

address the needs of runaway, homeless and street youth.

The Family and Youth Services Bureau has worked to promote a positive youth development framework for all FYSB activities. This approach, which is asset-based rather than problem-focused, is intended for policy and program developers, program managers, youth services professionals, and others who care about young people. It intends to enhance capacity to develop service models and approaches that direct youth toward positive pathways of development. The positive youth development approach is predicated on the understanding that all young people need support, guidance, and opportunities during adolescence, a time of rapid growth and change. With this support, they can develop self-assurance and create a healthy, successful life.

Key elements of positive youth development are:

- Healthy messages to adolescents about their bodies, their behaviors and their interactions;
- Safe and structured places for teens to study, recreate, and socialize;
- Strengthened relationships with adult role models, such as parents, mentors, coaches or community leaders;
- Skill development in literacy, competence, work readiness and social skills; and
- Opportunities to serve others and build self-esteem.

If these factors are being addressed, young people can become not just "problem free" but "fully-prepared" and engaged constructively in their communities and society.

Positive developmental opportunities should be available to all young people during adolescence. Adolescents need opportunities to fulfill their developmental needs—intellectually, psychologically, socially, morally and ethically. Youth benefit from experiential learning and they need to

belong to a group while maintaining their individuality. At the same time they want and need support and interest from caring adults. They also need opportunities to express opinions, challenge adult assumptions, develop the ability to make appropriate choices, and learn to use new skills, including leadership.

These key elements result in the following outcomes:

- Increased opportunities and avenues for the positive use of time;
- Increased opportunities for positive self-expression;
- Increased opportunities for youth participation and civic engagement.

It is FYSB's hope and expectation that awareness of this positive youth development approach and its importance for serving youth will increase. The FYSB publications, *Understanding Youth Development: Promoting Positive Pathways of Growth*, *The National Youth Summit: Summit Themes and A Strategy for Action and Reconnecting Youth and Community: A Youth Development Approach*, are widely distributed as source documents for positive youth development concepts and applications. Both are currently available from the National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth (NCFY) at <http://www.ncfy.com> (301-608-8098). Additionally, a recent *Statement of Principles for Positive Youth Development*, endorsed by a broad range of agencies, institutions and organizations, may be found in the brochure: *Toward A Blueprint For Youth: Making Positive Youth Development A National Priority*. Multiple copies of this resource are available from NCFY or it can be found online at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb>.

Applicants must agree to cooperate with any research or evaluation efforts sponsored by the Administration for Children and Families and to submit the required Annual Report to the Secretary

of DHHS on program activities and accomplishments with statistical summaries and other required program and financial reports, as instructed by FYSB.

**Legislative Authority:** Grants for Runaway and Homeless Youth programs are authorized by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (title III of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974), as amended by the Missing, Exploited, and Runaway Children Protection Act of 1999, (Pub. L. 106-71). Text of this statute may be found at <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb>.

**Project and Budget Periods.** This announcement is inviting applications for project periods up to three to five years. Awards, on a competitive basis, will be for a one-year budget period, although project periods may be for three to five years. Applications for continuation grants funded under these awards beyond the one-year budget period but within the three- to five-year project period will be entertained in subsequent years on a noncompetitive basis, subject to availability of funds, satisfactory progress of the grantee and a determination that continued funding would be in the best interest of the government.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Grant awards for FY 2003 funds will be made by September 30, 2003, for the Basic Center Program, Street Outreach Program and Positive Youth Development State and Local Collaboration Demonstration Projects. Transitional Living Program grant awards for FY 2004 will be made after September 30, 2003.

The estimated funds available for new starts and the approximate number of new grants that may be awarded under this program announcement are as follows:

Competitive grant area	New start grants funds available	Estimated Number of new grants
A. BCP .....	Up to \$12,300,000 .....	Up to 100.
B. TLP .....	Up to \$7,900,000 .....	Up to 42.
C. SOP .....	Up to \$4,600,000 .....	up to 46.
D. SLCDP .....	Up to \$1,500,000 .....	Up to 13.

In addition to the new start grants, the Administration for Children and

Families has provided for noncompetitive continuation funds to

current grantees in the following programs:

Grant area	Noncompetitive continuation funds	Number of grants
A. BCP .....	Up to \$31,400,000 .....	Up to 265.
B. TLP .....	Up to \$27,800,000 .....	Up to 149.
C. SOP .....	Up to \$8,900,000 .....	Up to 91.