


HHS COMM #5
April 28, 2010
Worksession

MEMORANDUM

April 27 2010

TO: Health and Human Services Committee

FROM: Vivian Yao, Legislative Analyst 

SUBJECT: **Worksession:** FY11 Operating Budget
Department of Health and Human Services
Children, Youth, and Families, *continued*

Those expected for this worksession:

Uma Ahluwalia, Director, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
Sherry White, Chief Operating Officer, DHHS
Kim Mayo, Budget Team Leader, DHHS
Kate Garvey, Chief, Children, Youth and Families

Beryl Feinberg, Office of Management and Budget
Trudy-Ann Durace, Office of Management and Budget

On April 19, the Health and Human Services Committee met to discuss budget recommendations for the Children, Youth, and Families Service Area for DHHS. Follow-up information was requested related to the Crossroads Youth Opportunities Center and the Conservation Corps program.

Because Committee members requested input from Montgomery County Public Schools related to the educational component of the Conservation Corps program, it will be considered by HHS and Education Committees on April 30.

Crossroads Youth Opportunities Center (YOC)

The Executive is recommending a \$100,000 reduction to the Crossroads YOC contract. This reduction leaves \$448,992 for services in FY11. The County currently contracts with Identity, Inc. to deliver services at the Crossroads YOC.

The Department explained that contract was selected for reduction because the service was going out for bid creating the possibility for program transition and a new negotiation of services. There is currently a waiting of about 10 youth for mental health counseling and an increase in younger, middle-school-aged youth seeking services. Updates previously reported to the Committee are attached at © 1-2.

At the initial Committee discussion, Committee Chair Leventhal requested data that correlates gang activity with services provided by the Youth Opportunities Center or that shows measurable program outcomes. Councilmember Trachtenberg wanted to revisit this reduction after reviewing the requested data and expressed concern that reductions to YOC services will affect youth who could potentially end up incarcerated.

In response to the Committee's request for information, the Department provided information attached at C3-6 that reports 237 clients served by the center in the current fiscal year as of March 31. The Department reported that participants are showing reductions in criminal, violent, and risky behavior, and gang activity. The Department also said that there are demonstrated improvements in the areas of mental health, self sufficiency, and conflict resolution. Key outcomes reported include:

- 3% (8 youth) have been expelled. Five were successfully re-enrolled. 119 youth served were enrolled in high school as of January 2010.
- 12 youth had been rearrested (as of 1/31/10). Based on FY09 information, program participants have a significant arrest rate (39.4%) prior to coming to the program.
- 35 of the 77 fully active gang members have been transitioning out of gang lifestyle.
- 37 youth have been enrolled in the GED program.
- 22 youth have participated in job readiness training and 6 youth have gotten new jobs. Almost all youth have been unemployed prior to engagement at the center.
- 35 youth are pursuing tattoo removal.
- 5 youth have been relocated to another jurisdiction for safety reasons as they seek to leave gang life.

The data reported shows that the program is serving at-risk and gang involved youth and helping them enroll in educational programs, transition out of gangs, and gain job readiness skills.

Council staff requested the data showing improvements in mental health, self sufficiency and conflict resolution; however, this data was not available at the time this packet was published.

Council staff also summarizes quarterly gang crime data by district for the Committee's review.

	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	Missin g	Total
FY08								
1 st Quarter	24	15	23	19	3	45	0	129
2 nd Quarter	27	11	34	18	8	44	0	142
3 rd Quarter	13	13	23	16	4	10	0	79
4 th Quarter	12	9	23	20	4	8	0	76
FY08 Average	19	12	25.75	18.25	4.75	26.75	0	106.5

FY09								
1 st Quarter	16	8	12	23	5	12	0	76
2 nd Quarter	16	5	12	9	4	18	2	66
3 rd Quarter	12	2	21	13	6	11	0	65
4 th Quarter	7	2	13	12	5	14	0	53
FY09 Average	12.75	4.25	14.5	14.25	5	13.75	0	65
% Change from FY08 and FY09	-32.9%	-64.6%	-43.7%	-21.9%	5.3%	-48.6%		-39.0%

There has been a 43.7% decrease in gang-related crime incidents in the 3rd District -- the area served by the Crossroads YOC. It is unclear, however, to what extent this reduction results from the services provided through Crossroads or other factors. Council staff notes that there were higher reductions in gang crime incidents in the 2nd and 6th Districts for the same period.

