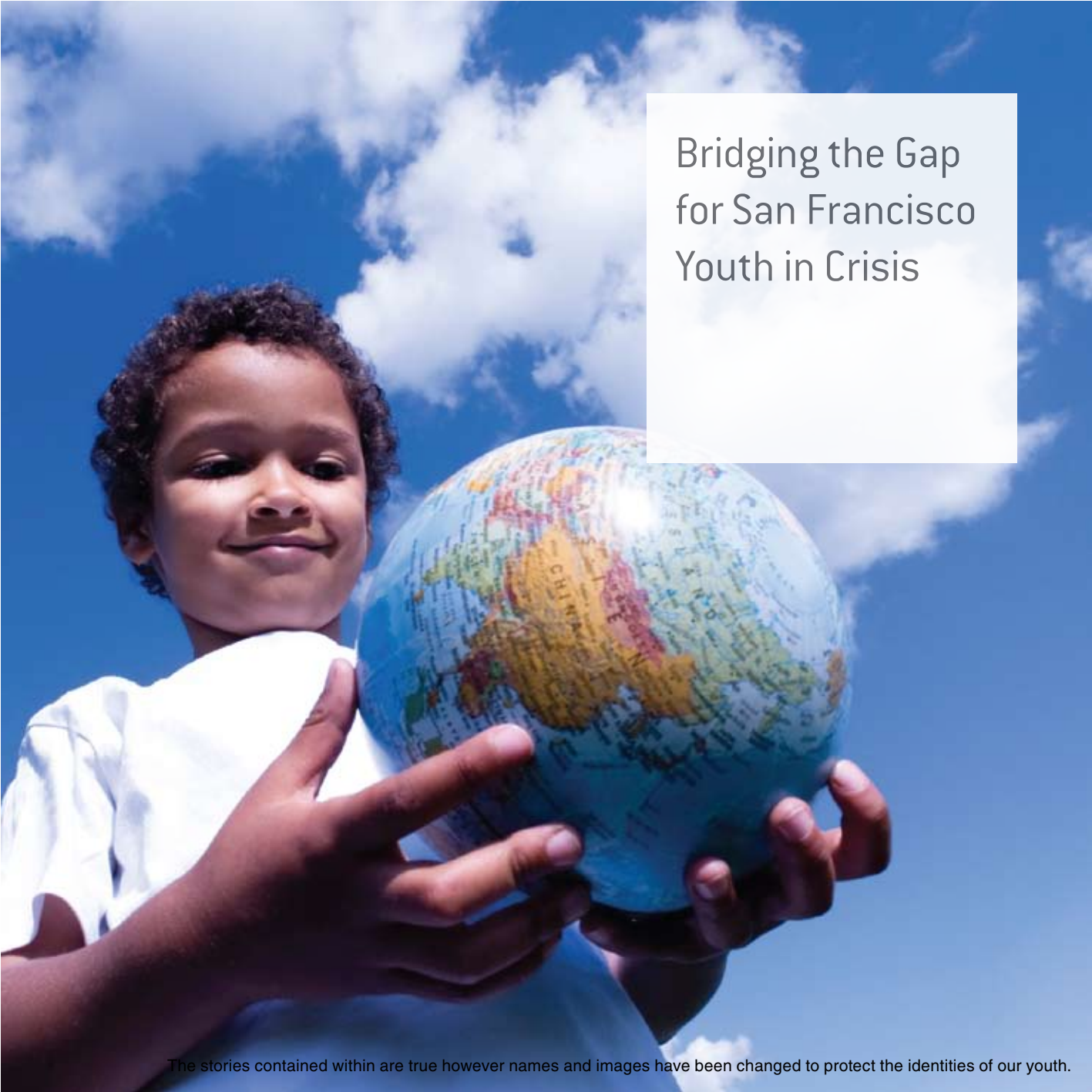


60

A young child with dark, curly hair and a gentle smile is holding a small, colorful globe of the Earth. The child is wearing a white t-shirt. The globe is held with both hands, and the continents of Africa, Europe, and Asia are visible. The background is a bright blue sky filled with soft, white clouds. The overall mood is hopeful and global.

Bridging the Gap for San Francisco Youth in Crisis

The stories contained within are true however names and images have been changed to protect the identities of our youth.

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www.cityyouthnow.org

FOR OVER HALF A CENTURY, OUR MISSION HAS REMAINED CONSTANT — City Youth Now supports youth in the San Francisco foster care and juvenile justice systems by providing funds for services and programs that promote stability and personal growth.

City Youth Now, originally founded in 1950 as the Volunteer Auxiliary, is the first non-profit organization of its kind in the history of the United States' juvenile court system. For 60 years, City Youth Now has been diligently working behind the scenes to address the unique needs of children and youth under the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Juvenile Court System. Probation officers, social workers, attorneys, and other youth advocates come to us daily with various requests for youth under their supervision. City Youth Now works to ensure that youth in the juvenile court system have the same positive youth development opportunities as other children to grow into mature and successful adults. City Youth Now recognizes that all children deserve a real childhood and a chance at a better future. In the life of a child the small things, beyond the basic necessities, are monumental to their growth and development if they are to transition to becoming successful adults.

