

annual report



*"A capacity
and a taste **for reading**
gives access to
whatever has been discovered by others."*

Abraham Lincoln, 1859



**Department of
Youth & Community
Development**

Jeanne B. Mullgrav
Commissioner

**Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor**



Dear Fellow New Yorkers:

I am pleased to present you with the 2008 Annual Report for the Department of Youth and Community Development. The past year presented many challenges, as New York City, along with the rest of the country, faced tough economic times. Despite these difficulties, DYCD was fortunate to be able to maintain core services, enhance existing programs, and embark on some exciting new projects.

The focus of this year's annual report is literacy, a critical skill for success in today's global economy. We know from research and from our own experience that basic literacy skills are directly tied to the ability to transition to adulthood – to secure a good job, begin a career, navigate the educational and medical systems, and fully participate in citizenship.

With that in mind, DYCD expanded our offerings in adult, adolescent and family literacy last year. We also made new investments in research and professional development to continue to inform our work.

In 2008, DYCD:

- Implemented 35 new adult literacy programs providing reading, writing, English-language and General Educational Development (GED) programs to nearly 11,000 New Yorkers.
- Launched a new literacy pilot for disconnected youth ages 16-24, in conjunction with Mayor Bloomberg's Center for Economic Opportunity. Approximately 100 young people received pre-GED instruction and support services such as job counseling and placement.
- Continued the Immigrant Family Literacy Alliance (IFLA) in collaboration with the New York Times Foundation, the Altman Foundation and the Literacy Assistance Center. IFLA has secured foundation commitments of \$1 million to augment public funding for family literacy.
- Commissioned a research consultant to conduct a study of the GED testing system in New York City. A report and list of recommendations to improve the system can be found on DYCD's Web site: www.nyc.gov/dycd.
- Designed a theme-based professional development series, offering workshops on topics including media and technology and curriculum development.

The opportunity to master literacy skills is imperative to the success of our children and families. I am proud to share DYCD's continuing success in this area and others. With the help of our community partners across the City, I look forward to furthering this important work to create positive change in the lives of New Yorkers.

Jeanne B. Mullgrav
Commissioner



DYCD 2008 HIGHLIGHTS:

Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP): Introduces Youth to the Working World

- In 2008, 43,113 youth enrolled in SYEP, the most since 2001. With the national teen employment rate already at a 60-year historical low, Mayor Bloomberg's record of support for SYEP represents a smart investment in tomorrow's workforce.
- 24% of total worksites were located in the private sector, up from 10% in 2004.
- The total number of worksites was 6,514, almost 500 more than last year.
- More than 103,000 young people applied for SYEP 2008, making it one of the City's most popular programs.

NYC Ladders for Leaders: Connecting Motivated Youth to Corporate America

- NYC Ladders for Leaders is an innovative internship program designed to introduce high-potential youth with some of the City's most dynamic organizations, which in turn receive well-prepared, energetic and diverse summer interns.
- The Summer 2008 program served 183 participants who worked for 63 employers, including 35 returning corporate partners.

Disconnected Youth Literacy Pilot: Offers Vulnerable Youth Fundamental Skills

- DYCD partnered with the Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) launching a literacy pilot targeting youth between the ages of 16-24 who are reading at the 4th to 6th grade levels and are not in school and not working.
- Participants receive pre-GED instruction complemented by comprehensive support services such as job counseling and placement.
- Providers may offer MetroCards, stipends or other small incentives to encourage regular attendance.
- Programs are eligible for up to \$10,000 in bonus awards for exceeding the target of helping 20 students make significant literacy gains.
- As with all CEO-funded projects, the pilot will be evaluated by an independent research firm.

Youth Connect: Creating NYC's Premiere Online Job Resource for Young People

- Youth Connect is a reinvention of YouthLine, DYCD's toll-free hotline, which worked closely with 311, and fielded approximately 47,000 calls in the last year. It helps youth take advantage of the many resources available to them through DYCD and the City of New York.
- Approximately 70,000 young people received the inaugural Youth Connect e-Blast.
- The Youth Connect e-Blast is sent out regularly to subscribers and includes the latest information on how, when and where to sign up for a variety of exciting activities and opportunities.
- Call Youth Connect at 1-800-246-4646 on any week-day between 9:00 am and 7:00 pm.