The Department also reports that there is \$25,000 in additional earmark funding for substance abuse services for youth at the Crossroads YOC.

Council staff concurs with the Executive's recommended reduction to the Crossroads contract. The Department may be able to mitigate the effect of the funding reduction through the RFP negotiation and with additional earmark funding. Council staff recommends that the Committee monitor the impact of this reduction and request an update when vendor selection and contract negotiations are finalized or when additional grant funding becomes available.

- Copy of the report completed by the Conservation Network on our Conservation Corps program that provided an overview of our structure and the issues with getting outside funding - See attached report.

Linkages to Learning

- **Follow up on satisfaction rate – why decline?**
The program projected a possible minimal decline in parent satisfaction from FY09 (94%) to FY10 (92%) due to information received from our services partners about the increased intensity of cases and no additional staffing to meet increased demands of most clients. The potential for a lower overall satisfaction rating may be directly related to economic conditions and increased needs of families served. The actual numbers for FY10 will not be known until July 2010 to see if this is an accurate reflection.
- **Confirmation on current (as of Feb) # served (2,489 children for 1,224 families)**
Yes – this is the confirmed Monthly Trend Report number February 2010; however, it should be noted that this data element captures children and families that were actively receiving formal case management and/or individual/family therapy services as of February 28. The program also provides other services, such as structured psycho-educational/prevention groups, in which an additional 255 children 180 parents were being served as of this date.
- **Violence Prevention contract numbers**
Seven (7) presentations with 177 in attendance and two (2) workshops with 16 in attendance were held for the second quarter of FY10. Topics covered include family violence, stress management, bullying, substance abuse prevention, family communication and parenting skills.

Juvenile Justice/PYD

- **Update on Upcounty YOC RFP process**
A vendor has been selected but the paperwork has not yet been finalized. The timeline for this RFP is as follows:
 - Date RFP was issued: Dec. 21, 2009
 - Number of applicants: 4
 - Anticipated date of selection of vendor: 4/1/10
- **Program Update for Crossroads Youth Opportunity Center including service and outcome data and waitlist information.**
Currently Crossroads is serving 170 youth – other updates are as follows:
 - The GED group will be taking the test in May. This group started with extremely low pre-test scores so the group had to start with very basic math before beginning the actual GED math. It has been a long slow process, but the students are highly motivated and passing the test will be a huge success/esteem builder for them.
 - Information regarding re-arrest data has been requested from DJS, but has not yet been received. A list of clients who had been receiving service for six months has been submitted and DJS will provide de-identified aggregate data.
 - Currently there are 30 active tattoo removal clients. Due to the high cost involved in each case, the program has been frozen and no new clients will be seen for this year. There is a waiting list of five clients for the service.
 - Identity, Inc. continues to see an increase in mental health issues and more complicated case management issues, probably due in part to the economic situation (e.g., more clients and their families are being evicted/need shelter). There is a waiting list of about 10 for mental health counseling.

- There is an increase in younger, middle-school-aged youth at the center, indicating that youth and their parents are looking for a safe place/programming for this age group. While this is wonderful from a prevention perspective, it presents risks from a safety perspective to have younger youth around older, more gang-involved youth. We are working to structure separate activities for the different age groups we serve.
- Provide a list of mini-grants for substance abuse prevention and how much is remaining in the FY11 CE Rec for the mini grants – See the attached list for FY10 grants.