The realities youth in the system face intensify every decade. The youth we serve come from low-income families, often with histories of child abuse and neglect, gun violence, incarceration, and/or substance abuse. The children come from all over San Francisco. They range in age from newborn to 24 years old. While they come from different communities around the city, the one thing they have in common is that they have each endured more than their share of trauma and hardship. Our hope is that by providing them with opportunities they might not otherwise have had, they will have a better chance of breaking out of the cycle of violence, homelessness, and poverty that entraps so many of their peers and adult community members.

CITY YOUTH NOW BRIDGES THE GAP FOR SAN FRANCISCO YOUTH IN CRISIS.

Dear Friends,

For 60 years, City Youth Now has been dedicated to serving San Francisco's abused, neglected, and forgotten children. This past year, more than any other, children in the foster care and juvenile justice systems have experienced the negative effects of budget cutbacks and program setbacks. These reductions have impacted health services, group home funding, foster family services, and support for youth transitioning out of the foster care system.

These budget cutbacks affect the day-to-day lives of youth in the San Francisco foster care and juvenile justice systems and without doubt have a detrimental impact on their successful transition to adulthood. City Youth Now remains committed to bridging the gap and raising the essential funds to support youth in the San Francisco juvenile justice and foster care systems when no one else can, or will.

Throughout 2009, City Youth Now responded to the needs of youth in the system as economic setbacks diminished their access to programs, support and funding assistance. City Youth Now worked closely with the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department and Woodside Learning Center to assist youth in the completion of their studies, GED exams, and online college courses while detained. City Youth Now rekindled connections with community-based organizations to better serve youth in the Juvenile Court System.

Through the City Youth Now Internship Program, City Youth Now was instrumental in preparing dozens of youth for future full-time employment by keeping them off the streets and employed this summer as statewide unemployment rose to record highs. Together, all of us at City Youth Now remain focused and committed to providing the best possible services and programs to youth in the system to facilitate a successful transition to independence.

We know that our success as an organization is entirely dependent upon individual donors and foundations. This investment in the future of San Francisco's forgotten children by provides them with the opportunity to excel in school, experience new opportunities, transition confidently to adulthood, to snuggle a teddy bear during a traumatic time. Today, youth in the foster care and juvenile justice systems need your help.

In these pages, we hope to provide you with a glimpse of the programs and services available at City Youth Now. Now, more than ever we must remember that it takes a village to raise a child. Thank you for helping us to make a difference.

Best Regards,



Brittany Heinrich
Executive Director



Laura Harrison Ward
President, Board of Directors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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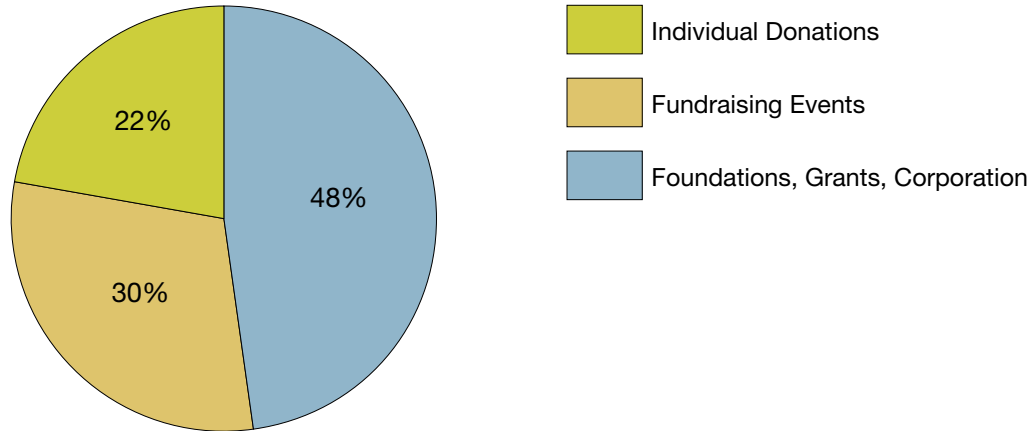
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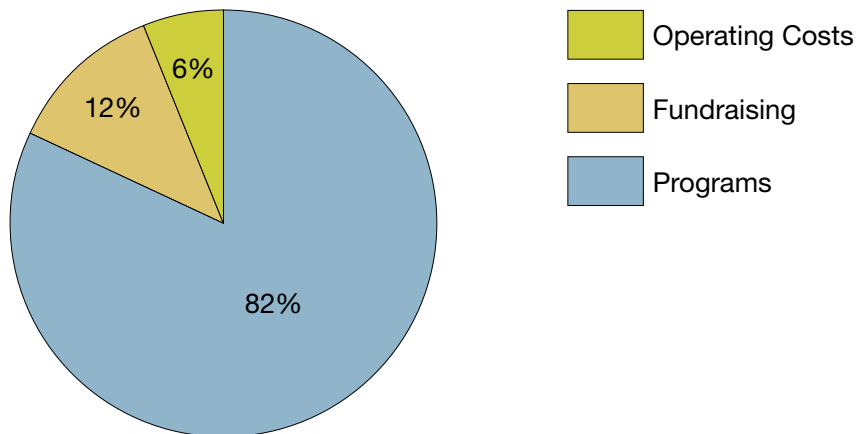
Staff