DYCD EVENTS:

Father's Day Celebration at the Metropolitan Museum of Art

- Approximately 50 non-custodial fathers and their children attended the "Kings and Heroes" event at the Met.
- The fathers were drawn from 18 DYCD-funded Fatherhood programs, which help fathers reconnect with their children and develop essential parenting skills.
- Every father received a certificate recognizing their progress and enjoyed a tour of the museum with their children.

Teen ACTION Youth Forum

- More than 400 youth from around the City attended the first Teen ACTION youth forum at Hostos Community College.
- The Forum participants presented community service projects to their peers and City leaders.

The Beacon Book Club

- The Beacon Book Club provides middle and high school students at Beacon Community Centers with an opportunity to develop their literacy and communication skills.
- The project culminated in a citywide meeting featuring Ishmael Beah, bestselling author of *A Long Way Gone*, which the students read in their book clubs.

RELEASED THE FOLLOWING SOLICITATIONS:

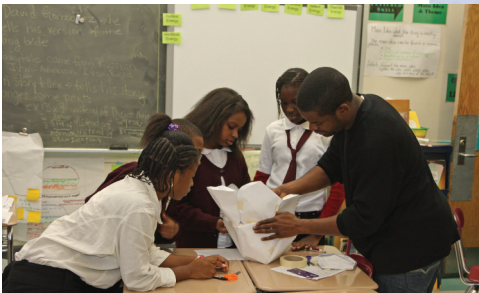
CEO Literacy Application – March 2008

Technical Assistance RFP - May 2008

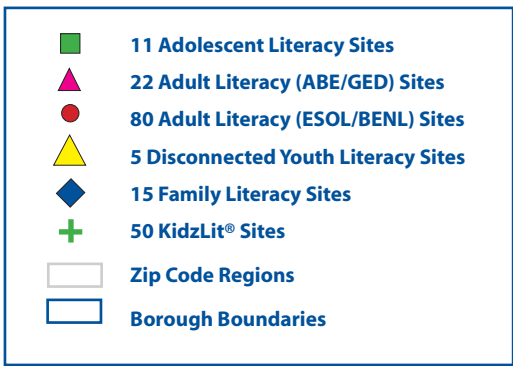
Neighborhood Development Area RFP - September 2008

Summer Youth Employment Program RFP - October 2008

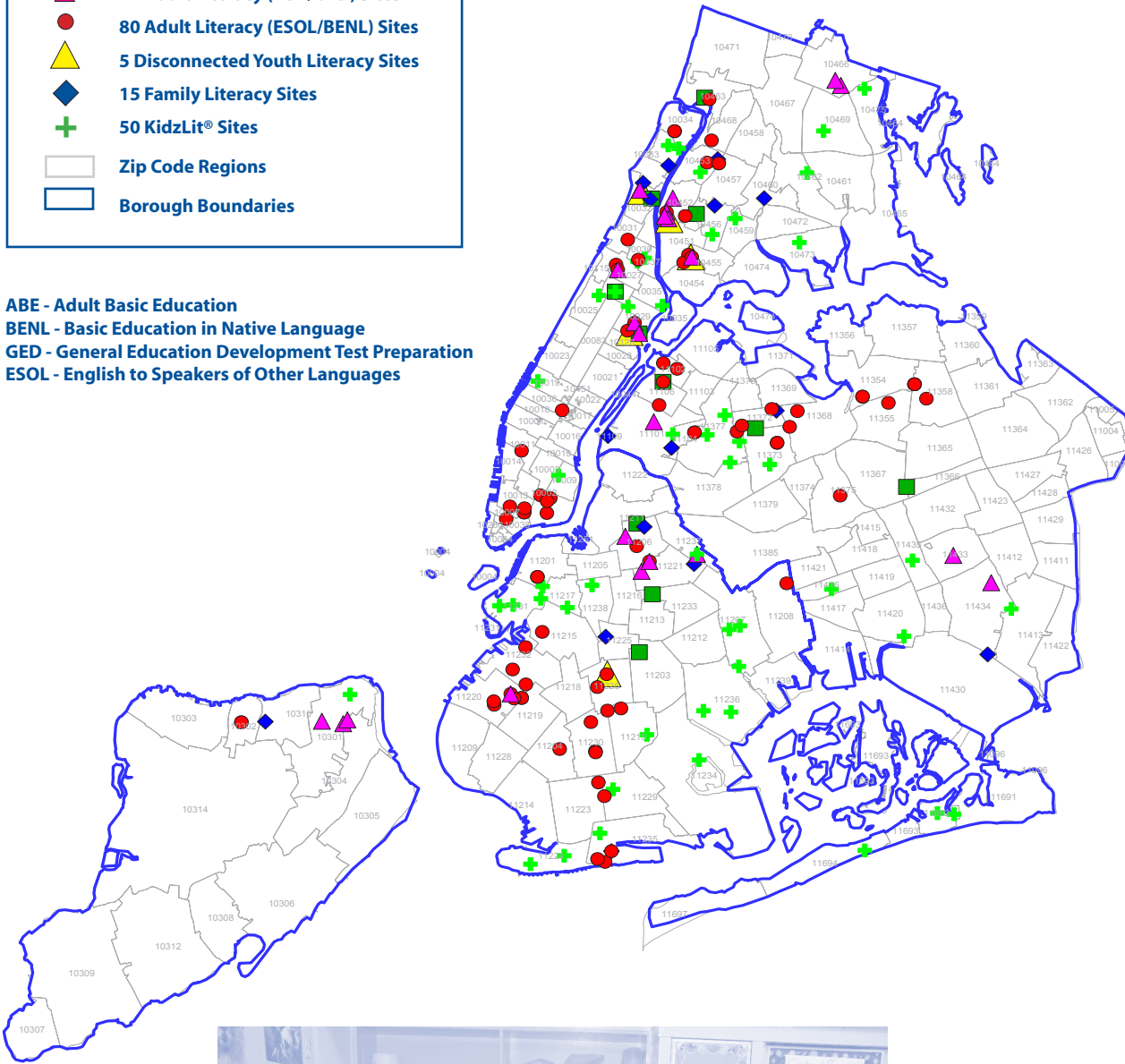
Runaway and Homeless Youth Services RFP – November 2008



