



**Department of
Youth & Community
Development**

Jeanne B. Mullgrav
Commissioner

**Michael R. Bloomberg
Mayor**



ANNUAL REPORT

10



COMMISSIONER'S MESSAGE



Dear Fellow New Yorkers:

I am pleased to present you with the 2010 Annual Report from the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD). Despite lingering economic challenges, DYCD continued to unveil innovative programs that serve and assist thousands of New Yorkers.

In January, Mayor Bloomberg and I launched the Cornerstone Initiative. Cornerstone Programs are housed at 25 community centers in public housing developments across the City. The initiative brings high-quality afterschool programs for young people and other vital services to high needs communities.

This year, we also kicked off a citywide Fatherhood Initiative with the Mayor. While DYCD has been funding programs for fathers since 2002, under this new directive, other city agencies now have the opportunity to make sure that the services they deliver are father-friendly. A great example is the partnership DYCD created with the Mayor's Office to Combat Domestic Violence to train young fathers on Teen Dating Violence and Healthy Relationships. DYCD also worked to support fathers during this tough economic climate through a \$3 million workforce development program that served more than 1,800 participants.

In addition to our work with fathers, the Mayor's Commission on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) Runaway and Homeless Youth, which I was proud to co-chair, released a report in June titled "All Our Children: Strategies to Prevent Homelessness, Strengthen Services and Build Support for LGBTQ Youth." The report highlights the special challenges faced by LGBTQ youth, and sets out to promote a culture of respect and acceptance in an effort to address the underlying causes of homelessness in this population. In recognition of National Runaway Prevention Month, DYCD hosted a series of events in every borough, including a lighting ceremony at the Empire State Building. At that event, we also announced that the MAC AIDS Fund had awarded a leadership grant to support part of a Family Therapy Pilot program that will work to prevent LGBTQ youth from running away from home.

This year also marked the first time we received private contributions for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). Thanks to a \$1.5 million dollar donation from Goldman Sachs and \$500,000 from the philanthropist Barry Diller, we were able to fund an addition 1,500 summer jobs.

For the third time, we were selected by America's Promise Alliance and ING as one of the nation's *100 Best Communities for Young People*. The award is an acknowledgement of the tremendous work of this agency to cultivate data-driven, research based quality programs to engage our young people and give them the opportunity to succeed.

These highlights are just a small sample of the ongoing work at the Agency throughout 2010. In the year ahead, I look forward to continuing our work across the City.

Sincerely,
Jeanne B. Mullgrav



HIGHLIGHTS

CORNERSTONE PROGRAM KICK-OFF

- After extensive work and preparation in 2009, DYCD launched the Cornerstone Program in January of 2010. Cornerstone Programs offer engaging activities year-round for adults and young people at 25 New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) Community Centers throughout the five boroughs.

LADDERS FOR LEADERS TURNS FIVE

- The DYCD Ladders for Leaders program, designed to show young people the value of continuing their education through professional work experiences, turned 5 this year. The program offers free college preparatory workshops and SAT courses. To date, more than 800 young people have gone through the program. Participants undergo six months of pre-employment training before starting a 7 week internship with a corporate partner. Sixty five companies took part in the program this year. Nearly one-third of the participants were offered extended internships after the program's conclusion.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL RUNAWAY PREVENTION MONTH

- Commissioner Jeanne B. Mullgrav joined artist and civil rights advocate Cyndi Lauper in a lighting ceremony at the Empire State Building, which was lit green on November 4th in recognition of National Runaway Prevention Month. The Agency also partnered with Cyndi Lauper's True Colors Fund and released a new youth homelessness public service announcement (PSA) through her "We Give A Damn" campaign. With support from NYC & Company, roughly 11,700 taxicabs in New York City aired the PSA, which features actress Susan Sarandon, throughout the months of November and December.
- DYCD hosted community forums in each borough designed to engage residents in a constructive dialogue on the best way to serve lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth. Each meeting was well attended by residents, young people and community based organizations.
- Lastly, a Broadway matinee performance of "Billy Elliott" was attended by more than 30 young people in the agency's residential programs for homeless youth. After the show, the group participated in a "talk back," an event held backstage with the cast and crew to learn about careers in theatre.

