

# Association of New York State Youth Bureaus

*The Cornerstone of New York's Youth Development!*



## Statewide Youth Teams Sports Program Funding Allocation \$10 Million

**Allocate \$10M for Statewide Youth Team Sports Program, as was included in the enacted 2023-24 state budget and allow local youth bureaus in cities, towns and villages the opportunity to participate in the program.**

In the enacted FY 2023-24 budget, \$10M was allocated for a Statewide Youth Team Sports Program, which was administered by youth bureaus in every county across New York state. **This initiative offered municipal youth bureaus the opportunity to sub-contract to youth serving community-based organizations to provide team sports programs and infrastructure funding.**

For decades, youth bureaus and the sub-contracting community-based organizations supporting youth (such as Big Brothers, Big Sisters; Boys & Girls Clubs, YM/YWCAs) have offered healthy activities, team sports & recreation and education to underserved youth across New York State. In 2022, Youth Bureaus served over 1.3 million youth, many who are BIPOC, LGBTQ+, runaway and homeless youth, as well as those in juvenile justice and child welfare programs. Positive youth development integrated in physical & healthy activities, and sports in particular, can positively affect aspects of personal development among youth such as self-esteem, goal setting, and leadership skills. In addition, the activities and sports build crucial motor skills, prevent obesity, and reduce stress & mental health challenges. And, team sports allow for the opportunity to learn life skills that are important in daily life, work and relationships. Youth Bureaus, and their subcontractors, have proven outcomes through the many sports, recreation and healthy activity programs and services that are in place.

**The programs included in this document are a sampling of programs from across NYS.**

### Examples of Youth Bureau Teams Sports Programs

#### Niagara County

##### Kenan Acre

Kenan Acre offers the youth in the Lockport, NY area the opportunity to participate in athletic leagues. The program provides instruction and recreational classes on sports to 1200 youth. This funding will allow Niagara County to secure space for the future leagues and improve the competitive sport arena through indoor field maintenance and outdoor field leveling in the Lockport community.

##### Challenger Sports League, Inc

This league provides opportunities to 250 youth with disabilities to participate in team sports in Niagara county. Sports include baseball, bowling and soccer. Funding received for this program will enable Niagara County to develop a wheelchair accessible baseball diamond.

#### Columbia County Youth Bureau

##### Hudson Pop Warner Program

A youth football program that was reintroduced after several years of inactivity serving 80 predominantly minority/socio economically compromised/at risk youth. This funding will allow the program to purchase equipment, uniforms and pay for referees.

#### Dutchess County Youth Services

##### Girls on the Run Hudson Valley

GOTV-HV inspires approximately 385 girls using fun, experience-based curricula that creatively integrates running. Its physical activity-based positive youth development (PYD) programs are designed to enhance the physical, social and emotional skills/behaviors of girls ages 8-13 to successfully navigate life experiences. Funding allows the program to purchase equipment including cones, markers, first aid kits, lap counters, truck rentals for delivering materials, AV systems, shirts, water bottles and more.

#### Clinton County Youth Bureau

##### Ellenburg Recreation Program

This program, offered in the rural Town of Ellenburg provides soccer, basketball and baseball/softball programs to approximately 345 youth. This program is free of charge allowing this underserved community the opportunity to play team sports without cost.

##### Chazy Youth Hockey Club

This club offers hockey to youth 6-18 years of age with the main rink location in the rural and underserved town of Chazy, NY. 245 youth are served through this program and this funding is allowing the rink to undergo much needed repairs and upgrades allowing youth in Clinton County to have a place to play hockey for years to come.

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## Examples of Youth Bureau Teams Sports Programs (cont'd)

### Orange County Youth Bureau

#### **Beautiful People, Inc. - Adaptive Baseball**

This eight-week session allows 180 youth with all encompassing delays, medical, mental, etc. including youth who use wheelchairs and walkers, etc. the opportunity to play competitive baseball games. Funding will allow the program to purchase adaptive sports equipment, a storage shed, trailer and hitch for transporting items, and team jerseys and uniforms for all teams.

#### **12th Rock Ministries, Inc. - Volleyball**

The volleyball program was designed for 150 youth with and without disabilities of all skill levels. Agility, coordination, hand eye coordination and key volleyball skills are taught and reinforced through this program. The initial investment in infrastructure includes installing volleyball courts, net systems, storage cases, volleyballs, cones and gear that will allow the program to continue and expand in the future.

### St. Lawrence County Youth Bureau

#### **Massena Youth Lacrosse Programs**

The Massena Recreation Lacrosse Program fosters physical, mental and social health and welcomes all children that would like to participate. Many of the 150 children that participate are from a diverse ethnic background, considering we neighbor a Native American reservation. Massena, as a whole, is considered to be on the lower side of the socio-economic landscape in the state. Funding for this program will allow the purchase of gear, uniforms, equipment and cover the cost of registration fees for participants.

#### **Potsdam Youth Baseball and Softball**

A non-profit youth organization that provides recreational opportunities to learn baseball and softball for 140 youth ages 4-12. The program promotes the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and reverence among youth players. All involved with the association are expected to uphold a code of conduct, exhibiting patience, fair play, and positive attitude. Funding will allow the program to purchase equipment, storage, uniforms and cover registration fees for participants.

### Saratoga County Department of Aging and Youth Services

#### **Galway Baseball & Softball League**

This program serves Galway, Providence, Charlton and Milton, NY which is considered a zip code area in New York State that has been targeted as a resource desert. The Galway Baseball & Softball League creates an infrastructure improvement in this area to encourage an equal experience for both baseball and softball competition for 325 youth. Funding for this program will provide storage and allow concession sales that generate revenue and provide sustainability.

#### **Mechanicville Stillwater Little League**

A volunteer-run program offering baseball team play to 250 Mechanicville and Stillwater youth. The program encourages participation from youth aged 3-12 and is easily accessible to families from low income housing. Funding for this program would allow us to purchase necessary equipment including L screens, nets, bases, uniforms, 35 scholarships for registration fees and non-permanent bleachers.

#### **Corinth Youth Hockey**

This volunteer-run program benefits the Corinth, Day and Hadley, NY which have been considered a zip code area in New York State that has been targeted as a resource desert. The program provides all equipment at low or no cost and registration for 200 youth is paid for by voluntary fundraising. Funding for this program will be used to for liner that will provide outside ice sustainability and offset costs of indoor ice rental to make the program successful.

### Westchester County Youth Bureau

#### **Able Athletics**

A competitive lacrosse and field hockey program for 100 traditionally underserved and disadvantaged youth of all genders and those with disabilities. All activities and resources are accessible and inclusive combatting gender stereotypes in sports. Funding for this program will be used to purchase more adaptive sports equipment and maintain the accessibility of this program for all youth with disabilities.

#### **Girls on the Run Hudson Valley - Westchester**

This program offers a positive environment that promotes girls' social, psychological skills and well-being and encourages girls to own and activate their limitless potential. Serving up to 70 youth of all abilities in low income and under served communities, this program offers training and activities that encourage self-confidence, physical and mental wellness. Funding will enable the program to purchase additional adaptive and accessible equipment.

ASSOCIATION OF NEW YORK STATE YOUTH BUREAUS

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