Brittany Heinrich, Executive Director
Susan Stone, Program Assistant
Jennifer Ng, Administrative Assistant

2009 REVENUE

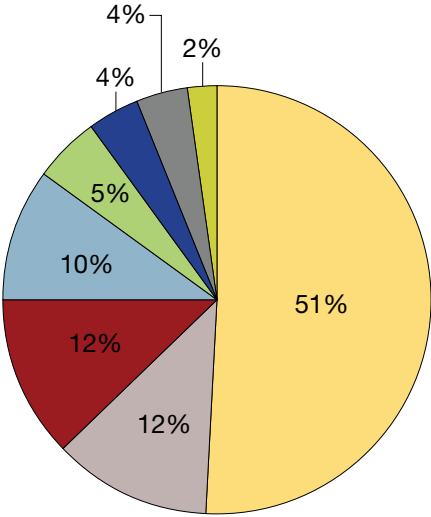
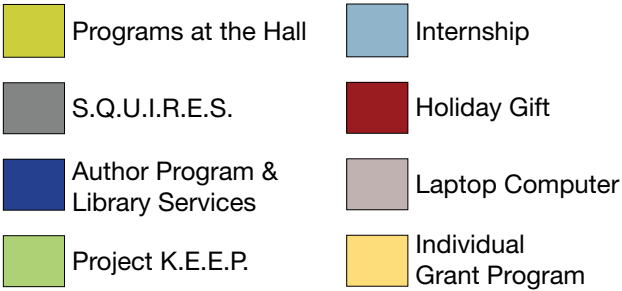


2009 EXPENSES



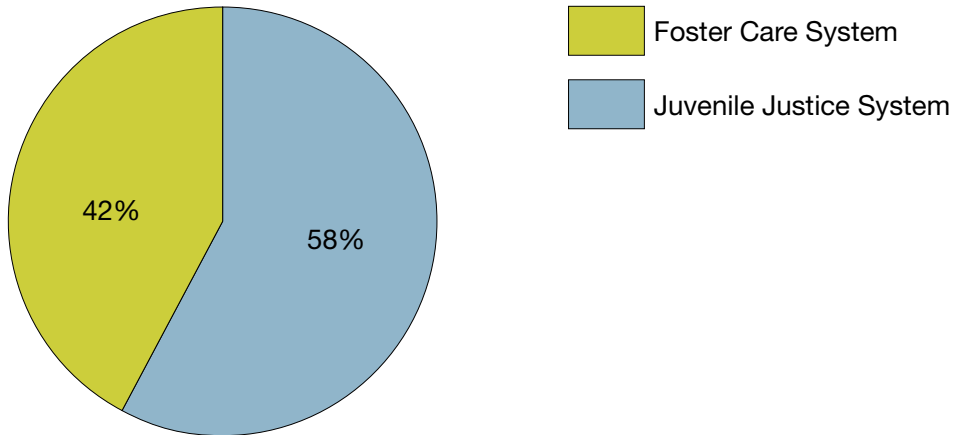
PROGRAM COSTS

City Youth Now's Programs	Expense % by Program
Author Program & Library Services	4%
S.Q.U.I.R.E.S.	4%
Programs at the Hall	2%
Project K.E.E.P.	5%
Internship	10%
Holiday Gift	12%
Laptop Computer	12%
Individual Grant Program	51%
Medical & Dental - 4%	
Recreation - 4%	
Independent Living Skills - 13%	
Log Cabin - 1%	
Graduation - 6%	
Emergency Clothing - 12%	
Campership - 19%	
Education/Literacy - 17%	
Personal Development - 24%	
TOTAL	100%



*Summarized Reviewed Statement of Expenses and Assets, Year Ending on June 30, 2009

FUNDING BY SYSTEM



2009 REQUESTS SERVED BY PROGRAM

City Youth Now's Programs	Requests Served by Program	Requests in the SF Juvenile Justice System	Requests in the SF Foster Care System	% Juvenile Justice System Requests	% Foster Care System Requests
Author Program	240	240	-	100%	-
Holiday Gift Program	2,400	1,100	1,300	46%	54%
Individual Grant Program	2,028	430	1,598	21%	79%
Laptop Computer Program	120	2	118	2%	98%
Internship Program	95	95	-	100%	-
Programs at the Hall	1,400	1,400	-	100%	-
Project K.E.E.P.	750	300	450	40%	60%
S.Q.U.I.R.E.S.	150	150	-	100%	-
YOUTH SERVED	7,183	3,717	3,466	52%	48%

A youth's response to Matt de la Pena's visit:

"I learned that my situation doesn't have to be negative. I can take the negatives in my life and turn them into something positive. Matt told me that if I own my future, I can be anything. I like that idea."



