

Youth Commission Policy & Budget Priorities for Fiscal Years 2013~2014 & 2014~2015

Pursuant to Charter Section 4.124, "The purpose of the Commission is to collect all information relevant to advising the Board of Supervisors and Mayor on the effects of legislative policies, needs, assessments, priorities, programs, and budgets concerning the children and youth of San Francisco."

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Introductory Letter from Chairwoman Mia Shackelford

San Francisco is an amazing and challenging city for youth to live in. We have a growing economy, vibrant cultures, and our local government often serves as a model for the nation on issues of equality and civic participation. On the other hand, not all communities are receiving equitable access to what makes San Francisco so successful. Although San Francisco is often seen and discussed as a community of transplants or childless adults, there is a large youth population that adds to the city's vitality, and that faces unique needs and challenges.

The San Francisco Youth Commission's inclusion in the city charter is one way our government recognizes the importance of San Francisco's young people. Our chartered duty of presenting our Policy and Budget Priorities to the Board of Supervisors reflects that youth voice is valued here in San Francisco. It is far from the first the city government has heard from us this year, and it will not be the last. We have passed resolutions, advocated at public meetings, listened and engaged with our peers, and organized within the community. We've visited after school programs and youth organizations, participated in meetings, events, and youth forums, presented in schools and college classrooms, and had full commission meetings at the Bayview Opera House and the Ernest Ingold Boys and Girls Clubhouse. Wherever we go, we make sure to listen and take note of issues our peers brought up, to share our own priorities to get youth feedback, and to increase the visibility of our commission so as to ensure that we're working to fulfill our mission of bridging the gap between youth and government.

This document is intended as a distillation of our policy and budget recommendations, both in order to inform the budget process, and more broadly to showcase the values of San Francisco's youth, and the work we've done alongside the youth community so far.

We've accomplished a lot in our quest to represent youth in city government over the last year, both beginning to investigate new issues and following through on ongoing projects. Despite the transitions that come with a body of young people, we are committed to institutional memory. Our work in previous years on transportation has come to fruition—we are so proud of the collaboration with the community that has led to over 28,000 youth (and counting!) receiving free MUNI passes. Commissioners remain committed to fulfilling the cultural awareness trainings mandated by 12N across more city service providers. The Youth Justice Committee has continued to advocate for recreation for youth involved in the juvenile justice system, but they have also taken part in new conversations about the equipment and training youth probation officers and SFPD should have. Because of the dedication of commissioners and staff, the assistance of those in the city family, and the ceaseless support and collaboration with community organizations, our policy priorities span a huge breadth, without sacrificing depth of understanding.

To paraphrase a song common in union organizing circles, let the work that we have done speak for us.

Best,

Mia Shackelford
Chairwoman, San Francisco Youth Commission
Appointee of Mayor Edwin M. Lee

Priority # 1: Continuing SF Summer Jobs+ & Supporting Disconnected Youth in Employment

Continuing SF Summer Jobs+ initiative, including robust oversight and monitoring of initiative, including surveying youth employed for feedback, and a prioritization of disconnected youth including transitional age youth and undocumented youth.

Background

Nationwide, there are 6.7 million transitionally aged youth disconnected from education and work,¹ with many disconnected youth ages 16-24 not represented in employment statistics because the competitive current job market had dissuaded them from even searching for work.

As also seen each year by the staggering numbers from the Youth Vote survey, employment is always the highest priority among San Francisco youth. According to the fall 2012 Youth Vote Student Survey of over 7,000 San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) high school students, youth employment is consistently prioritized over any potential activity, program, club or lesson (Figure 1).²

In response to national youth employment crisis, President Obama launched the Summer Jobs+ campaign in January 2012, an initiative that challenged business leaders and communities to help provide hundreds of thousands of summer jobs for America's youth.

