

**38**  
**PROVEN**  
**WAYS**  
**YOU**  
**CAN STOP**  
**YOUTHFUL**  
**WISDOM**

A SURVEY BY  
**BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS**

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**U.S. Department of Justice  
National Institute of Justice**

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ACQUISITIONS

**38**  
**PROVEN**  
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**VIOLENCE**

A SURVEY BY  
**BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS OF NEW YORK CITY**  
223 EAST 30TH STREET, NEW YORK, NY 10016

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*From being needy...*

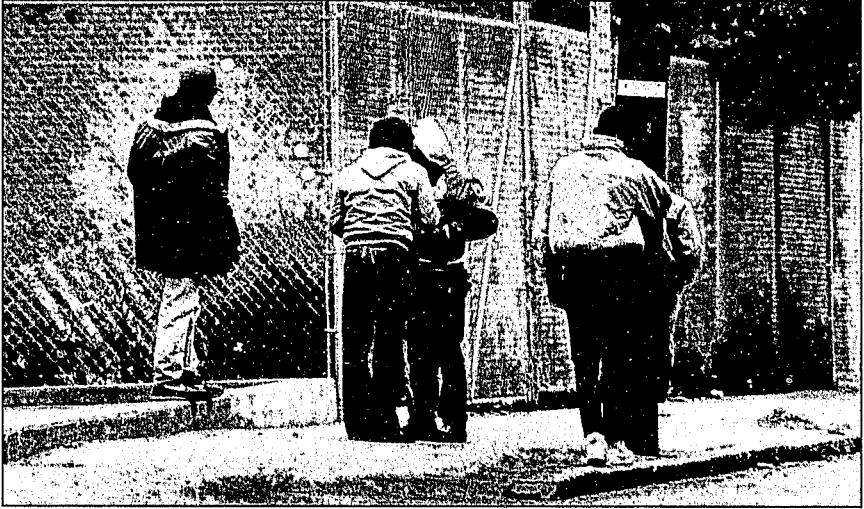


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*...To coming together*



PHOTO: JIM WHITMER / FPG INTERNATIONAL

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## ***There's No One Answer— But Many Answers To Stop Youthful Violence***

*Raymond Klemmer and Allan Luks  
President and Executive Director  
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City*

**T**HIRTY-EIGHT organizations that aid New York City youth reported in a survey conducted by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City about the proven programs they have to stop youthful violence.

These replies show it is wrong to wait for “the” answer from Washington, D.C. on how to prevent more urban violence. They also demonstrate that successful violence prevention does not mean only joining a community patrol. People can get involved right now in supporting the widest range of efforts, from assisting community centers, to being one-on-one role models, to using theater and other arts to help youth express frustration.

The responses printed in this publication replied to the question: If your budget was doubled, which programs would you expand or start that have a proven effect in preventing violence or successfully intervening with youthful offenders?

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City completed the survey immediately before the Los Angeles riots as one of the projects celebrating the agency’s 88th anniversary.

The programs listed, by frequency in which they were mentioned, were:

- multi-service community centers
- job counselling and youth employment
- one-to-one role models
- teaching non-violence and conflict resolution
- educating about racial and other differences
- using the visual arts, writing, music, and theater to feel part of society
- increasing self-esteem
- learning new values and dealing with peer pressure
- tutoring help and alternative classes
- family support
- making youngsters feel cared for
- using sports and physical challenges to build self-confidence
- suicide prevention
- court intervention
- transitional living arrangements

The importance of this survey is that it shows the fallacy of believing that there are only one or a few answers that will solve our youth crisis. What we have learned in nearly 90 years at our own organization is that the Big Brother or Big Sister will at times be a tutor, career guide, advisor about drugs, an aid to make new friends, even a supporter after a youth gets into trouble. There is no one answer because, as in any family, each child requires different support.

New Yorkers need to recognize that they can successfully become involved now with an organization that can stop youthful violence. Select the activity that interests you. Be a volunteer, contribute money, discuss these programs where you work or in your community. The answers are here. Youthful violence can be stopped—by all of us.



A major increase in public involvement with our youth service organizations will, of course, not create the needed housing, jobs, health clinics, improved schools. But a sizeable increase in personal involvement and so awareness is a critical step in creating the public atmosphere needed to support these large and costly needs.

Finally, for this publication, we also asked Gerald Regier, Administrator of the federal office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, and Leonard Dunston, Director of the New York State Division of Youth, to offer brief government perspectives on youthful violence; and Philip Coltoff, executive director of The Children's Aid Society, to discuss how that organization has seen this problem change over nearly 150 years.

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## ***The View From Washington***

***Gerald (Jerry) P. Regier***

*Acting Administrator*

*Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention*

**T**HE RATE OF VIOLENT offenses by juveniles has been increasing, most alarmingly among those committed by younger juveniles. This correlates with the rise in gang involvement and drug abuse, but the root causes lie deeper. Learning the reasons, however, is not enough. We must find answers.

The President's "weed and seed" strategy offers hope. In terms of habitually violent youth, "weeding" means identifying them and changing or controlling their behavior. "Seeding" implies planting effective programs and nurturing the positive

aspects of family, school, and neighborhood that will prevent delinquency and promote social responsibility. Government can help but the seeds most likely to bear fruit are values, direction and discipline sown by parents.

Children learn by example. Where they do not have good adult models, they learn from older members of the gang. The dedicated volunteers of mentoring programs like Big Brothers/Big Sisters provide positive role models that may not otherwise be available. The seeds they plant may bear fruit for generations to come.

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## ***The View From Albany***

***Leonard Dunston***

*Director*

*New York State Division For Youth*

**V**IRTUALLY ALL CREDIBLE RESEARCH, as well as the dictates of common sense, insist that youthful violence is a consequence of a sinuous and intricate interplay of factors, demanding a careful analysis and comprehensive response. Our society must abandon the naive search for a "quick fix," and turn to strategies that will result in real systems-change.

Youthful violence, while realized in the street, is rooted in the systems of family, media, school, community, employment and the other significant components of our society. Young people are not born violent. They learn violence from the same systems that teach them racism and hopelessness. If we are to be success-

ful, we must address youth violence at its true sources. Programs must go beyond youth-directed efforts and change flawed systems.

---

## ***A View Over Nearly 150 Years***

***Philip Coltoff***

*Executive Director*

*The Children's Aid Society*

**T**HE CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY was founded in the early 1850's after Charles Loring Brace wrote his now famous book "Dangerous Classes," which said thousands of children were flooding the City streets and causing great anxiety and fear. The socially held view was that these children did not have the moral fiber or strength of character to achieve legitimacy.

Today we have what some might call, once again, "dangerous classes," but much has changed. Industrialization, automation and welfare policies have altered the face of poverty. More children are now poorer than are adults. One quarter of all American families are single-parent households, with 10% having no parent. Institutional norms and mores have also changed radically. Family violence and youthful acting out are a direct result of not only a dysfunctional family system but a disjunction between society's expectations and individual realities. Violence can only be understood and changed if our society sees poverty, racism and sexism as evils to be confronted and defeated.

---

**American Friends Service Committee**

15 Rutherford Place, New York, New York 10003. Tel: (212) 598-0958

For the past five years we have operated a small alternative high school serving an adolescent population most at risk of engaging in violent behavior. Thirty-five students ages 16 to 21 work with three teachers, a paraprofessional, and two program staff in classwork and on video projects. The AFSC's commitment to non-violence creates opportunities for youth to learn and participate in peace and justice alternatives. This project demonstrates that a small, supportive community-based program which provides multiple direct services can effectively assist and motivate youth to make positive choices in their lives.