AUTHOR VISITS

City Youth Now regularly arranges for authors from the Bay Area and beyond to speak with the youth at the San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center. All of the authors we sponsor have an inspiring and relevant story to share with the youth detained at the Juvenile Justice Center.

In 2009, we developed a progressive partnership with Books Inc. of San Francisco, the Woodside Learning Center and the San Francisco Public Library to find appropriate authors and arrange the visits during the school day.

2009 Visting Authors

Jimmy Santiago Baca, *A Place to Stand*
Lynn E. Hazen, *Shifty*
Paul Flores
Alex Sanchez

Bret Strogon, UC Berkeley Series
Ben Mikaelson, *The Ghost of Spirit Bear*
Michael Rosen, *What Else But Home*
Matt de la Pena, *Ball Don't Lie*

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW SPONSORED 8 AUTHOR VISITS FROM THE BAY AREA AND BEYOND!

92% of the youth had never met an author
89% of the youth wanted to read more books
90% said they learned something new
23% were interested in pursuing a writing career

"Thank you for making Christmas so nice! I was able to take pictures and put them in my photo album. It means the world to me to be able to have photos of my family."

*Linda, Age 16
Foster Youth*



Linda entered the foster care system when she was only three months old and her young mother was not able to care for her. Linda has now been in the same foster home for two years and is thriving. She has received grants from City Youth Now in the past to fund her weekly piano lessons and driver's education classes.

THE ANNE DEVINCENZI DITO HOLIDAY GIFT PROGRAM

The Holiday Gift Program is City Youth Now's oldest program. Since 1950, we have provided thousands of holiday gifts to abused, neglected, and troubled children in the San Francisco Juvenile Court System. Originally, the program provided gifts to forgotten youth lodged at the Youth Guidance Center cottages while waiting for a new foster care placement. Since then, the program has expanded exponentially and focuses on youth between ages 10 to 18 in response to the growth within the Juvenile Court System. More times than not, the holiday gift provided by City Youth Now is the only gift the youth receives over the holiday season.

Our annual Green Room Party is not only a festive kick-off to the holiday season, but also funds this important program. We make sure that no child is forgotten during the holiday season. Be sure to join us next year at our holiday gala: www.thegreenroomparty.org.

IN 2009, WITH THE SUPPORT OF OVER 150 VOLUNTEERS, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED 2,400 WRAPPED HOLIDAY GIFTS TO YOUTH IN THE SYSTEM.

Volunteers from Balboa High School, the French Immersion School, Genentech, Gap Inc., Cliff Bar, Google, Boy Scouts of America, Charles Schwab, and individual groups from the community wrapped all of the holiday gifts for San Francisco foster children and probation youth. Many of these volunteers returned to help sort and distribute the holiday gifts for the youth!



INDIVIDUAL GRANTS REQUEST PROGRAM IN 2009

City Youth Now's Individual Grants Request Program has been at the heart of our mission for six decades. Over the years, we have learned the importance of being able to respond to each child on an individual basis, and the great value of the small things in the life of a child. Unfortunately, the public funds, services and programs available are often not able to recognize and address the individual needs of the children within the system. City Youth Now works to ensure that no child is forgotten or overlooked when no one else can or will help. We are, by design, a safety net for when "the system" is not meeting what most of us would consider basic needs.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW FILLED 2,028 INDIVIDUAL GRANT REQUESTS SUBMITTED BY YOUTH ADVOCATES.

For many of these youth, our flexible Individual Grants Request Program is often the only place they can turn for help. The City Youth Now Individual Grant Request Program supplements resources available through the system to stabilize San Francisco's young people, helping one child at a time.

"City Youth Now has been there for me since the very beginning. I am thankful and grateful for the kindness that you've poured out of your heart. I know there is no way I can repay you for what you have done, but there is one thing I can promise. I will go on to make you proud that you've helped me. You'll be one of the many people I will mention to have helped me succeed in life. Cheers to my future. Thanks again!"

*Josie, Age 17
Foster Youth*

Josie entered the foster care system when she was only a few months old due to her mother's drug use. She lived with her grandmother for a while, but was moved to a group home after her grandmother passed away. Josie is preparing to emancipate this summer and has been the recipient of several City Youth Now Individual Grant Requests including education, recreation, clothing, and job preparedness support.

