

Resolution No.: 17-289
Introduced: October 18, 2011
Adopted: October 25, 2011

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Councilmember Navarro, Council President Ervin, Council Vice President Berliner, and
Councilmembers Andrews, Elrich, Floreen, Leventhal, Rice and Riemer

SUBJECT: Resolution Affirming the Council's Commitment to Positive Youth
Development Programs

Background

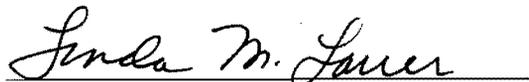
1. The Council has been concerned for many years about how to make programs and services available to meet the needs of a growing and diverse County youth population.
2. The County's Positive Youth Development Initiative (PYDI) is a "collaborative effort to support the youth in the County to reach their full potential, to reduce risky behavior, and to assure community safety."
3. PYDI provides prevention, intervention, and suppression services through multiple County departments including Recreation, Libraries, Health and Human Services, Corrections, Police, Montgomery County Public Schools and non-profit partners.
4. During the last three fiscal years, many programs that are part of the PYDI have been cut due to the global economic recession's impact on Montgomery County.
5. The County Executive has expressed concerns regarding "increased gang activity, violence, and crime involving minors in the County."
6. Police data show an increase in juvenile arrests in the County during the last four years.
7. Positive youth development programs engage youth in manners that are productive and constructive, promote healthy behavior, foster positive relationships within their communities, schools, peer groups and families, and provide an alternative to engaging in criminal activity.
8. Positive Youth Development Initiative programs and other County programs that offer safe havens and promote the well-being of young people, such as the Youth Café, the Youth Opportunity Centers, the Street Outreach Network, the High School Wellness Centers, and programs supported by the Kennedy Cluster Project and the Collaboration Council, among others, are successful and cost-effective.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The County Council affirms its commitment to support, fund and pursue public-private partnerships to finance positive youth development programs as part of a comprehensive, interdisciplinary approach to meet the County's youth needs, reduce crime and violence involving minors, and promote community safety.

This is a correct copy of Council action.


Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council