

Summer Youth Employment and Learning Program

Status of Funding

Sources	2009	2010
FEDERAL	\$1,350,000	House: Authorized 50% of Last Year; Senate: Pending Action: March
STATE OF CONNECTICUT	0	In Budget at \$1,200,000 (CWP % of \$3.5 million); Pending Governor's Mid-Term Budget Adjustments
CITY OF HARTFORD	\$1,000,000	City's Fiscal Challenges: Presently Uncertain
HARTFORD FOUNDATION	\$330,000	Contingent/Proportionate to City/Other Allocations (presently has determined set aside of \$330,000)
AMERICAN SAVINGS	\$ 50,000	Foundation Fund challenges; But funding Likely
Total	\$2,732,009	

Past Advocacy 'Best Practice'

1. In 2003-04 through Creation of Future Workforce Investment Task Force increased **City of Hartford** SYELP funds from \$300,000 to \$1-million. Advocacy included city cross-systems task force prioritizing of youth employment needs and services.
2. In 2004-2005 through **statewide advocacy** created first \$2-million allocation of State Youth Employment Program growing to \$5-million in 2008, including (1) support of legislative champions (Kirkley-Bey, Walker, DeFronzo), (2) evidence of need for youth employment strategies, (3) testifying at legislative hearings, (4) Workforce Agencies and SYELP Programs advocating to legislators and showcasing 'positive outcomes,' (5) legislative liaison working on behalf of Boards.
3. In 2009 **federal ARRA funds** of \$2.7 million (1) involvement with Conference of Mayors, NYEC, CCRY and other national advocate groups, (2) successful outcomes.

Advocacy Options

1. Future Workforce Services Committee & Board Contact State and Federal Legislators
2. Participate in Legislative February 24th Event
3. Testify at State Public Hearings
4. Board Members Embrace Priority as a "Youth Development Best Practice"
5. Board Members Support Placing at least one youth in a summer employment or internship at their business or organization
6. Long Term Strategies