CAMPERSHIPS

City Youth Now's Campership Program provides young people in the foster care and juvenile justice systems the opportunity to attend residential summer camp programs often for the first time. Approximately 2/3 of the youth population served by City Youth Now, will become entangled with drugs, teen pregnancy, violence, and drop out of school. However, 50% of these youth who become entrapped will make the right choices if they are provided with the opportunity to learn positive youth behaviors. Through camp activities and programs, summer camps focus on the development of key characteristics that include building self esteem, social skills, relationships with adult mentors, self-confidence, perseverance, and independence.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW FUNDED SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 120 YOUTH!

94% of our campers say camp helped them make new friends.

96% of our campers say that camp helped them feel good about themselves.

78% of our campers say they tried things at camp that they were afraid to do at first!

90% of our campers say they got to know adults who helped them and made them feel secure.

"Camp was an experience that I will never forget. The trip tested my limits. I was not accustomed to doing hours of activities and depending on other people. I benefited a great deal from this trip because it gave me the feeling of accomplishment. I have never been canoeing before and it felt great to accomplish something that I thought was out of my league."

Laura, Age 14
Foster Youth



Laura has been in foster care for over seven years. She has lived in several different homes and attended three different schools. She is always struggling to adjust to her new surroundings and making them feel like home. Now, each summer, she looks forward to attending summer camp thanks to a scholarship from City Youth Now.

"Thank you so mch — every penny makes going to college more real! "

*Kelly, Age 18
Foster Youth*



Kelly was removed from an abusive environment and entered the foster care system at the age of 6. She aged out of foster care last year, passed her GED, and is currently preparing for college. She plans to major in criminal justice. City Youth Now is helping her purchase her textbooks this semester.

EDUCATION AND LITERACY SUPPORT

Youth in the foster care system will have an average of two family placements per year while in the system. Approximately 68% of all foster youth will attend three or more elementary schools and 33% will attend five or more elementary schools during their time in foster care. Each new living situation often leads to a change in schools, and with every school change a child falls three to six months behind his or her classmates. Academic difficulties go unnoticed and records may be lost or incomplete.

City Youth Now provides these youth with academic assistance to ensure that they stay on track, meet grade level expectations, and have the opportunity to graduate from high school and continue on to higher education or job training. Our educational support spans a wide range of help including tutoring in all subjects, college tours to expose the youth to higher education, financial assistance in purchasing textbooks, and assistance with college registration. City Youth Now, in collaboration with SFUSD and SFJPD, also works with youth detained at the Juvenile Justice Center to provide extra academic assistance through tutoring to complete their GED exams and begin taking online college courses while detained. With these qualifications, they then have a chance to choose a better path once they leave Juvenile Justice Center.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED FUNDING FOR 258 REQUESTS FOR EDUCATION AND LITERACY SUPPORT.

40% of Foster Youth complete high school*
75% of Foster Youth perform below grade level*

*CCS Partnership: www.ccspartnership.org

EMERGENCY CLOTHING

Clothing is not only a necessity for a growing children, but it is often one of the very few things that can help them feel better about themselves. City Youth Now supports children in the system by providing them with emergency clothing when they are pulled from their homes and taken to the Child Protection Shelter or moved into a new home placement. We also provide emergency clothing to youth being released from Juvenile Hall with nothing but the clothes they were detained in, which often no longer fit them properly. Budget cuts have led to a drastic reduction in stipends. As a result, City Youth Now has stepped in to provide clothing vouchers to youth as they exit Juvenile Hall, change group homes or foster placements, or outgrow their clothing.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED 350 YOUTH WITH EMERGENCY CLOTHING VOUCHERS.

"Thank you! Now I can have some new gear. I needed it because I didn't get all my clothes back from my group home and I was wearing my auntie's clothes."

*Theresa, Age 15
Former Probation Youth*

Theresa entered the system at the age of 9 and has been placed in multiple group homes. She is currently living with her aunt and is doing well in school. Theresa is a bright young lady who aspires to be a fashion designer.



GRADUATION RECOGNITION

High school graduation is an exciting moment in any child's life — one that truly deserves a little pomp and circumstance. Studies show that only 50% of youth in the foster care system will fulfill the requirements to graduate from high school. City Youth Now believes that every youth deserves to enjoy the special moments that mark one's childhood. City Youth Now awards \$300 per youth per year to support high school seniors in the foster care and juvenile probation systems who have successfully completed the steps to graduate from high school.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED 275 YOUTH WITH SUPPORT TO PURCHASE CAPS AND GOWNS, SENIOR PICTURES, CLASS RINGS, AND SENIOR TRIPS.

70% of foster youth say they want to pursue some form of postsecondary education or training. Yet, only 10% actually enroll in college, compared to total U.S. college enrollment rates of 65%.*

Only 4% percent of former foster youth obtain any type of degree or certificate, and only about 2% earn a bachelor's degree or higher.*

*HEY SF: www.hey.sf.org

"Thank you so much, this really helps me. I was thinking about not going to prom because I didn't have a dress - and now I can go. I really appreciate it!"