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**Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City**

223 East 30th Street, New York, New York 10016. Tel: (212) 686-2042

We would work with local police precincts to identify youth who have been arrested or are likely to commit offenses. Each youngster would be matched with an adult volunteer in an intense, caring relationships that last years, and often a lifetime. These matches produce a surrogate relative and the continuous caring that all youngsters need to develop in a healthy, socially involved manner. Outside studies show more than 80 percent of the youth in the pro-

gram stay out of trouble, do better in school and improve self-esteem and family relationships.

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**Bridgfield Civic League**

3551 Laconia Avenue, Bronx, New York 10469. Tel: (212) 654-6413

We would like to provide a place where teens can gather for mentoring, social interchange, arts & crafts, cultural excursions (trips to the theatre, art exhibits, etc.) sporting events and concerts. Our program would accommodate approximately one hundred teens. Its success would be assured due to the commitment, dedication, and expertise that our League members have, in addition to our desire to make a difference in today's youth. Studies have indicated that caring and high expectations are the cornerstones of positive behavior. All together, these components are the attributes which make for happy, well adjusted, informed, and educated young adults.

---

**Cambria Heights Reap & Keep Services**

224-04 Linden Boulevard, Cambria Heights, New York 11411. Tel: (718) 528-0608

In June of 1991, Dr. Daisy King developed and implemented a successful experience through alternative education. Thirty-six youngsters and their parents participated in, and benefitted from the pro-

gram. The behavioral patterns of the youth involved improved significantly. Unfortunately, the school that provided the space for the program, will be utilizing their space this year. Our up and coming AIDS prevention program can only exist with an increased budget. We wish to continue to provide support systems for youngsters, giving them the one on one attention that they deserve.

---

***The Children's Aid Society***

*105 East 22nd Street, New York, New York 10010. Tel: (212) 949-4917*

Without question, the best program to reduce youthful violence is the establishment of community center programs which fundamentally change the social environment of a block and the neighborhood around it. Programs where families feel ownership, that offer a community a sense of hope, safety and belonging, are a true safety net. Parents in such neighborhoods, organize, keep the block clean and free of drug-dealing.

In the many communities that The Children's Aid Society services throughout the City, the blocks and neighborhoods that surround the Centers are cleaner, safer and more welcoming, with significantly reduced levels of homicides than non-center blocks.

*From being needy...*



PHOTO: PETER KARAS / FPG INTERNATIONAL

*...To coming together*



PHOTO: ROBERT J. BENNETT / FPG INTERNATIONAL

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**Covenant House**

460 West 41st Street, New York, New York 10036 Tel: (212) 613-0300

We must give young people a chance to lead productive lives by providing opportunities: quality education, a safe and stable place to live, job training and placement, and the support of adult role models. Youthful violence is often a product of disillusionment and a lack of constructive and viable alternatives. Covenant House New York's transitional living program has been successful in providing over 500 young people with long-term alternatives to life on the streets. A national commitment to community-based services which can provide the necessary support for families is vital. We must recognize that our children are indeed our future!

---

**The Door**

121 Avenue of the Americas, New York, New York 10013-1510. Tel: (212) 941-9090

Expand our nationally and internationally recognized holistic approach of youth service provision to a seven-day-a-week program. We are confident that, based on actual program experiences, this would have a positive impact on preventing youthful violence and is a successful model for intervening with youthful offenders. For twenty years The Door has provided an entire life support system of integrated services (over 30 different activities are available for



free, on-site) to help break the cycle of failure trapping thousands of New York City teenagers in hopelessness.

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### ***Educators For Social Responsibility***

*475 Riverside Drive, Room 450, New York, New York 10115*

The Resolving Conflict Creatively Program, co-sponsored by Educators for Social Responsibility and the NYC Public Schools, educates young people in creative, nonviolent approaches to conflict. Teaching conflict resolution is demanding. It involves helping people develop skills and learn new ways of thinking about conflict—ways that run counter to the values of competition and violence too often glorified in our society. If our budget were doubled, we would double the amount of support our staff provides to teachers. And we would push for high-level policy changes needed to make conflict resolution a core part of the school curriculum.

---

### ***Family Consultation Service***

*216-10 Jamaica Avenue, Queens Village, New York 11428 Tel: (718) 465-8585*

We would start a Mentor Program especially for young males known to our agency and within the community. It has been observed that a high percentage of the agency's clients are from one-parent

families. Many of these children are attracted to negative activities and role models that lead to lives of crime and incarceration. It has also been observed in our Homework Help Program that minority male children with a history of academic and behavior problems in school respond positively to guidance and friendship offered on a one-to-one basis.

---

**Federation Employment And Guidance Service**

62 West 14th Street, New York, New York 10011. Tel: (212) 366-8300

We would design an Assessment and Referral Center for offenders, 16 years and over, who are in our criminal court system. The Center, where many court-related personnel or criminal justice advocacy organizations could send their client (defendant), would provide a thorough, functional assessment including educational and vocational evaluations (and psychological, if called for), and then prepare an individualized referral plan which might include high school, (with on-going case management supports), educational and vocational programs etc. The Center(s) would have open ended tutoring services, assistance in ESL, homework help and preparation for RCT's and other standardized exams.

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**Foundation for the Creative Community**

484 West 43rd Street, Suite 3M, New York, New York 10036. Tel: (212) 496-8861

Local services for children are more than ever crucial to our city. However, for urban teens, except for specialized situations (local basketball team), fragmented efforts are insufficient. Arts in education programs, including ours, with strongly built-in motivations, have demonstrated the effectiveness of providing at-risk youth with centralized, mainstream experiences, with a dual focus: 1) To develop community (New York City)-involved individuals; and 2) To provide skills plus mentorship which reinforce educational growth and career opportunities.

---

**Good Shepherd Services**

337 East 17th Street, New York, New York 10003. Tel: (212) 475-4245

Open more Beacon programs like Good Shepherd's Red Hook Community Center to provide children, young people and families with afterschool and evening activities. Offer more safe, secure environments where families can enjoy one another and build their sense of community, and where young people can participate in sports, clubs, and tutoring. Together we can help children grow into independent, productive members of our city.

---

**Greenwich Village Youth Council**

25 Carmine Street, New York, New York 10014. Tel: (212) 242-3887

Food, clothing, shelter, health care, and a positive, nurturing environment must be available to every youngster. If youth are respected by our society, they will give respect. With additional funds, we could rent more space and expand services to offer critically needed employment counseling, job development, AIDS prevention/education, academic counseling & referral. Other important additions would include court intervention, a shelter, a parent-involvement program and multi-cultural workshops for staff and youth. At the core of these efforts are goals that guide our work every day: to improve race relations and deter violence.

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**Grosvenor Neighborhood House**

176 West 105th Street, New York, New York 10025. Tel: (212) 749-8500

We would expand our focus on education and employment. Anguish and rage and recent incidents of outrage are the results of a lack of education and jobs. Educational services would target children from the age of five, our school age children, teenagers and adults. We would offer comprehensive and integrated educational support services for children and families. Our employment services would include: career exploration, employability

preparation, job placement and entrepreneurship development for teenagers and their families.

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***Interfaith Neighbors***

*247 East 82nd Street, New York, New York 10028. Tel: (212) 472-3567*

Open in a different neighborhood. We'd continue to focus on young adolescents—an undeserved age group. Comprehensive services: recreation, counseling, education, family/school teamwork, community service. To stop violence, stick to the tried and true: build egos; supply academic, social and personal skills; provide a truly safe agency setting with positive norms; help youth to explore differences; protect children. Relationships with adults guide youngsters through childhood and adolescence and every interaction is an opportunity to build hope and confidence, and to stop the violence. The work should be guided by a vision which should both inspire and be inspired by staff and clients.

---

***Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center***

*415 East 93rd Street, New York, New York 10128. Tel: (212) 360-7620*

Expand: Youth Employment, in order to place more people in employment and enable them to redefine success for themselves. Start: Group Meetings for teens that teach methods of coping with stress and problems in a positive way.

***From being needy...***



PHOTO: BARBOZA / FPG INTERNATIONAL

***...To coming together***



PHOTO: JEFFRY W. MYERS / FPG INTERNATIONAL

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***The Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services***

*120 West 57th Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 582-9100*

If "wishes" were dollars, we would increase our volunteer Big Brother/Sister program budget by 100%, and would be able to include all our little brothers and sisters in many of our preventive community based programs. These programs include psychiatric diagnostic evaluations, psychological counselling, educational tutoring and recreational camp services. Support groups for parents would complement the services provided for our little brothers and sisters. Our program statistics demonstrate when youngsters receive early intervention services, there is a very small percentage that become youthful offenders.

---

***The Junior Tennis Clinic***

*185 Hall Street, Suite 815, Brooklyn, New York 11205. Tel: (718) 636-8651*

We will provide a delinquency demonstration project for youth, ages 12-19, within the metropolitan New York City area, which will benefit youthful violence and intervene successfully with youthful offenders through a positive cultivation of energies. This project will develop positive behavior, understanding, and positive outlets through workshops geared to resolving youthful violence and its related problems in a multiracial setting. One component

will be counseling for evaluation, analysis, and resolution; the second, will address both physical and emotional factors in focusing youth's energies toward a more positive appreciation of tennis instructions.

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***Kingsbridge Heights Community Center***

*3101 Kingsbridge Terrace, Bronx, New York 10463 Tel: (212) 884-0700*

Youth violence is a product of missed opportunities—little or no family support, no sense of a future, and no sense of people caring about them. The experiences that teach valuing human life are not absorbed by youth by osmosis but rather become instilled as a by product of growing up in an environment that values them as human beings. The social policy of this country must demonstrate the same commitment to our children as it has to the defense of our country.

---

***Langston Hughes Community Library & Cultural Center***

*102-09 Northern Boulevard, Corona, New York 11368. Tel: (718) 651-1100*

We would begin workshops geared specifically for teens and young adults, which would have two major goals. The first is to address critical issues such as: Peer Pressure and Role Models, The



Importance of Cultural Pride, Human Sexuality and Parenting Responsibilities, Community Politics and Economics, Parent/Child Relationships and Communications, Preparing For High School, College or The Work Force and The Value of A High School Diploma Over a G.E.D. Certificate. Workshops will be designed for both teen/young adults and parents, under the leadership of a workshop instructor.

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***Madison Square Boys & Girls Club***

301 East 29th Street, New York, New York 10016. Tel: (212) 532 5751

The best way to prevent youth violence is to offer our children viable alternatives to violent responses...a task easier said than done. Inner city kids (no, all kids) for better or worse, are a product of their culture, and our American culture has been a violent culture. Last year, we began Conflict Resolution Skills Training for all staff members. The training includes negotiation skills, crisis intervention strategies and other techniques staff can use to increase the peace and contain youth rage. If we had resources, we'd offer this effective training to student leaders at neighborhood high and intermediate schools.

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***The National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship***

*64 Fulton Street, Suite 700, New York, New York 10038. Tel: (212) 233-1777*

We take a unique approach to youth intervention by teaching at risk, economically or physically disabled youth the life-skill of entrepreneurship. NFTE takes the business sense at risk youth develop in their high-stress environments and turns it into a legal way out of poverty. Students learn to open and operate their own businesses. We have seen entrepreneurship help at risk youth avoid the drug trade, delay teen pregnancy, stay in school and earn money for themselves and their families. Of the 3,000 at risk NFTE alumni, approximately 300 currently operate small businesses. Some NFTE programs have had business formation rates of nearly ten times the national average.

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***New York City Outward Bound Center***

*140 West Street, Suite 2626, New York, New York 10007. Tel: (212) 608-8899*

We would expand our adventure-based programs within the City's public schools and youth-serving community-based organizations. These unique programs bring young people from many different backgrounds together to engage in challenging activities which have been shown to be effective in building self-confidence, self-reliance and the

capacity to reach out and help others. These programs make school a more engaging place, are a vehicle for improving self-esteem, foster a sense of intimacy and connectedness among the youth, promote racial harmony, and, overall, help break the cycle of despair and violence.

---

***New Youth Connections***

*135 West 20th Street, New York, New York 10011. Tel: (212) 242-3270*

We once asked a particularly street hardened teen reporter at New Youth Connections what was his first impression of our program. He said that he was bewildered, because as he tried to figure out who he had to fight to establish himself, no one caught his signals. Soon he learned that language is the tool for resolving the often intense disagreements that arise here. Words can hurt the soul, but they spill no blood and all the combatants can come back for another day. If we could double our budget, we would start writing projects for another 300 students a year.

---

***NIDC Neighborhood Initiatives  
Development Corporation***

*2523 Olinville Avenue, Bronx, New York 10467. Tel: (212) 231-9800*

The best way to achieve the social changes needed

to prevent youthful violence is through youth leadership development. Leadership development teaches youth how to take responsibility, function in today's society, and take charge in making the changes that will bring about improvements in their lives. By giving youth something positive to focus on, the violence which results from idleness and frustration will dissipate. Our youth are anxious to be recognized and play a role in society. It is our responsibility to teach them how they can do that.

---

**New York City Job & Career Center**

255 West 54th Street, New York, New York 10019. Tel: (212) 247-5650

250 Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201. Tel: (718) 852-9484

Reducing youth violence is directly related to raising self-esteem. No activity does this better than preparing someone for the world of work and then helping him/her get a job. This is what the New York City Job and Career Center has been doing for the past 5 years. Utilizing the latest techniques and high-tech equipment, the teenagers are taught how to take an interview, prepare a resume, complete a job application, etc. Last year, IBM honored us as the leading career training program for youth. Doubling our budget would enable us to service 14,000 teenagers through our program.

*From being needy...*

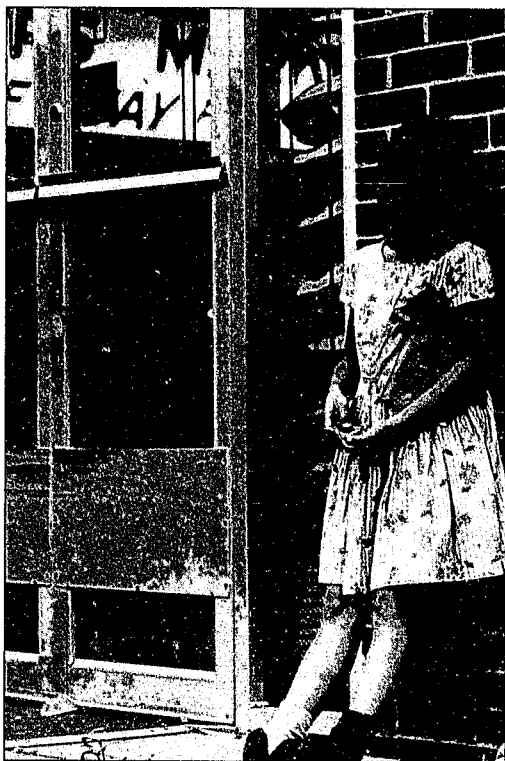


PHOTO: T&A PHOTOGRAPHERS / FPG INTERNATIONAL

*...To coming together*



PHOTO: SPENCER GRANT / FPG INTERNATIONAL

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**The Panel**

121 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 507, New York, New York 10013.  
Tel: (212) 226-1330

We would expand upon our most successful training component: 3-day, out-of-town youth retreats. Twenty teenagers of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds would be recruited through the high schools. They would participate in group sessions focusing on building trust, managing anger, improving race relations, learning alternatives to violence and developing leadership skills. The Panel's staff have worked for over 50 years with New York youth and can testify to the effectiveness and success of taking them away for an extended period of time to discuss these important issues.