LAUNCH OF THE SEMESTER OF SERVICE VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE

- In recognition of the national Lights on Afterschool campaign, Commissioner Mullgrav, Deputy Mayor Dennis Walcott, NYC Service Chief Service Officer Diahann Billings-Burford, and Chief Operating Officer for the New York Academy of Sciences Richard Baum, announced the launch of *Semester of Service – Take Action for Afterschool*, a citywide volunteer effort designed to recruit New Yorkers to contribute time at one of the City's many afterschool programs. Casita Maria, an Out-of-School Time provider in the Bronx, hosted the event. More than 50 nonprofit providers registered with NYC Service and 100 graduate/PH.D students from New York Academy of Sciences donated their time in the first few weeks of the initiative.



NIKE BEACON STEP IT UP DANCE PROGRAM

- In June, the ten NIKE Step It Up Beacon dance team finalists competed at the New Amsterdam Theatre on Broadway. The Step It Up Dance program is a citywide campaign that champions the artist as a social innovator and empowers young artists to think about their talent in a different way – a way that makes a significant impact in their communities. The participating step and dance teams used sports-arts to campaign for social change through dance and public service announcements. Congratulations to all participating Beacons and the top three dance team winners: Phipps Community Development – Generation X, the Child Center of New York – Ozone and SCO Family of Services – Urban Motion.

FIRST LEGO LEAGUE ROBOTICS COMPETITION

- Also in June, DYCD hosted its Second Annual FIRST LEGO League (FLL) Robotics Competition at Polytechnic Institute of New York University. DYCD staff volunteered to judge the 25 teams, from all five boroughs, as the robots the teams programmed completed a number of tasks. The teams were also evaluated on research projects, where they identified a transportation problem in their community and proposed solutions. The day's top award went to the "Bronx Task Force" from Good Shepherd Services.

NIKE BASKETBALL FESTIVAL

- 450 participants and staff from 13 Cornerstone Community Centers attended the World Basketball Festival/USA Basketball Showcase this August. The young people met with the 2008 gold medal USA Olympic team coaches and watched a basketball game between the players for the next USA team.

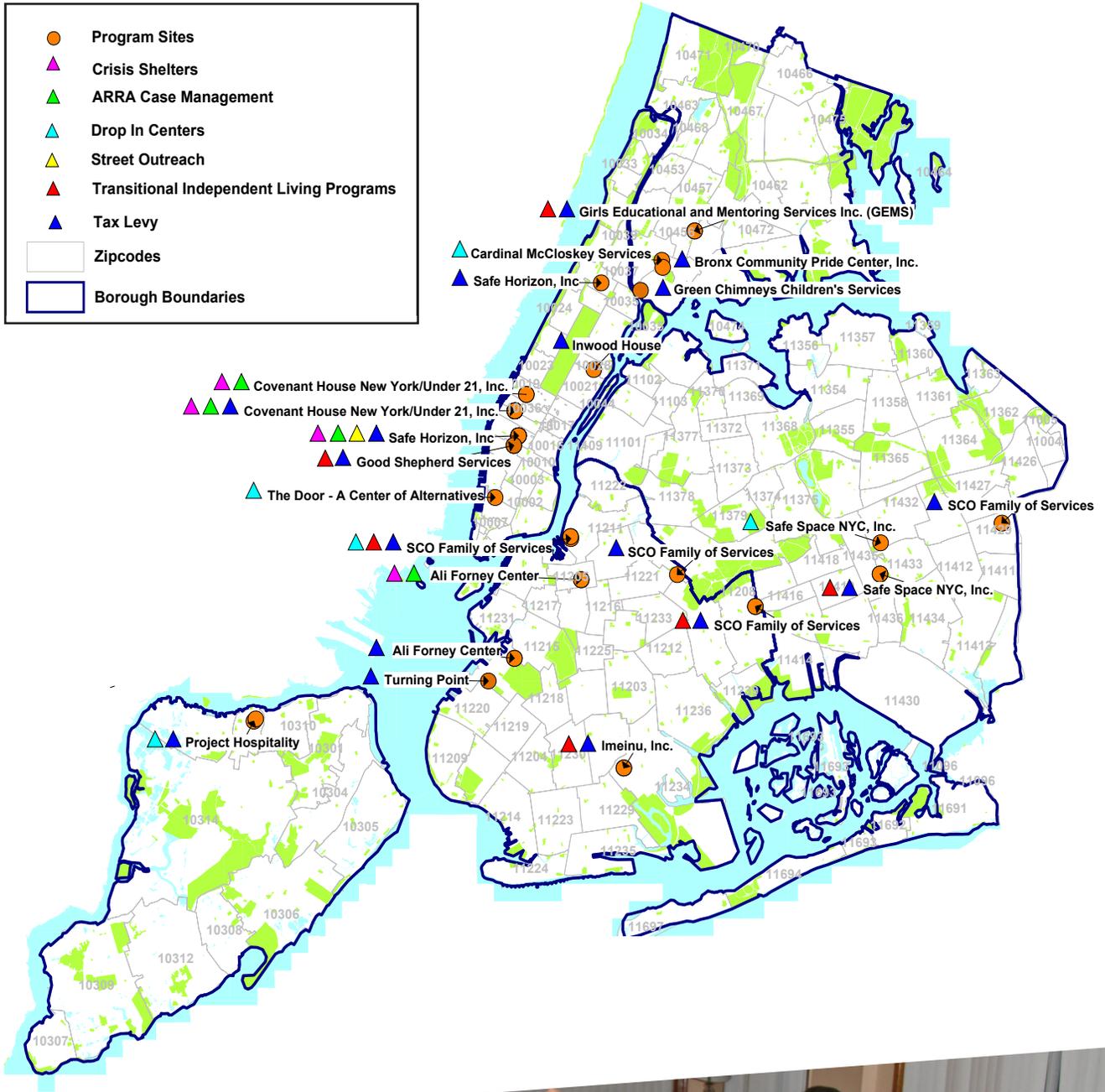
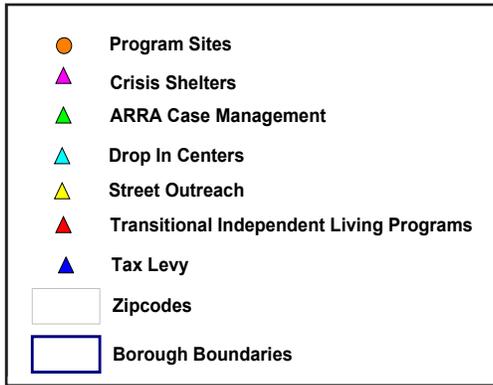
FATHERHOOD INITIATIVE EVENT AT QUEENS COUNTY FARM MUSEUM

- More than two dozen fathers and their children took part in pumpkin picking, went on the hayride and navigated their way through the "Maize Maze" at the Queens County Farm Museum this October.

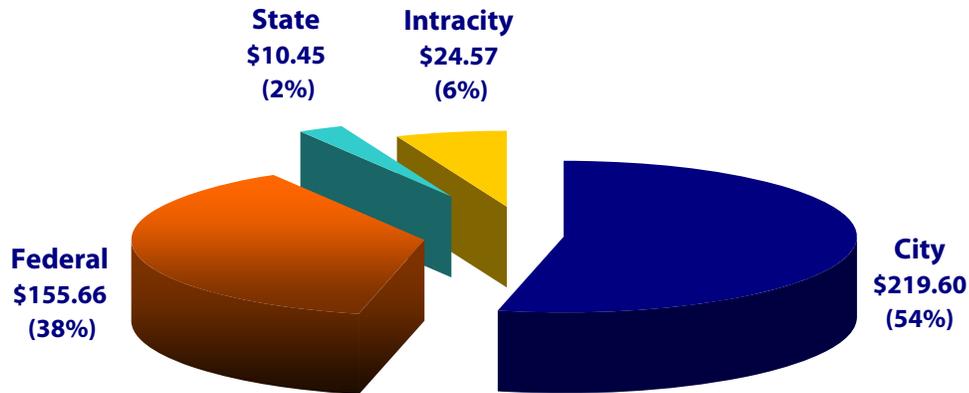
RELEASED THE FOLLOWING SOLICITATIONS

- Adolescent Literacy Program – February
- Out-of-School Time (OST) Programs for Youth at NYC Department of Parks and Recreation Facilities – March
- Young Adult Internship Program – November
- Fatherhood Program – November
- Group Purchasing Organization for Goods and Services for Client and Community Based Service Providers – September
- Youth Employment Payroll Systems – November

