

D. Positive Youth Development State and Local Collaboration Demonstration Projects (Competitive Grant Area D, CFDA #93.623)

Program Purpose, Goals and Objectives: This demonstration represents a continuation of the investment FYSB has made to sponsor collaborative approaches to positive youth development in the 13 States over the past several years. Under the Youth Development State Collaboration Demonstration projects the focus was on establishing partnerships and collaborative efforts particularly among State-level agencies and actors. Projects solicited in this announcement are specifically aimed at moving the earlier State-level successes to the level of local community jurisdictions (and/or tribes). Specifically, these project grants are intended to support collaboration between State governments and local community jurisdictions or tribes. States may propose a program of joint cooperation between a tribe and another local jurisdiction.

At least one operating RHY program must be in the local community jurisdiction or Tribe selected by the State government for the joint collaboration demonstration project in order to:

- Continue the earlier FYSB-funded efforts to promote the positive development of youth, and
- Pilot test an effort to extend that work down to the level of local communities.

As such, the goals of the Positive Youth Development State and Local Collaboration Demonstration Projects are: (1) To encourage collaboration among the State and Local (or Tribal) agencies and communities that will increase opportunities for positive youth development for young people in local communities and neighborhoods; (2) to promote and facilitate communication and cooperation between the State, local communities and youth serving agencies, including FYSB RHY Program grantees, in addressing the needs and issues of adolescents and young adults; (3) to encourage an ongoing community presence and participation in the planning and execution of strategies aimed at the positive development of their young people; (4) and to energize local constituencies including residents, community and faith-based organizations and service providers around a positive youth development agenda.

The overarching aim of these pilot efforts will be to help States to explore new collaborative relationships with

local communities that will prove effective in increasing the number and array of positive development opportunities available to young people. Beginning a dialogue with the participating local community or Tribe, and sustaining their ongoing involvement and participation in this collaboration, will be viewed as critical to effectiveness of the demonstration's collaboration and to its efforts to pursue the programmatic objectives (*see below*) outlined for this demonstration. As such, this community involvement is stressed throughout this announcement.

The SLCDP Demonstration Project is focused on increasing opportunities for positive youth development in local jurisdictions and communities. Funded projects in this demonstration will be based on collaborative program designs that emphasize each of the following three major programmatic objectives for fostering positive youth development and positive youth outcomes.

- *Increased opportunities and avenues for the positive use of time including:* Recreational activities, organized sports, educational and personal enrichment, volunteerism and/or age-appropriate employment. (Safe places with structured activities during non-school hours; marketable skills through effective education; ongoing relationships with caring adults—parents, mentors, tutors, or coaches.)

- *Increased opportunities for positive self-expression:* Higher emphasis on helping young people identify and develop their strengths and talents and to exercise them in positive ways where they can be recognized and celebrated by the larger community of young people and adults. (Healthy start and future.)

- *Increased opportunities for youth participation and civic engagement:* Efforts to provide youth with opportunities to participate in school and community affairs and to be represented among the actors and within the institutions that constitute the political, social and economic infrastructure of their school, community, city and region. (Opportunities to give back through community service.)

These project grants will serve as the basis for exploring new partnerships among the Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB), States, local jurisdictions and/or Tribes, and community and faith-based, youth serving organizations in order to establish and support these programmatic objectives at the State and local community levels.

The demonstration will be conducted in two phases:

- Phase I, the Planning Phase will begin on September 30, 2003, through September 29, 2004, and will consist of the first 12 months of the grant.

- Phase II, the Implementation Phase will begin September 30, 2004, and will continue for the remaining four years ending on September 29, 2008.

The Planning Phase: The demonstration will begin with a one-year planning phase. State grantees will use this phase to accomplish three specific formative goals that will shape the 4-year implementation effort: (1) Identify and secure commitment(s) from the local jurisdiction and/or Tribe, and the RHY Programs that will be the collaborating partners during the implementation phase; (2) conduct a collaborative planning process focusing on strategies for pursuing the three programmatic objectives set forth (above) for the demonstration; and (3) review and finalize the proposed plans for implementation with FYSB:

- **Select the Local Partner:** The first three months (1–3) of the planning phase will be used to identify a local jurisdiction (or Tribe)—city, community or neighborhood—that is willing and able to assume the role of local partner in this demonstration. The product of this first three-month period will be a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the applicant and the organization/entity assuming the lead role, as the local collaboration partner, committing each of the parties to participate in the 5-year FYSB funded SLCDP Demonstration Project.

- **Draft the Plan:** The next six months (4–9) of the planning phase will be used to conduct the outreach, convene the meetings, and engage the deliberations that are necessary to produce a plan outlining proposed directions for pursuing each of the three youth development programmatic objectives outlined above.

- **Finalize the Plan:** The final three months (10–12) will be a period of dialogue and negotiations with FYSB representatives to refine and further develop these plans and preliminary directions into an approved plan and budget for implementing the 4-year implementation collaborative effort.

The Implementation Phase: FYSB plans to fund four years of State/local operation under the approved plan. Continuation funding will be based on availability of funds and satisfactory progress made during the first year Planning Phase. It is expected that operations under the grant will feature adherence to the three youth development programmatic objectives outlined above as well as the following: