

School District Grant: Reducing Youth Involvement in Gangs

Baltimore City Schools

GRANTEE: Baltimore City Schools

ADDRESS: 200 E. North Avenue
Baltimore City, MD 21202

AMOUNT: \$4.8 Million

DURATION: 27 months

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Baltimore's Workforce Development Initiative will decrease youth involvement in gangs and violent crime by reducing the number of youth who drop out of school; increasing school reengagement; providing educational and workforce training; and supporting youth in the city who are most likely to become victims and perpetrators of violence and crime. The initiative supports the following objectives: 1) prevention and intervention; 2) recovery and remediation; and 3) reintegration efforts.

MAJOR TRACKS:

- **Futures Program:** A comprehensive dropout youth prevention program designed to support eighth graders in two middle schools by providing emphasis on improving reading as the reading specialists will create projects to promote learning.
- **YO! Baltimore:** Will hire additional clinicians in order to increase mental health assessment and subsequent referrals.
- **Alternative Youth Development Programs:** Will serve eighth grade students who are at least two years behind grade level and who are returning from detention with the Department of Juvenile Services (DJS) and will place youth who are returning from placement with DJS with follow-up support provided by Baltimore City Public School System.
- **Twilight and Credit Recovery and Alternative Options Program:** Will be designed to accommodate the needs of students who are not on track to graduate within four years by offering an internet-based curriculum integrated with an on-line assessment and prescriptive system.
- **Participant Screening Strategy:** Will offer a full battery of screenings to find the right career area and support services for out-of-school youth who participate in the YO! Baltimore program in receiving a full battery of screenings to find the right career area and support services for them.
- **Work Experience:** Will fund out-of-school youth offenders in order to obtain experience; acquire workplace skill sets; earn minimum wages; and explore career-track occupations.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA TO BE SERVED: Baltimore City School System

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