These grants serve youth at out-of-school times, including post-prom activities. These are times when youth are under-supervised and are most vulnerable for engaging in the use of alcohol/drugs and other risky behaviors. All programs must offer youth a substance abuse prevention component. The mini-grant process is as follows:

- The availability of the Under 21 grant is usually announced and applications requested, in late September-early October, thus allowing ample time for school affiliated groups and others to be up and running after the summer vacation. A group of prevention professionals review the applications and make recommendations regarding approval and funding. Note that a contractor facilitates the distribution of the announcement and convening of the prevention professionals. The Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse Prevention Program makes the final decision based on the professionals' recommendations. Also, any grievances are managed at this level.
 - In FY10, \$41,440 is allocated to 41 diverse organizations, serving approximately 15,289 youth county-wide. As a result of the FY11 reductions, \$19,110 is available to fund these grants. This amount would be allocated to between 17 and 18 groups, serving approximately 7,000 youth, targeting groups serving 20 or more youth.
 - Since fewer funds are available, the process will become more competitive and fewer groups will benefit as needs increase.
- Update on Street Outreach Network (SON)
 - 156 total clients served
 - There is no waiting list
 - A total of 48 clients were arrested prior to engagement
 - A total of 23 have been re-arrested
 - A total of 49 had been suspended prior to engagement
 - A total of 19 re-suspended after engagement
 - A total of 16 clients had been expelled from school
 - A total of 5 clients were expelled after engagement
- Positive Youth Development is recommended for 5.8 work years, but Juvenile Justice Services is only decreasing 5 positions or about 5 work years. Where is the additional work year being transferred from?

For PYD - there were 6 positions that shifted from Juvenile Justice to PYD. There was a -.2 WY decrease for furlough to equal the 5.8 WYs in PYD.

(2)

Crossroads YOC: Data that correlates gang activity with YOC services and outcomes data. (Do you know when you will have re-arrest data from DJS?) What are the outcomes data that the program collects?

As of March 31, 2010 the CYOC has served 237 clients in the current fiscal year. This includes 32 new clients within the past 3 months beginning January 31st and ending on March 31st. Those who are participating in the program are showing reductions in criminal, violent, and risky behavior, as well as reduced gang activity. The rates of arrest and expulsion are key indicators of these changes. In addition, there are demonstrated improvements in the areas of mental health, self sufficiency, and conflict resolution.

Key Outcomes

- 3% (8 youth) have been expelled. Five were successfully re-enrolled.
- 12 youth had be rearrested (as of 1/31/10)
- 35 of the 77 fully active gang members have been transitioning out of gang lifestyle
- 37 youth have been enrolled in the GED program
- 22 youth have participated in job readiness workshops and training
- 6 youth have gotten new jobs
- 35 youth are pursuing tattoo removal
- 5 youth have been relocated

Yao, Vivian

From: Garvey, Kate
Sent: Monday, April 26, 2010 8:04 PM
To: Yao, Vivian
Cc: Cardona, Luis; Clore, Carol; Mayo, Kim
Subject: RE: CYOC information

Vivian,

Please see the attached information provided from an Identity evaluation for FY09 numbers. Most of your questions are addressed in this table. Two questions are answered below.

Thank you,
Kate

From: Yao, Vivian
Sent: Mon 4/26/2010 8:10 AM
To: Garvey, Kate
Cc: Mayo, Kim; Clore, Carol; Cardona, Luis
Subject: RE: CYOC information

Sorry that I have more clarifications – I didn't ask my questions as precisely as I should have. Please see below. Thanks very much for working on these answers and short turnaround time.

Vivian Yao
Legislative Analyst
Montgomery County Council
240-777-7820 (phone)
240-777-7888 (fax)

-----Original Message-----

From: Garvey, Kate
Sent: Sunday, April 25, 2010 9:37 PM
To: Yao, Vivian
Cc: Mayo, Kim; Clore, Carol; Cardona, Luis
Subject: CYOC information

Vivian,

Please see information below. I will get you the missing information as soon as possible.

Thank you,
Kate

From: Yao, Vivian
Sent: Fri 4/23/2010 5:33 PM
To: Garvey, Kate
Cc: Mayo, Kim; Clore, Carol; Cardona, Luis; Rivlin, Ron
Subject: RE: Information on Conservation Corps and YOC

YOC:

Are all of the key outcomes listed based on the 237 clients in the current fiscal year? Do you have comparison data on the same outcomes for previous fiscal years, e.g., FY08 and FY09 or a baseline or range to show that the rate of rearrest and expulsion are good and not bad? We are still gathering this information.