---

**Poets In Public Service**

154 Christopher Street, Suite 3B, New York, New York 10014. Tel: (212) 206-9000

We have an 18 year history of providing successful intervention programs to youth through creative writing workshops conducted by experienced, professional writers. The workshops are avenues of expression allowing the youngsters to address and communicate their fears and frustrations in a positive, non-violent way. The "dream budget expansion" would provide long term writing workshops (25 days each) for 10,000 children in 77 schools in the 5 boroughs and allow them to see their poems

published in anthologies. The positive results are observable and confirmed by the kids.

---

**Private Industry Council**

17 Battery Place, New York, New York 10004 Tel: (212) 742-1000

All young men and women about to embark on the transition to productive roles of adulthood should not have that journey impeded by a lack of preparation in education, work experience and life management skills. We train, counsel, place in employment and support on the job young people between the ages of 18 and 21 who have dropped out of school. Basic academic skills and job getting and keeping skills are necessary. A young person's approach to working life is an expression of a particular value system. With twice the funds, we could double the length of our training time and effect behavior change through values exploration.

---

**Ralph-Lincoln Service Center**

578 Ralph Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11233. Tel: (718) 604-1358

We would immediately implement a more intense Life Skills Program, coordinating the Program on a more frequent schedule after school, or attempting to get the program included in the regular curriculum during school hours. This program would

implement registered students in basic Life skills, and prepare the students for adulthood. Presently we are operating such a program, for 4 days per week, for 3 hours per day. We would increase the hours and provide a more indepth program.

---

**Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement**

10-25 Forty-First Avenue, Long Island City, New York 11101. Tel: (718) 784-RIIS

Programs have to be created which work from a developmental perspective, rather than a preventive mode. These programs should give options to young people, early in life while in elementary school. Preventive models are designed to keep kids from being idle for the most part. Developmental models would engage youth in activities that introduce a range of positive options or develop further those already possessed. The type of activities which would lend to this are those aspects of life that many inner city youths are not exposed to such as: travel, arts, career exploration, cultural awareness, conflict resolution experiences, technology.

---

**St. Mary's Community Services**

230 Classon Avenue, Brooklyn, New York 11205. Tel: (718) 230-0827

We would do the following: (1) train youth in the Fort Greene section to play musical instruments for



a marching band; (2) offer neighborhood youth hands-on workshops in electronics.

---

### ***Suicide Prevention Resources***

*FDR Station Box 7693, New York, New York 10150-1914. Tel: (212) 750-8410*

A study by the Centers for Disease Control found that more than 20% of New York City's high school students had serious thoughts of suicide within the previous year; 3% to 5% had made suicide attempts. These youth are not only vulnerable to violence toward themselves, they are also vulnerable to substance abuse, dropping out, running away, delinquency, dangerous behavior, and interpersonal violence. Many have experienced violence and abuse in the home, or been physically or sexually assaulted outside the home. Suicide prevention reduces the incidence of self-injury and contributes to a reduction of violence toward others.

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### ***Theatre Rehabilitation for Youth***

*58 Farragut Avenue, Staten Island, New York 10303 Tel: (718) 983-1990*

We were founded for the purpose of using theatre as a means of dealing with the problems of young people. T.R.Y., among its services, provides theatre professionals to drug rehabilitation centers, alternative schools, half-way houses, etc. to conduct work-

***From being needy...***



PHOTO: BARBOZA / FPG INTERNATIONAL

***...To coming together***



PHOTO: JEFFRY W. MYERS / FPG INTERNATIONAL

shops and to assist young people in preparing and presenting shows on subjects relevant to their lives. It has been proven this activity raises self-esteem and self-confidence and brings a sense of accomplishment and approval, as well as improves various skills of the participants. Increased funding would bring our services free to hundreds at additional sites.

