

**Proposal Concept Paper
For
Youth Development and Crime Prevention**

I. Solicitation for Proposals (SFP) Summary

Funding:

Three funding sources: \$3million from State EDD; \$975,000 from State Alcohol and Drug; and \$1.1 million from State Mental Health Dept. Contract period is 12 months with possibility of renewal for two additional 12 month periods. Continued funding is contingent upon availability of funds and successful completion of previous year's goals.

Target Group:

Young people between the ages of 12 and 21 (inclusive) who are engaged in or at risk of committing juvenile crime. Additional requirements due to SAPT and MH funding: at risk of using drugs and alcohol; and diagnosis of (SED) Severely Emotionally Disturbed. Funding from EDD adds requirements of income test and meeting barrier requirements.

Scope of Service - Purpose and Outcomes to be achieved:

The purpose of this SFP is to expand, strengthen, and sustain an integrated youth service delivery system that

1. Incorporates the values and principles of youth development in administration, services, and evaluation.
2. Contains key linkages with work force investment boards, youth employment programs, AOD service providers, mental health treatment providers, mentoring organizations, juvenile drug courts, child welfare, juvenile probation, local schools, and other youth srvice providers.
3. Demonstrates comprehensive, integrated approaches to serving youth and their families, and ensures access to mentors, AOD, meantal health, and employment services.
4. Promotes training and staff development, public awareness, college curriculum development, youth opportunities, enhanced interagency data collection and sharing, etc.

Expected outcomes include both system and client level:

1. System Level Outcomes
 - a. Measurable changes in the values and practices of selected counties/regions, indicating an acceptabce and utilization of youth development principles in the delivery of services and supports for targeted youth.

b. Improved collaboration and linkages within the local systems that serve youth, including cross-system identification and referral, services and support planning, resource identification and deployment, and data sharing/tracking.

c. Innovative workforce investment strategies, resulting in increased opportunities for youth to engage in meaningful, challenging activities.

d. A growth in the youth service delivery system from local partnership resources.

2. Client level outcomes

a. Improved levels of functioning in the major life domains of the youth served. Major life domains include physical and mental health, family and social relationships, legal issues, school, and employment.

b. Increased supports and opportunities (such as building positive relationships, working in partnership with adults, new leadership roles on boards and councils) youth have experienced as result of project participation.

c. Benefits received through project participation (i.e., new knowledge, increased skills, changed attitudes or values.)

II. Grant Concept

Submit three year work plan and budget.

Year One Goal

* Staff to Youth Council

Hire a full time staff person to work with Youth Council to implement projects and activities such as

Researcher and lead writer for grants, pilot projects, etc.

Development of asset mapping and gap analysis of youth system

Work with Youth Council youth focus group(s) for program inputs

Refine work on Youth Council's Community Resource Directory

Development of community event (Boys & Girls Club Open House)

Training for partners, Youth council, and youth organizations on Youth

Development Model

Assist Vocational Specialist to improve assessment materials for youth

Work with Vocational specialist to improve the passing of information within the partnerships (through Pepsco System)

Assist Council in review of membership to ensure active participation by key members

Assist in marketing of youth development concepts

* Work with County Drug and Alcohol and Probation Department staff to develop pilot programs for serving SED youth and youth with drug and alcohol problems

*Partners (HSA, Drug & Alcohol, and Probation) to outstation staff at youth center

Year Two Goals

- *Develop RFP for pilot programs for youth meeting funding criteria and integration into local youth development system
- *Research need/feasibility of Youth Development Training Center
- *Set up training, using outside consultants, to advise, inform youth leaders and youth organizations and staff on critical issues
- *Set up training for staff of the youth development system on Assessment and use of Pepsco System
- *Assist in the development of programs available at the Community Youth Center
- *Sponsor a community event as means of celebrating successes of various projects and marketing the youth development model
- *Planing the sustainability of the projects

Year Three Goals

- *Select most successful pilot programs for continuance and integration into the youth development system
- *Monitor program success and evaluate outcomes and projects results
- *Survey needs of community in relation to pilots success
- *Continued research into grants and other funding to sustain system components