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Out of the 237 clients, do you know how many have been arrested? 12 have been identified through the DJS system up until January. (How many had been arrested before coming to the YOC) When we receive the prior quarter information from DJS we will update this data. At this time we are only receiving data from DJS. It is our hope that with the new CYOC contract we will be able to get information on those who are arrested through MCPD. This has been discussed, but due to increased demands and reduced resources, it is not yet in place.

Do you know how many have graduated from high school? (Again when you get this information, it would be good to know how many come to the YOC with a H.S. diploma for comparison purposes.) We have not required this data point from the vendor. We will attempt to have the data available prior to the session.

Do you know how many are enrolled in high school? As of January 2010, 119 youth were enrolled in high school. Do you know how many were enrolled when they came to the YOC?

Do you know how many were employed before coming to the YOC? Almost all the youth have been unemployed prior to CYOC engagement.

What does it mean to be relocated? Certain clients who seek to leave gang life are forced to be relocated to another jurisdiction due to safety reasons as they become targets of the gang they are leaving.

Do you have statistics that show improvement in mental health, self sufficiency and conflict resolution? This information has been gathered through staff report and pre and post surveys and so provides more case specific information rather than a statistical report. Are pre and post surveys taken for all clients? All clients who receive mental health services? Can you report this data? They attempt to complete the surveys with all clients, however, when clients leave the program without advanced notice, no post survey can be taken.

I'll try and check out any 3rd District Gang report trends, add a caveat that any increases/decreases is probably attributable to multiple factors including YOC.

Did you have anything to say about additional grants/earmarks? There is \$25,000 in funding available for substance abuse services for the youth served at the YOC and funding for ancillary services through Prince George's County. It is not clear what the breakdown will be on these services. Is it fair to say that some additional earmark funding may be available for services at the YOC that would mitigate a portion of the contract reduction? YES

Any info on the YOC is the priority for Monday as my packet is due that day. If you think that information is coming though, let me know, and I'll hold off putting my packet in.

The other information non Early Childhood, Conservation Corps, etc. can wait a day longer. My packet isn't due until Wednesday.

Thanks very much, and I hope you have a good weekend.

Vivian Yao
Legislative Analyst
Montgomery County Council
240-777-7820 (phone)
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CYOC Evaluation Information 2008 to 2009

Below is information gathered by Identity regarding participants in the Crossroads Youth Opportunity Center during FY2009. Information was not available on all participants. The "N" provides the number of youth who are reflected in the data.

County of Residence (N=194)	Montgomery County	56.2%
	Prince George's County	42.3%
	Other	1.5%
Maternal Country of Birth (N=175)	USA	3.4%
	Other	96.6%
Maternal Education Level (N=141)	Never studied	10.6%
	Elementary School	14.2%
	Middle School	19.9%
	High School	36.9%
	College	18.4%
Paternal Country of Birth (N=160)	USA	2.5%
	Other	97.5%
Paternal Education Level (N=110)	Never studied	18.2%
	Elementary School	18.2%
	Middle School	22.7%
	High School	25.5%
	College	15.5%
Length of Separation (N=31)	< 1 year	19.4%
	2-4 years	22.6%
	5-10 years	38.7%
	≥ 10 years	12.9%
	Current	6.5%
Current School Situation (N=172)	Still in school	66.3%
	Study, but not at school	1.7%
	HS Graduate or GED	7.6%
	Suspended	2.9%
	Expelled	5.2%
	Dropped out	16.3%
Currently Seeking Employment (N=174)	Yes	60.3%
	No	39.7%
Has Children (N=178)	Yes	11.2%
	No	88.8%
Court-referred (N=168)	Yes	1.8%
	No	98.2%
Previously Arrested (N=160)	Yes	39.4%
	No	60.6%
Pending Criminal Case (N=156)	Yes	16.7%
	No	83.3%