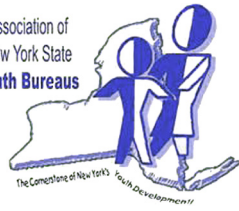


Association of
New York State
Youth Bureaus



Association of New York State Youth Bureaus

RESTORE \$1.3 MILLION TO THE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

As you are aware, last year the SFY 2013-14 state budget changed the Youth Development funding in the state by consolidating and revising the YDDP and SDPP funding streams into a single Youth Development Program. After seeing the funding drop from \$39 million in 2008, to just \$14.1 million, it was time to make a change. However, this year, because of the timing of allocations, the Legislative add of \$1.3 million is once again needed to truly maintain the funding during this critical transition year for the program. This is the first year the consolidation of the funding and development of a new county-based allocation methodology will take place. Your commitment to the town, village and other municipal youth bureaus is needed and therefore, the funding needs to be maintained. By maintaining funding at last year's level more than 1.5 million youth will again benefit from the services our network of county youth bureaus provide and cuts will not be made to community-based organizations and local youth bureaus who are also the recipients of the funding.

The end product of a strong youth development system is to offer skills that build our state's citizenry, including: supporting timely High school graduation, providing career and job readiness training, providing life skills for healthy living and physical activity, teaching civic responsibility and diverting juvenile violators from entering or re-entering the delinquency system. To achieve these goals, youth bureaus provide direct services and also fund an array of community-based, non-profit agencies. Programs and services provided and funded by youth bureaus include but are not limited to:

- Afterschool prevention programs;
- Out-of-school career readiness and summer jobs;
- Healthy eating and obesity prevention;
- Mentoring programs;
- Programs to prevent youth involvement in gangs and substance use; and
- Supports for runaway and homeless youth as well as pregnant and parenting teams.

Legislative Action:

According to NYS OCFS, Youth Bureaus and their community based organization partners, provided services and programs to over 1.5 million youth in 2013. ANYSYB respectfully recommends the following to maintain a youth prevention and development system.

Support a Re-Appropriation of \$1.3 million to keep the Youth Development program at the ACTUAL ANNUAL LEVEL DISTRIBUTED IN 2013.

SUPPORT NEW YORK'S YOUTH DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM

The youth bureau system embodies the definition of youth development and prevention as an ongoing process in which children and adolescents seek ways to build life skills and competencies that allow them to be successful, achieve career and college readiness, and learn how to function effectively in their daily lives in the community. Youth Bureaus and the non-profit agencies that receive funding from them (such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Boys & Girls Clubs; YMCAs, etc.) offer school-out prevention programs, worker readiness and summer jobs, healthy eating and obesity prevention, mentors, supports for runaway and homeless youth, pregnant and parenting teens programs and programs to prevent youth involvement with drugs and gangs.

ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE YOUTH BUREAUS

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