



ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE YOUTH BUREAUS

The Cornerstone of New York's Youth Development!

2025-26 YOUTH DEVELOPMENT BUDGET PRIORITIES

Youth Development

Launch Get Offline, Get Outside 2.0. The Executive Budget increases funding by \$15 million to provide additional resources for the development of youth programming that will create thousands of opportunities on sports teams, drama programs, music lessons, community garden programs, debate clubs, volunteer resources, martial arts, and more.

- **Youth Development Program (“YDP”).** The Executive Budget proposes \$21.6 million for YDP. This represents an increase of \$7.5 million. **ANYSYB STRONGLY SUPPORTS** this increase and asks for an additional \$1.5 million reappropriation for the Youth Development Program as allocated in the SFY 24-25, which will keep the funding level for existing programs in calendar year 2025. We also ask the Legislature to match the Executive’s proposal of \$7.5 million to meet the increased demand for youth development programs and services.
- **Statewide Youth Sports Grant Program.** The Executive Budget proposes \$12.5 million for Statewide Youth Sports. This represents an increase of \$7.5 million. **ANYSYB STRONGLY SUPPORTS** this increase and asks the Legislature to match the Executive’s proposal of \$7.5 million to meet the increased need for healthy activities for youth. Last year, \$10million was allocated by the Legislature for sports. At minimum, we respectfully request \$2.5 million in SFY 26 so that the funding put in place in SFY 25 remains the same in calendar year 25 and no programs will receive cuts.

Runaway and Homeless Youth (“RHY”). The Executive Budget proposes \$9.9 million for RHY. This represents an increase of \$3.5 million. Although ANYSYB supports an increase in funding to RHY, We are concerned about the regulation that requests a match by the county which over the years has been more difficult to comply with. When first created there was a small match for the counties who drew down RHY funding, however over the years the match amount has increased significantly and has become extremely difficult, resulting in some counties, not accepting any of the funding. This is due in large part to the state changing the match formula that removed the shelter agencies’ to contributing and put this financial responsibility on the counties, thus doubling the county match requirement. This is in addition to the regular match increase that would be due to increased RHY funding. (An example of the increase for the October 1, 2024 -September 30, 2025 RHY Allocation of \$8,484,000.00, resulted in an INCREASE in County Match Requirement of an ADDITIONAL \$2,828,000.00 match requirement, of which AT LEAST half (and often times more) must be cash).

The ANYSYB supports the increase in funding conditionally and respectfully asks the Legislature to require the Administration to eliminate this outdated match so that more counties can participate and more youth that rely on this service will be served.

Youth Council. The Executive Budget proposes level funding of \$200,000. ANYSYB has coordinated the Council since 2020 and supports the initiative and level funding.

Youth Employment

The Executive Budget proposes an additional \$3.3 million to provide year-round employment opportunities for at-risk youth through the

Summer Youth Employment Program and the Youth Opportunities Program. This additional funding will ensure that State-supported youth employment opportunities are maintained at existing levels. ANYSYB supports this increased funding.

- **Summer Youth Employment Program.** The Executive Budget proposes \$51.5 million.
- **Youth Opportunities Program.** The Executive Budget proposes \$40.6 million.

Extended Day

The Executive Budget proposes level funding of \$24.3 million. ANYSYB supports this program and level funding.

Community Optional Preventive Services (COPS)

The Executive Budget proposes level funding of \$12.12 million for COPS, with a \$1 million set aside for eligible programs with evaluation results. ANYSYB supports this program and level funding.

Afterschool

The Executive Budget proposes \$109.7 million for afterschool programs, a \$6.4 million increase over last year. ANYSYB supports this increase in funding.

Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids and Seniors (“NY BRICKS”). The Executive Budget proposes \$100 million for NY BRICKS to provide grants to municipalities or not-for-profit entities for the renovation, expansion or construction of community centers, to achieve a public purpose. The Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, in conjunction with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, is authorized to administer a grant program, which may be awarded on a competitive basis through a request for applications process and eligibility criteria determined by the office which may prioritize access to underserved communities. ANYSYB supports this initiative and funding.

New York Places for Learning, Activity, and Youth Socialization (“NY PLAYS”). The Executive Budget proposes \$67.5 million for NY PLAYS to provide grants to municipalities or not-for-profit entities for the renovation, expansion or construction of playgrounds, to achieve a public purpose. The Dormitory Authority of the State of New York, in conjunction with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, is authorized to administer a grant program, which may be awarded on a competitive basis through a request for applications process and eligibility criteria determined by the office which may prioritize access to underserved communities or people with disabilities. ANYSYB supports this initiative and funding.

New York’s Statewide Investment in More Swimming (“NY SWIMS”). The Executive Budget proposes \$50 million in additional funding for NY SWIMS to provide grants to municipalities or not-for-profit entities for the renovation, expansion or construction of swimming facilities and structures, including natural swimming areas and improvements ancillary thereto, to achieve a public purpose. ANYSYB supports this initiative and funding.

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