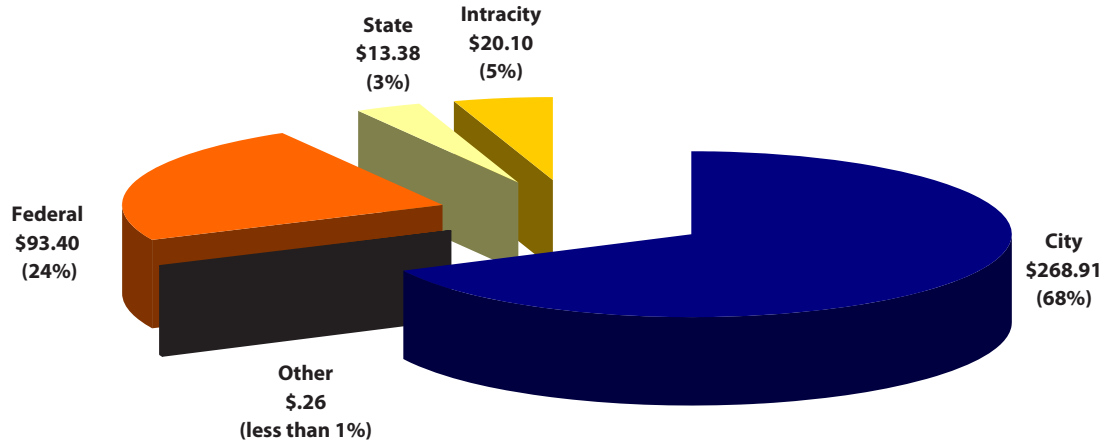
dyecd literacy program sites 2008



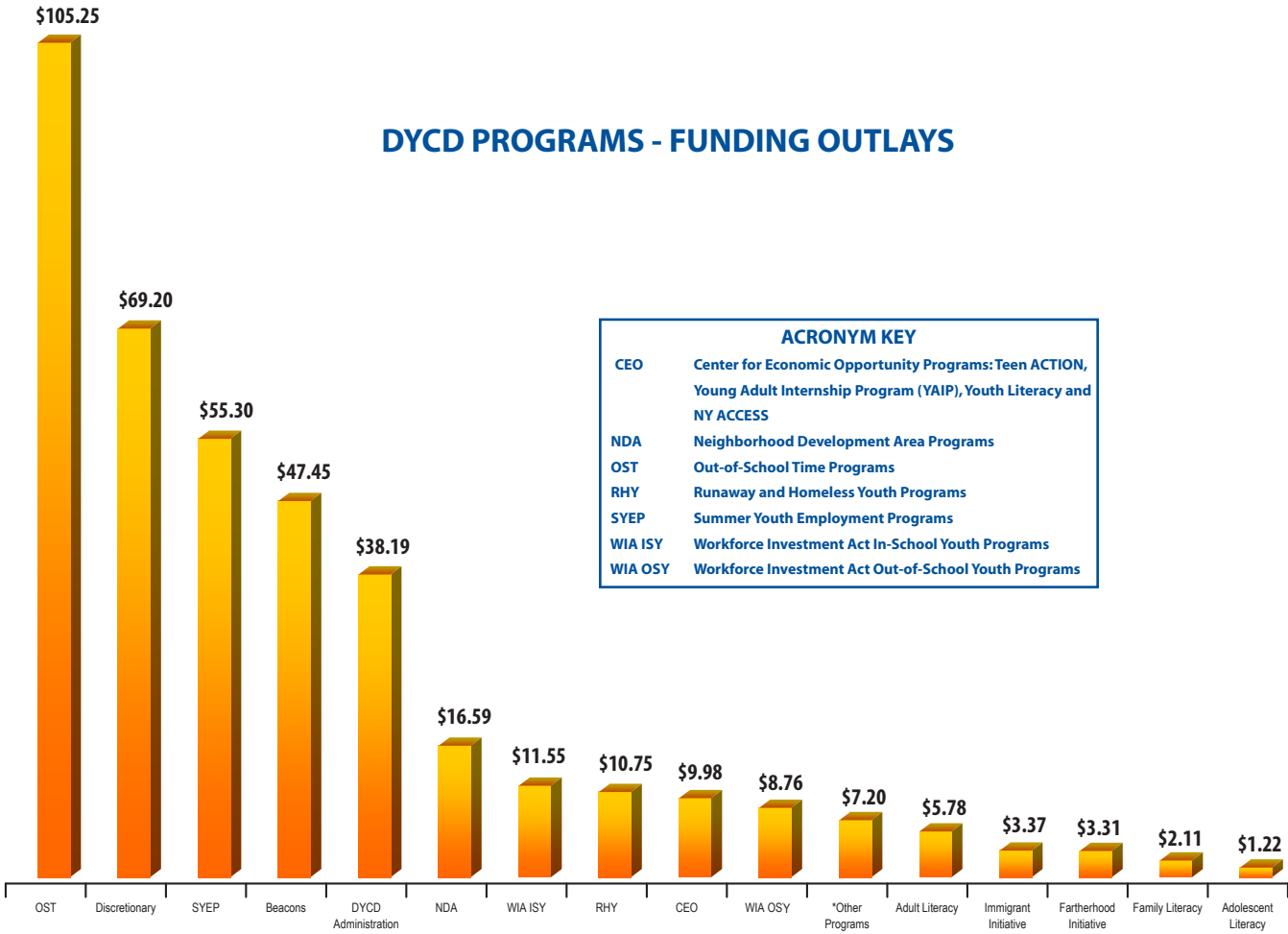
ABE - Adult Basic Education
 BENL - Basic Education in Native Language
 GED - General Education Development Test Preparation
 ESOL - English to Speakers of Other Languages



DYCD FUNDING STREAMS TOTAL \$396.05 MILLION



DYCD PROGRAMS - FUNDING OUTLAYS



ACRONYM KEY	
CEO	Center for Economic Opportunity Programs: Teen ACTION, Young Adult Internship Program (YAIP), Youth Literacy and NY ACCESS
NDA	Neighborhood Development Area Programs
OST	Out-of-School Time Programs
RHY	Runaway and Homeless Youth Programs
SYEP	Summer Youth Employment Programs
WIA ISY	Workforce Investment Act In-School Youth Programs
WIA OSY	Workforce Investment Act Out-of-School Youth Programs

* Other Programs include: CUNY Literacy, Charter Schools, Technical Assistance, CDBG Food Pantry, Family Development Credentialing, and the Teen-Dating Violence Grant

Numbers reported in millions of dollars



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For government information and services dial 311
 Out-of-City: 212-New-York (212-639-9675)

dycd financial report fiscal year 2008