

Annual Report
2002 – 2003 Highlights

2002 – 2003 Highlights (Cover and First Page)

The first NYPD/DYCD Youth Services Forum was held in the Bronx to introduce New York Police Department youth officers to community based organizations that serve youth, with the goal of forming new partnerships and linkages.

The Working with Immigrant Youth: Challenges and Successes conference focused on the needs of New York City's immigrant youth population and the community based organizations that provide services to them.

Twelve organizations were awarded contracts under a new \$3 million Fatherhood Initiative that encourages responsible fathering and healthy father-child relationships.

DYCD was awarded \$350,000 over three years by the Toyota Family Literacy Program. This grant will be used to support community based organizations that build bonds between parents/guardians and children to develop language and literacy skills across generations.

The New York City Beacon Program was selected as one of two finalists for the William T. Grant Foundation Youth Development Prize.

Basic Education and ESOL Coordinators presented at the second annual Tri-Library Adult Literacy Conference.

Featured for its unique approaches to youth leadership, Youthline was recognized on the New York City Department of Education's public television IMNY series.

DYCD's Comprehensive Contract Management System was chosen as a finalist for the Citizen's Budget Commission's 2003 Prize for Public Service Innovation.

The Third Annual Art Show and Exhibit was held to recognize and display the work of aspiring and accomplished artists, between the ages of two and eighty-nine, from DYCD-funded community based organizations.

DYCD's Literacy Unit presented at Channel 13/WNET's First Annual Adult Education Student Conference.

Family Development credentials were awarded to 225 frontline and family workers during the Fifth Annual Family Development Training and Credentialing Recognition Ceremony.

The National Community Action Partnership Conference was hosted and a youth forum was presented, at the closing session, to representatives from agencies from around the country.

Ten \$500 scholarships were awarded to disabled youth so that they could attend the YWCA-NY Integrated Summer Day Camp.

The Youth Summit: A Blueprint for Our Future was held, during YouthWeek, to encourage young people to explore the theme of, and share their thoughts on, rebuilding New York City post 9/11.

DYCD was presented with the Outstanding Service to Children at Risk Award by the Children's Defense Fund for the Department's work through the HealthStat Initiative.

Workshops and performances were held in the East River Park for Beacon Program participants to explore environmental and public health issues.

The New York City Youth Guide to Summer Fun 2002 was published, linking young people throughout New York City with free and low-cost summer activities.

DYCD, in partnership with Kingsborough Community College Office of Continuing Education (CUNY), offered certified training through DYCD's Technical Assistance Unit.

Funding support was provided through the Violence Intervention Program to eight community based organizations that reach out to families who are affected by violence or potential violent situations.

The Summer Pre-Employment and Academic Enrichment Program placed a total of 3,225 participants in summer jobs introduced 450 youth to the City University of New York network of colleges. Youth benefited from career exploration seminars, financial and computer literacy training, and writing and thinking workshops that resulted in college credit for many youth.

A Message from Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav (First Page)

As I reflect on the past year, I join my staff in celebrating the Department of Youth and Community Development's many accomplishments. We have granted needed funding to community based organizations as well as supported their efforts with free training and technical assistance. As a result of our needs assessments, we have created new programming and incorporated the expressive arts as a tool for building resiliency, hope and leadership. These initiatives, and many others, have marked the Department's success in reaching out to young people and their families this year.

Progress has been made, but there is still more to be done. Economic disparity, injustice and lack of support for underserved groups still affect our City. DYCD is motivated and committed to empowering local communities by devising innovative and creative approaches to support the positive development of youth, families and neighborhoods.

With the upcoming consolidation of all after school programming and youth employment services and the reallocation of funding for these initiatives, DYCD will be able to bring even more diverse and enriched services to New York City communities. As a result of this transformation, DYCD will be reevaluating and redefining its vision and goals.

It is my pleasure to share DYCD's achievements over the past year and to state our renewed vision and desirable outcomes for 2004.

Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav

Desirable Outcomes 2003 – 2004 (Third Page)

Youth

As part of the Healing Arts Project, a YouthFUSION Summit will be held to help young people directly affected by September 11, 2001 develop and strengthen their capacities for resilience and leadership in their communities.

The Office of Immigrant Initiatives will be launched to coordinate services and develop best practices among local providers, in order to better serve immigrant populations in New York City.

The Youth Abilities Project Job Fair and Conference will be held to offer youth employment resources to disabled youth.

