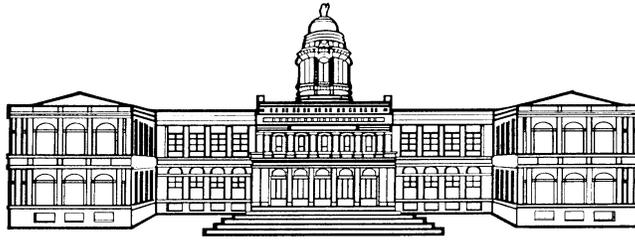


## New York City Council



# HEARING REPORT

## FINANCE COMMITTEE JOINTLY WITH COMMITTEE ON YOUTH SERVICES

Finance Division

December 2010

**Hon. Christine C. Quinn**  
Speaker

**Hon. Domenic M. Recchia, Jr.**  
Chair, Committee on Finance

**Preston Niblack**, Director  
**Jeffrey Rodus**, First Deputy Director

**Hon. Lewis A. Fidler**  
Chair, Committee on Youth Service

### ***DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (260)***

The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) supports youth and community services through contracts with a broad network of community-based organizations throughout New York City. The Department supports a variety of activities, including structured recreation, athletics, tutoring and remedial education, leadership development, delinquency prevention, cultural enrichment, counseling, adolescent health care, substance abuse prevention, and runaway and homeless programs. To assist the communities in which youth and their families live, the Department administers federal Community Services Block Grant funds to help low-income people become more self-sufficient; provides services to immigrants; and performs outreach functions to non-public assistance applicants within the Home Energy Assistance Program field offices.

#### **AGENCY FUNDING OVERVIEW (in \$000s)**

<b>Agency Funding Sources</b>	<b>Fiscal 2011 Adopted Budget</b>	<b>Fiscal 2011 November Plan</b>
City	\$231,581	\$220,104
Other Categorical		\$2,000
State	\$11,547	\$9,019
Federal- Community Development	\$8,306	\$8,306
Federal-Other	\$74,464	\$89,822
Intra-City	\$25,654	\$25,736
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$331,552</b>	<b>\$354,987</b>

## November Plan PEG Highlights

The Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD) is at the forefront of the City's effort to address the needs of youth, immigrants and community development. The Department does this through a vast variety of services including, educational, recreational and cultural activities that operate during non-school hours, as well as assisting runaway and homeless youth and by providing work-related education, skills training and employment opportunities for adults through adult literacy courses and citizenship attainment programs. Even though the services DYCD provides has a significant impact on its participants. It unfortunately was not exempt from the PEG process that all agencies underwent and has proposed a 5.4 percent or \$12.52 million in cuts to its budget for the current fiscal year 2011. The following PEGs proposed by the Department will have a significant impact on the following program areas.

<b>NOVEMBER PLAN PEGS (in \$000s)</b>			
	<b>Fiscal 2011 Adopted Budget and Forecast</b>	<b>Fiscal 2011 November Plan PEGs</b>	<b>PEG as percentage of Adopted Budget and Forecast</b>
Fiscal 2011	\$231,581	(\$12,522)	5.4%

## Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY)

DYCD funds programs that are designed to protect runaway and homeless youth and, whenever possible, reunite them with their families. In cases where reunification is not possible, these programs are designed to help youth progress from crisis and transitional care to independent living. Program activities and experiences are designed to assist youth in becoming healthy, caring, and responsible adults.

### **Reduction to Runaway and Homeless Youth Services (\$569,000)**

DYCD proposes a savings of \$569,000 in Fiscal 2011 from the reduction of funding for three drop-in centers, and two street outreach contracts in Fiscal 2011. According to the Department it plans to implement its Fiscal 2011 plan savings on January 1, 2010.

## Beacon Community Centers

The Beacon Program represents an extension of the City's commitment to deliver efficient and improved quality educational opportunities to youth. Each Beacon Program works collaboratively with the host school and the community, and engages the Community Advisory Council comprising parents, youth, school personnel, community representatives, local merchants, health care professionals, substance abuse prevention and/or treatment providers, law enforcement personnel and representatives of other community-based organizations. Currently, there are 80 Beacons located in public school buildings throughout New York City. Beacon Community Centers operate a minimum of six (6) days and 42 hours a week in the afternoons and evenings, on weekends, during school holidays and vacation periods, and during the summer.

**Reduce Beacon Contracts****(\$2.5 million)**

The Department proposes a ten percent or \$2.5 million reduction to the 66 City-funded Beacon Programs located in public schools in Fiscal 2011. The reduction averages approximately \$38,000 from each Beacon program budget. Providers have sited potential staff reductions that may impact services as a result.

In January of 2009, the Department announced plans to expand youth programming at 25 NYCHA community centers city-wide via its Cornerstone Initiative, which is funded through DYCD's Beacon Community Center program budget.

Cornerstone youth programs are designed to help participants acquire the skills they need to graduate from high school, succeed in their chosen career, and give back to the community. Cornerstone youth program activities include sports, literacy, and skills building activities and Cornerstone adult programs activities include adult basic education (ESOL and GED), and family relation/parental skills related activities.

**Reduce NYCHA Cornerstone Programs****(\$833,000)**

The Department proposes a savings of \$833,000 in Fiscal 2011 by reducing holiday services availability from 20 holidays per year to 15 per year in its NYCHA Cornerstone program. The Department also proposes to eliminate 118 of its 5,917 slots in its NYCHA Cornerstone programs in 2011.

**Out-Of-School Time (OST)**

The Out-of-School Time (OST) is the largest after-school initiative in the nation. OST provides programs during the major part of a young person's life that takes place outside of the classroom – after school, on weekends, and during school vacations. Provided at no cost, the City's OST programs offer a balanced mix of academic support, sports and recreational activities, the arts and cultural experiences. OST programs not only build upon the school-day lessons, but they also explore new worlds and opportunities for youth. These programs typically coincide with the start of the school year in September.

**Reductions to OST Option I School Holiday Availability****(\$6.2 million)**

The Department proposes a savings of \$6.2 million in Fiscal 2011 by reducing OST Option I programs availability from 20 school holidays per year to 15 per year in 2011. The Department conducted an analysis of participation rates among these centers during school holidays. As a result, providers will determine which five school holidays in which services will be reduced.

**Adult Literacy**

DYCD is a partner in the New York City Adult Literacy Initiative (NYCALI), which is the City's system for coordination of literacy services. In collaboration with the New York State Education Department, over 50,000 New Yorkers attend classes and tutorials each year at over 150 sites throughout the City. This highly coordinated system insures that Federal Workforce Investment Act, U.S. Department of Education, New York State Employment Preparation Education and Adult Literacy Education, and New York City funds are targeted for communities that have the greatest need for services and minimizes duplication of effort. Each year over \$40 million is invested in providing basic educational services through NYCALI.

**Reduction to Literacy Programs****(\$465,000)**

The Department proposes a reduction of six percent to its adult literacy programs which will result in a savings of \$465,000 in Fiscal 2011.

**City Council Funding**

City Council funding provides approximately 24.7 percent, or \$57.4 million, of the Department's annual City-funds operating budget. This includes funding for initiatives totaling \$42.7 million and Council Member items which total approximately \$14.7 million. The City Council has added more than \$200 million in local and Council initiatives over the last several years.

**Reduction of Funding to Discretionary Programs****(\$1.878 million)**

The Department proposes a 5.4 percent reduction to City Council discretionary program totaling \$1.878 million in Fiscal 2011. It is unclear which Council-funded initiatives would be impacted as a result of this proposal.

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