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### **Victim Services**

*2 Lafayette Street, New York, New York 10007. Tel: (212) 577-7700*

We run peer mediation and victim assistance counseling programs in schools to help students grapple with violence at home, on the street and in school. The programs have been credited with increasing school attendance, bettering academic performance, reducing rates of violence, and reducing suspensions. Still, our approach has been primarily piecemeal. We would like to infuse one school with peer mediation, counseling, a recently developed violence prevention/victim assistance curriculum, and a school-wide anti-violence campaign. If our school program budget increased by 100%, we could introduce this initiative into eight schools and reach about 8,000 students.

---

**YMCA of Greater New York**

422 Ninth Avenue, New York, New York 10001. Tel: (212) 564-1300

We would like to become a model organization, involving local precincts, youth, parents and others in anti-crime community activities at all our branches. We would increase scholarships as well as the number of social workers involved in our teen programs so that more teens could participate, gain direction, learn about security, racial tolerance and the breaking of barriers between different groups of people. We would ensure that youth leadership potential is channeled in a positive direction by involving more youth in our leadership development programs.

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**Young Audiences/New York**

2112 Broadway, Suite 204, New York, New York 10023. Tel: (212) 874-5503

For 40 years, we have been committed to engaging students in performance and residency programs with professional artists of the highest caliber. Our programs in dance, music, theater and the visual arts generate creativity and responsiveness, expand reasoning and thinking skills, and promote multi-cultural awareness, and self-esteem among all students. These programs have proven to be highly effective as they work in conjunction with each school's efforts to motivate and increase students'

receptivity to the learning process. We look forward to continued work with students, their parents and teachers and to enabling cultural access for the community.

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**Young People's Information Service**

*42 Richmond Terrace, 4th Floor, Staten Island, New York 10301. Tel: (718) 720-9410*

We would increase our Youth Mediation Program by 10 schools. Train 300 young people as Peer Mediators. Provide 7000 students conflict resolution skills. Provide the mediation process to 2000 students, thereby defusing situations that potentially could lead to an arrest or suspension. Teen Mediation Club directed/developed by 10 teens to indirectly serve 1000 people. Empower teens by providing opportunities to develop problem-solving techniques, producing television shows, learn decision making and leadership skills, and increase their self-esteem.

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***About Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City***

Founded in 1904 because of the thousands of youth involved in what was then Children's Court and needing help on a one-to-one basis, Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City has gone on to start many other activities. This includes establishment of the national Big Brothers/Big Sisters movement, which now has 450 member organizations. Many thousands of New York youth have been helped by being joined in one-to-one relationships with caring volunteers. These relationships usually last many years, and often a lifetime. The real heroes are the volunteer Big Brothers and Sisters, the parents and guardians from the participating single family homes, and of course the youngsters themselves. Together they create our One Family.

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## **Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City**

*Founded in 1904*

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Allan Luks  
Executive Director

We urge all of us to become involved with the organizations listed in this publication, and the many other similar service agencies. Together, we can stop the violence. We have the answers.



# **38 PROVEN WAYS YOU CAN STOP YOUTHFUL VIOLENCE**

“Thirty-eight organizations that aid New York City youth reported in a survey conducted by Big Brothers/Big Sisters of New York City about the proven programs they have to stop youthful violence. These replies show it is wrong to wait for “the” answer from Washington, D.C. on how to prevent more urban violence. They also demonstrate that successful violence prevention does not mean only joining a community patrol. People can get involved right now in supporting the widest range of efforts, from assisting community centers, to being one-on-one role models, to using theater and other arts to help youth express frustration...”

**BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS  
OF NEW YORK CITY**

223 East 30th Street New York, NY 10016