The Family Literacy Program will focus on raising the literacy skills of on non-native English speaking youth and their families.

DYCD will offer the Be Fit to Play program to provide sports-related instruction and nutritional awareness to Beacon Program campers.

Community

Community Health Week will be held to address increased health concerns in the Washington Heights community.

DYCD staff and staff at community based organizations will be trained in the techniques for incorporating Developmental Assets strategies, to help young people grow into healthy and productive adults, into youth programs.

The Third Annual DYCD Art Contest and Exhibit will be held to recognize the work of community based organization participants.

The Department will host the graduation celebration of Family Fare: Colorful Eating for Good Health, a nutrition education training program in conjunction with the Family Development Training and Credentialing program.

DYCD and the Community Action Board will sponsor a Community Action Partnership Legislative Breakfast to share information on the Community Service Block Grant Program and its reauthorization with elected officials.

Funding

Funding will be integrated, overarching principles that relate to a continuum of services will be established and administrative functions will be streamlined, as efforts to support youth and community development will be fully merged.

Community based organizations will be matched with potential funding sources.

An external relations unit will be established and the Department will respond to state and federal Request for Proposals, in order to improve public and private funding efforts.

Public dollars will be leveraged so that they can be committed to youth by libraries and other cultural institutions, the Department of Education and the Administration for Children's Services.

The Request for Proposals process will be supported and improved by determining program mix and price and viewing competition as healthy.

Capacity Building

The First Comprehensive Staff Development Catalog will be promoted to offer capacity building strategies to community based organizations.

Technology

A monthly electronic newsletter, @DYCD, will be created.

Communications regarding technical assistance and funding will be facilitated through the website, newsletters, etc.

The newly designed Virtual Bulletin Board will be included on DYCD's revamped website, where downloadable and electronic forms will be available.

The CCMS program will be made more accessible and useful to Community Based Organizations.

Action Priorities (Text Box on Fourth Page)

- 1. Design programming that will continue to fulfill the needs of New York City youth and will increase support to underserved youth groups, including disabled youth, new immigrant youth and gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth.*
- 2. Continue to develop programming that aids in the development of healthy communities.*
- 3. Strengthen support for community development initiatives by encouraging diversified funding for community based organizations.*
- 4. Enhance the relationship between the Department and community based organizations by helping community based organizations build capacity through technical assistance.*
- 5. Improve information technology services.*

Vision Statement (Fourth Page)

The Department, working to promote the positive development of New York City youth, families and communities, shall:

Work for New York City's youth by...

supporting services that encourage young people to stimulate their cognitive, creative, social and physical abilities through leadership development, structured recreation and athletics, tutoring and cultural enrichment.

serving young people and adults through a broad range of programs and services provided by community based organizations such as the Beacon Programs, Youth Development and Delinquency Prevention and Community Action Programs.

serving as the lead agency for the Interagency Coordinating Council on Youth.

helping to enroll youth in health insurance programs.

sharing information through the NYC Youthline.

Support families throughout New York City by...

continuing to strengthen the Fatherhood Initiative, which supports programs that encourage responsible fathering and promote healthy relationships between fathers and their children.

promoting family literacy through programs that help move parents and their children toward greater educational, social and economic self-sufficiency.

helping to develop basic skills and literacy in the areas of reading, writing, math and English language proficiency for adults and out-of-school youth sixteen years of age and older through the New York City Adult Literacy Initiative.

Act as a catalyst for community development by...

providing free technical assistance to community based organizations so that they may strengthen their work in providing services that both stabilize and enrich family and community life.

awarding contracts, funded by a variety of city, state and federal sources, to a broad network of community based organizations throughout New York City.

encouraging community participation that will strengthen community action and lead to empowerment and sustainability.

administering programs that combat poverty and create opportunities for youth, senior citizens, families and immigrants to fully participate in community life.

stimulating public awareness of the needs of youth and communities and the support resources available to them.

partnering with youth-interested leaders in corporate and non-profit sectors.

Strengthen its work by...

maintaining a motivated staff with diverse backgrounds and experience.

continuing to increase the breadth of the Department's programs.

celebrating and learning from the rich history of the Department.

connecting to youth families and communities.

upholding the Department's award-winning contract management system.

unifying and clarifying the Department's mission and goals.

establishing a uniform outcome measurement system.

working towards a less paper-driven operation and improving use of technology within the Department.