In 2012, the Youth Commission passed resolutions no. 1112-05 "Urging the Mayor and the Board to commend President Obama's Summer Jobs+ Plan",³ and no. 1112-10 "Urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to launch a local San Francisco Summer Jobs+ Campaign"⁴.

In April 2012, Mayor Edwin Lee announced the launch of San Francisco Summer Jobs+, which brought together City departments, the private sector, United Way of the Bay Area, and other non profits to create some 5,000 jobs for 16 to 24 year olds in summer of 2012.

¹ Clive R. Belfield, Henry M. Levin, and Rachel Rosen. *The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth*. Jan. 2012. http://www.serve.gov/new-images/council/pdf/econ_value_opportunity_youth.pdf

²Fall 2012 Youth Vote Student Survey. http://yefsf.org/F12survey_main.html

³ San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 1112-AL05 "Urging the Mayor and the Board to Commend the President's Summer Jobs+ Plan," adopted January 9, 2012.

⁴ San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 1112-AL 10 "Urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to launch a local San Francisco Summer Jobs+ Campaign," adopted

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the number of youth 16 to 24 years old, employed in summer of 2012, rose 2.1 million to 19.5 million. In 2012, the share of young people employed in July was 50.2 percent (the month of July typically is the summertime peak in youth employment). However, unemployment among youth increased by 836,000 from April to July 2012, compared with an increase of 745,000 for the same period in 2011.⁵

According to a SF Summer Jobs+ 2012 report, the local initiative was successful in providing 5,204 work opportunities, with 3,466 of the opportunities in the public sector, and 1,738 in the private sector (See Figure 2).⁶ Of the job opportunities, 39% of placements were permanent jobs and 53% were temporary placements. The City & County of San Francisco invested over \$12 million through 30 city departments to provide employment training opportunities for youth ages 14-24. SF Summer Jobs+ 2012 served a diverse group of youth, with 31% of participants identifying as African Americans, about 31% identifying as Asian American, 16% identifying as Latino, 5% identifying as White/Caucasian, 3% identifying as Pacific Islander, 5% identifying as Multi-Racial, 3% identifying as Other, and 6% identifying as Unknown (See Figure 3).⁷

The Youth Commission is excited to hear that the initiative will continue with SF Summer Jobs+ 2013. We are ecstatic that on Tuesday, April 30th, Mayor Lee officially announced the launch of SF Summer Jobs+ 2013 initiative, which will bring together United Way of the Bay Area along with City Departments and private sector employers to create 6,000 jobs and paid internships for San Francisco youth. We are especially enthused with the bigger overall goal of 6,000 jobs for disconnected youth and the Mayor's commitment to target disadvantaged and at-risk youth, including undocumented immigrants.⁸

⁵ Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/youth.nr0.htm>

⁶ http://www.oewd.org/media/docs/WorkforceDevelopment/wisf/WISF%20Board/2013/3.27.2013/Item%205%20SJ_Update.pdf

⁷ Poland, Matt, United Way of the Bay Area; and Glenn Eagleson, Department of Children, Youth, and their Families: Presentation on "SF Summer Jobs+ Statistics on 2012 Work Opportunities".

⁸ John Cote. "Mayor Lee wants record 6,000 summer jobs." *San Francisco City Insider Blog*. April 30, 2013. <http://blog.sfgate.com/cityinsider/2013/04/30/mayor-ed-lee-wants-record-6000-summer-jobs/>

San Francisco's Young People's Desire for Jobs (Figure 1.1)