*Megan, Age 17
Former Probation Youth*

Megan has been in the system since she was an infant when her parents were deemed unfit to care for her. She has been living in the same foster home for over 10 years, where she will remain until she emancipates from the system next year.



INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS

For the 20,000 youth nationwide who emancipate or age out of the foster-care system every year, nothing is more terrifying than the number 18. It is on this birthday that these youth, many abused and neglected before entering the system, are expected to immediately become responsible adults. They are cut off from a system that did not prepare them to live on their own.

City Youth Now provides support for the youth emancipating or aging out of the foster care system in San Francisco. This support includes small deposits on apartments, furniture and kitchen supplies, transportation, help with registration fees and books for school, support for job training programs, and much more.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW FILLED 470 REQUESTS FOR EMANCIPATING/ AGING OUT FOSTER YOUTH BY SUPPORTING THE LEADERSHIP AWARDS DURING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH IN MAY, PROVIDING RESOURCE BINDERS FOR YOUTH AGING OUT OF THE SYSTEM, PURCHASING ITEMS FOR FIRST APARTMENTS, PROVIDING FUNDS FOR JOB TRAINING, HELPING WITH COLLEGE BOOKS AND FEES, AND PROVIDING A WIDE RANGE OF OTHER ASSISTANCE.

“This past year, 155 youth within San Francisco aged out of the foster care system. 67% of these youth were in the system for three years or longer. 100% of these youth still need support and services.”*

*Child Welfare Dynamic Report System, UC Berkeley



“I was scared and excited when I turned eighteen. I was happy to finally be on my own, but I was nervous because I had no funds or any kind of support. But my social worker and City Youth Now helped me out and now I have a place to call home.”

*Wilson, Age 19
Former Foster Youth*

Wilson entered the foster care system when he was six years old due to his mother's substance abuse. He first lived with his older brother who was ill-equipped to care for him. Wilson lived in several group homes before emancipating earlier this year. He now lives in his own apartment, has a steady job, and is currently a student at San Francisco State University.



MEDICAL AND DENTAL

Children seldom enter foster care with a comprehensive medical history. Subsequent medical records are often missing or poorly maintained. City Youth Now receives various requests ranging from eyeglasses for youth in Juvenile Hall who were never told before that they had a vision problem to nutrition programs for youth who are suffering from obesity or other medical problems.

City Youth Now tries to help with medical and dental expenses that cannot be provided by any other funding source. Budget cutbacks have negatively impacted the health and wellness support available to youth in the system. In the last year alone, City Youth Now saw a 323% increase in the number of requests for medical and dental assistance.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED MEDICAL AND DENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR 55 DEPENDENT AND DELINQUENT YOUTH.

Between 20-60% of children entering foster care have developmental disabilities or delays, compared with about 10% of the general population.

35-85% of children entering foster care have significant mental health problems.*

30% of youth in the foster care system have no health insurance when they age out.**

*HEY SF: www.heyssf.org

**CCS Partnership: www.ccspartnership.org

"Now that I have glasses, I can see the board in the classroom and understand what the teacher is writing. Thank you for helping me see better."

*Daniel, Age 16
Foster Youth
and Juvenile Probation Youth*

Daniel entered the foster care system at the age of 10. He had changed placements and schools four times by the age of fifteen. Longing to fit in, Daniel started hanging out with the wrong crowd when he was picked up for shop lifting. With support from City Youth Now, Daniel is now excelling in school. The first step towards success was the purchase of eye glasses; Daniel was tested to be legally blind without eye glasses.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

City Youth Now's personal development fund provides support for youth in the system by funding activities and programs that promote positive youth development. In contrast to traditional prevention models, positive youth development emphasizes building skills and strengths in youth in addition to preventing common negative outcomes. City Youth Now works to make sure that youth in the juvenile court system have the same positive youth development opportunities as other children — learning to play the guitar, singing in the choir, participating in sports.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR 235 YOUTH.

"Youth violence is linked to risk-taking behaviors. Core competencies for healthier youth include a positive sense of self, self-control, and decision-making skills."*

*CNew Directions for Child and Adolescent Development, A.F. Bettencore (2008)

"City Youth Now has always been there for me. They helped pay for my guitar lessons, tutoring fees, football camp, and gift cards for school supplies and clothes. Since I entered the system, City Youth Now has not only provided for my basic needs, but has also been an encouragement to me all these years. Thank you City Youth Now."

*Peter, Age 20
Former Foster Youth*



Peter entered the system at the age of 3 when he was removed from his mother due to neglect and abuse. He was taken into the foster care system and went through multiple placements. Peter has since aged out and is currently a student at San Francisco State University.