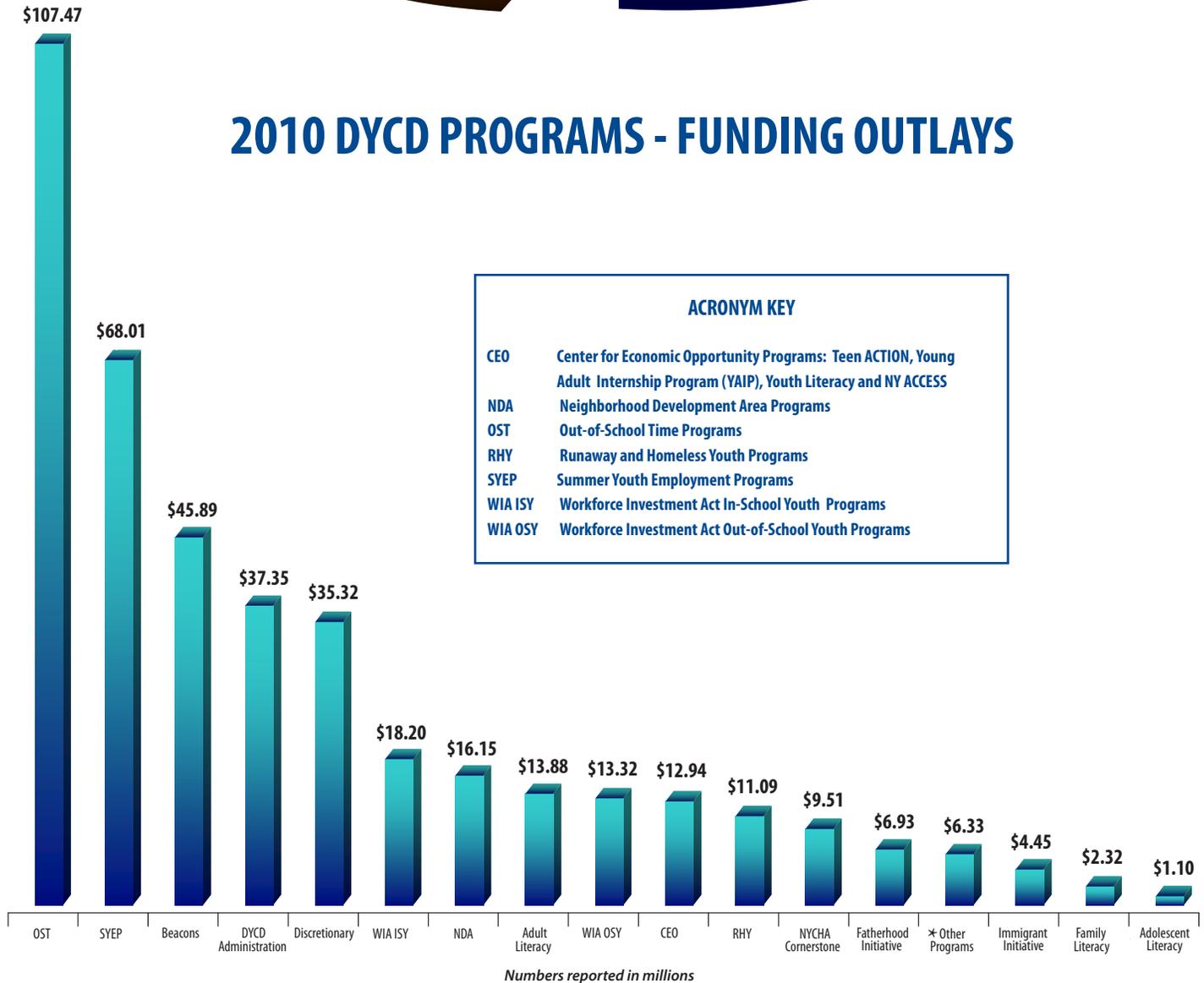
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS (RHY) YOUTH SERVICES



2010 DYCD FUNDING STREAMS - Total \$410.28 Million



2010 DYCD PROGRAMS - FUNDING OUTLAYS



*Other Programs include: the WIA - ARRA Parks Programs, Charter School Initiative, Emergency Shelter Grant, Food Pantry Program, Partnership for Youth, Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing Program, Technical Assistance & Capacity Building and Family Development Credentialing.



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