program funding streams of YDDP and SDPP in the 2013-14 budget, provides administrative relief to local districts while promoting a

comprehensive youth development agenda in services, program assessment and performance measures. Since 2008 state support for youth development programs has declined from \$36 million to \$15.3 million.

2. Restore \$254,456.00 for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) programs to maintain SFY 2013-14 levels.

3. Restore \$500,000 for the Advantage After-school program to maintain SFY 2013-2014 levels.

Make necessary commitments to prevent unintended consequences and address emerging needs:

1. Reject the Chronic Disease Prevention Block Grant proposed by the Governor in the Department of Health budget proposal.

Maintain dedicated funding for Obesity and Diabetes Prevention; and add \$3.2 million to allow \$10 million to be available this year to fight the chronic disease development. To ensure youth are afforded priority status in weight-related disease prevention, authorize a transfer of \$1.5 million from the Department

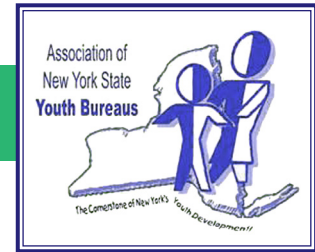
of Health to the Office of Child and Family Services to fund the "Go Healthy Challenge" at certain afterschool and summer recreations programs. A recent New York Times article (jan 29, 2014; "Obesity Found to Take Its Hold in Earliest Years") indicated that youth who are at a normal weight at age 11 will not become obese adults. The research emphasizes that establishing health eating and activity habits in young children is the single most effective method of preventing life-long obesity.

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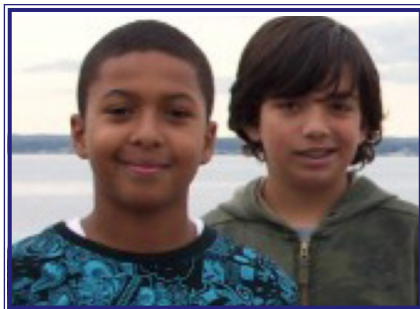


2. Amend the directive and authority of the “Raise the Age” Commission (the Commission on Youth, Public Safety and Justice) to allow their report to include recommendations on the array of services and supports necessary to address the anticipated demands on the Juvenile Justice system.

This would include funding recommendations for court-ordered community programs and services to ensure access to the kinds of evidence-informed community-based services and alternatives to incarceration that have already proven to reduce recidivism.

3. Add an initial investment of \$7 million for afterschool program development to build the quality infrastructure of new and existing afterschool programs, by investing in building the data systems to monitor program performance, train and support best practices, and modernize the contracting and reporting of afterschool programs.

This initial investment will help develop a sustainable system that is ready to support the proposed \$750 million investment promised for 2015 and beyond.



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