RECREATION

Sometimes the most basic things can make a difference in a child's life — learning to play the guitar, singing in the choir, taking karate classes or taking up a new hobby. For children who are wards of the court and have been taken away from their birth families due to abuse or neglect, there is often no baseball practice, no after-school lessons, no scouting or music lessons, and no pottery or art enrichment classes. City Youth Now provides funds for youth in the foster care and delinquency systems to participate in these types of recreational activities.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET 145 REQUESTS FOR FOSTER YOUTH AND YOUTH ON PROBATION.

"Thank you so much for helping me and for achieving my goal. I really love basketball and I'm glad that you guys could see that. You guys must be great people to help me out. Thank you so much."

*Emily, Age 15
Foster Youth*

Emily entered the foster care system because of parents' substance abuse and neglect. She has been in multiple unstable placements and is currently in a group home. She is an excellent athlete and is a vital part of her high school basketball team.

“College is great! It’s now even better that I have my own laptop. I no longer have to wait in line for a computer at the library or borrow friends’. I can use my laptop for my personal finances, school work, and job searching. Thank you for making my life easier.”

*Justin, Age 19
Former Foster Youth*

Justin entered the foster care system after his mother passed away and his father’s substance abuse made him an unsuitable caregiver for Justin. He moved from placement to placement before emancipating last year. Justin is an outgoing student and is part of his college football team.



LAPTOP COMPUTER PROGRAM

In the twenty-first century, a computer is no longer optional when it comes to academic success — it is essential. Typically, only 38% of the youth we serve will continue their education beyond high school or completion of their GED. City Youth Now receives numerous requests for new or used laptops for youth who have been beating the odds to continue their education. With our partnership with Redemtech, Independent Living Skills Program, and continued support from The John Burton Foundation, City Youth Now is now able to fulfill these requests and offer these youth an important tool to point them towards success. City Youth Now understands that access to technology is a major component in encouraging academic success.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED 120 EMANCIPATING/AGING OUT FOSTER YOUTH WITH REFURBISHED LAPTOP COMPUTERS AND COMPUTER EDUCATION TRAINING.

In 2008, only 1/3 of foster children in long-term care used the Internet and 1 in 10 have used email. By the year 2014, the number of jobs requiring a basic understanding of technology will increase by 25% to over 6.3 million.*

*Casey Family Services



"My internship was so much fun! I really enjoyed working there. The staff members were all so friendly and helpful. If I didn't understand something, they would take the time to stop what they were doing to help me. I learned how to work with other kids my age. During my training, I also learned how to answer phones, send out e-mails and was able to work more with computers. The internship helped me stay out of trouble and helped me to become a better person. I have more confidence that I can do anything I put my mind to. I feel I have become a more responsible and stronger young lady."

*Sarah, Age 17
Former Foster Youth and
Juvenile Justice Youth*

Sarah has been in and out of both systems since the age of 11 because her mother was addicted to drugs and her father was incarcerated. She currently lives with her aunt and is making tremendous progress in turning her life around.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

City Youth Now's Internship Program is an immensely valuable program that prepares youth for employment in a well-supervised and supportive environment. The Internship Program introduces participants to the world of work by allowing youth to gain the self-confidence, career awareness, financial literacy, and the interpersonal skills needed to succeed in the long term. The Internship Program is designed with maximum flexibility so that youth and probation officers are able to find appropriate placements to meet individual needs. City Youth Now pays interns a limited stipend during their internship with a local business or community organization. The Internship Program is an intensive 3-step program consisting of a total of 110 hours of work experience. At the end of the program, the youth are required to submit a resume, a cover letter, a letter of recommendation from their supervisor and participate in a mock interview at our office. City Youth Now is committed to assisting youth in making a successful transition to healthy adulthood and economic independence.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED 95 YOUTH ON PROBATION FOR WITH INTERNSHIPS, HELPING THEM TO PREPARE FOR THE WORKPLACE.

For youth who had emancipated from the Juvenile Justice System, only 40% were employed for one year and or more, fewer than 20% were self-supporting.*

40-55% of youth in this population are homeless within 18 months of turning eighteen.

*Youth Leaving Care, A. Tweddle (2007)



"The City Youth Now and SFPL Read-A-Thon was a huge success. I allowed my students to read in class, and helped them pick out books to read. I had students reading Lord of the Flies, Ulysses, and House on Mango Street. Books I can never get them to read. The program promoted not only reading, but group collaboration and team work."

Woodside Learning Center Teacher

LIBRARY SERVICES

In 1996, City Youth Now partnered with the San Francisco Public Library to bring a library facility back to the Juvenile Justice Center.

Our goal is to introduce young people, many of whom have never been in a public library, to the world of reading. There are now over 4,000 books in the library collection and the librarian spends time each week with youth in the individual units. We have discovered that many of them are remarkably bright and hungry for knowledge. They spend countless hours alone in their cells and express a strong desire for books. When asked if they read more inside Juvenile Hall than outside of Juvenile Hall, 75% of the youth said they read more when they were incarcerated.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW SUPPORTED LIBRARY SERVICES AND LITERACY PROGRAMS THAT REACHED 1,400 YOUTH. THESE PROGRAMS INCLUDED READING GROUPS, LITERACY TUTORING, AN ALL-FACILITY READ-A-THON, NEW BOOKS FOR THE YOUTH AND LIBRARY, AUTHOR VISITS, AND WRITING PROGRAMS.

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AT JUVENILE HALL

For several years, City Youth Now has sponsored author visits to the individual units and library at the San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center. In 2007, we took our mission statement one step further to sponsor numerous special programs for the incarcerated youth. The programs sponsored by City Youth Now at the San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center promote dignity, exposes the youth to new opportunities and provides a bright spot in their day.

Our 2009 Programs and Partnership at Juvenile Hall

- The Art of Yoga Project
- The Beat Within
- Bread and Roses
- If These Walls Could Talk
- Generation PRX, National Public Radio
- The San Francisco Zoo Mobile
- Yoga
- Sports Programming
- BATS Improvisation Workshops
- Julliard Dance Troupe
- Food and Nutrition Courses
- Dance and Movement Classes
- Berkeley Repertory Theatre
- Science Week: Spaghetti Bridges

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED PROGRAMMING THAT REACHED 1,400 DETAINED YOUTH.

IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK is based on testimonial writings by the youngest members of America's prison system.

These beaten hearts
write what they need to say
as if their lives depend upon it each and every day.
Hope, undeniably found:
read, heard, valued, and unexpectedly profound.

From: Finding the Beat Within
by T'kaeu

T'keau is a young man who has been in and out of the San Francisco Juvenile Justice Center. He was orphaned at the age of eight. He spent the last nine years in and out of five different group homes and foster care placements.



KID'S EMERGENCY ESSENTIALS PACKS: PROJECT K.E.E.P.

Every month, over one hundred children in San Francisco are removed from their homes because of child abuse or neglect. Some children are taken directly off the streets, from school as a result of an abuse report, or from homes where criminal activity or domestic violence precipitate intervention. These children are typically taken with nothing but the clothes on their backs. No matter how the protective custody is initiated, the experience understandably is extremely disruptive and frightening for the child.

Project K.E.E.P is City Youth Now's way of bringing comfort at a most traumatic time in an abused or neglected child's life. Project K.E.E.P provides these children with a backpack of emergency essentials that includes: a nightshirt, a travel kit with toothbrush, toothpaste, comb and other essentials, a phone card, colored pencils, a notebook, drawing paper and pens, and, so importantly, a stuffed animal that can be a comfort during this frightening and emotional time. Project K.E.E.P also provides duffel bags to help youth in transition to move their belongings.

IN 2009, CITY YOUTH NOW PROVIDED 750 DUFFLE BAGS, 450 BACKPACKS, AND HUNDREDS OF ARTICLES OF CLOTHING TO CHILDREN TAKEN TO THE CHILDREN PROTECTION CENTER.

"Thank you so much! You have made numerous children happy this last year with the backpacks and gifts you provided. Thank you again for all your support. Even after receiving your generous supply of backpacks and duffel bags for a few years now, I get great joy out of giving them to the children and watching the smiles develop on their faces."

*Catherine Cousart
Child Protection Center*



"S.Q.U.I.R.E.S provides a powerful 'wake up call' to youth who could be on their way to the adult criminal system. Over the years, we have consistently received overwhelmingly positive feedback from the youth who participate in the program. The inmates who are members of S.Q.U.I.R.E.S are amazing counselors who are committed to giving back to the community that they have harmed by their past criminal behavior. The S.Q.U.I.R.E.S. model is 'We don't scare straight...we communicate.'"

*Marynella Woods
San Francisco Public Defenders Office*

S.Q.U.I.R.E.S

S.Q.U.I.R.E.S stands for "San Quentin Utilization of Inmate Resources, Experiences, and Studies." The San Francisco Squires Program is coordinated by Judge Katherine Feinstein, Jack Jacqua, and Marynella Woods. Every month, these committed leaders escort a group of young men from the San Francisco Juvenile Court System to San Quentin where they have a chance to learn about prison life from those who live it. The mission of the program is to provide a view of what prison life is really like before they make a poor decision that might result in their own state prison commitment.

City Youth Now is proud to be one of the partners in this innovative program.

IN 2009, APPROXIMATELY 150 YOUTH PARTICIPATED IN THE S.Q.U.I.R.E.S PROGRAM.

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VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

City Youth Now is driven by its volunteers. These special people are making a difference in the lives of San Francisco's neediest children. We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for their commitment and ongoing effort to ensure that every child in our community receives services that generate a sense of self-worth and dignity.

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We apologize if you have been inadvertently omitted from this list. It in no way lessens our gratitude for your support and commitment to bridging the gap for San Francisco youth in crisis.



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