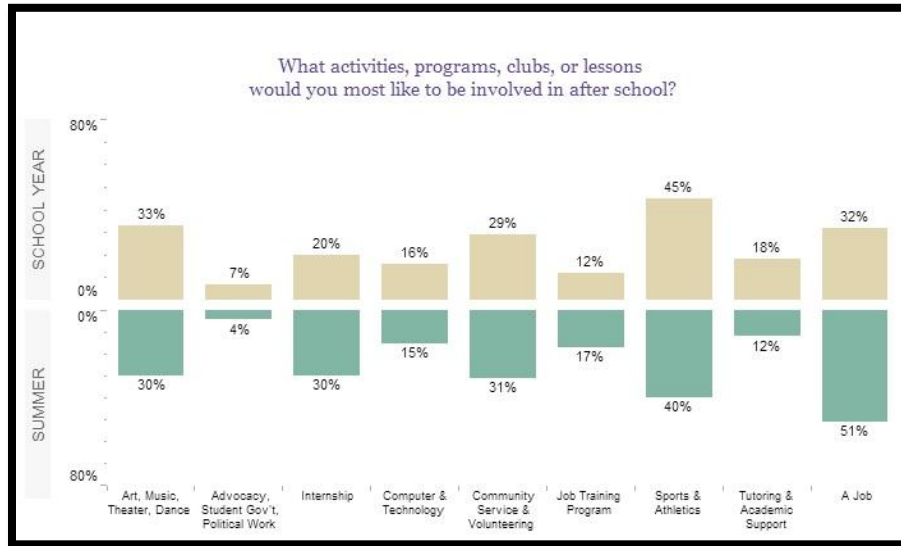
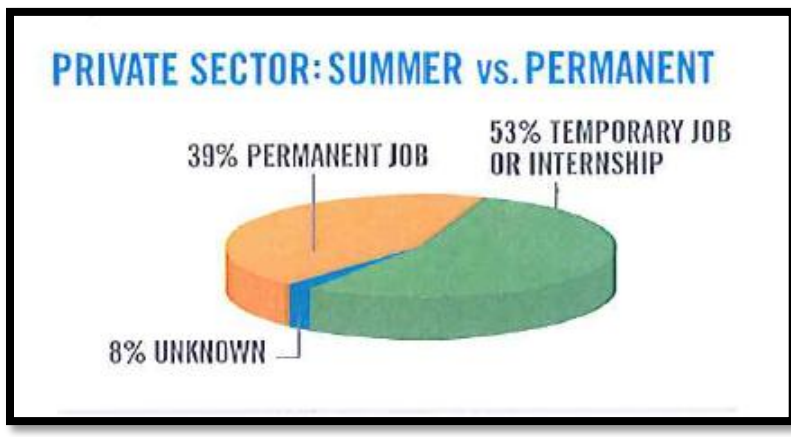


Figure 1.1 San Francisco's Young People's Desire for Jobs

SF Summer Jobs+ Statistics on 2012 Work Opportunities (Figure 1.2)



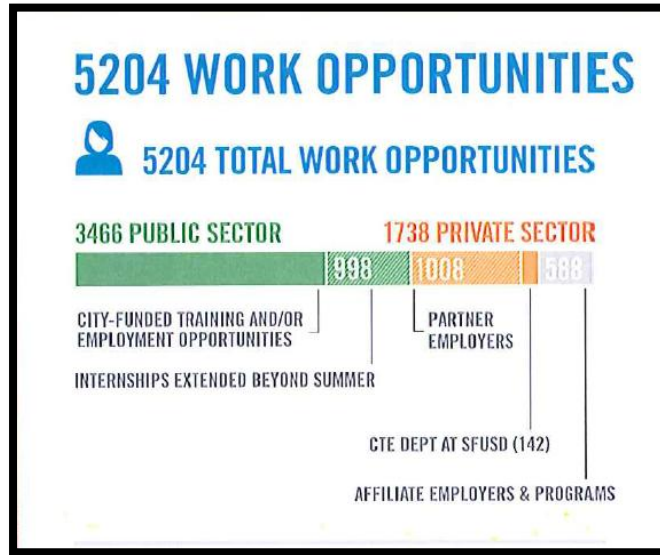


Figure 1.2 SF Summer Jobs+ Statistics on 2012 Work Opportunities

SF Summer Jobs+ Statistics on 2012 Work Opportunities (Figure 1.3)

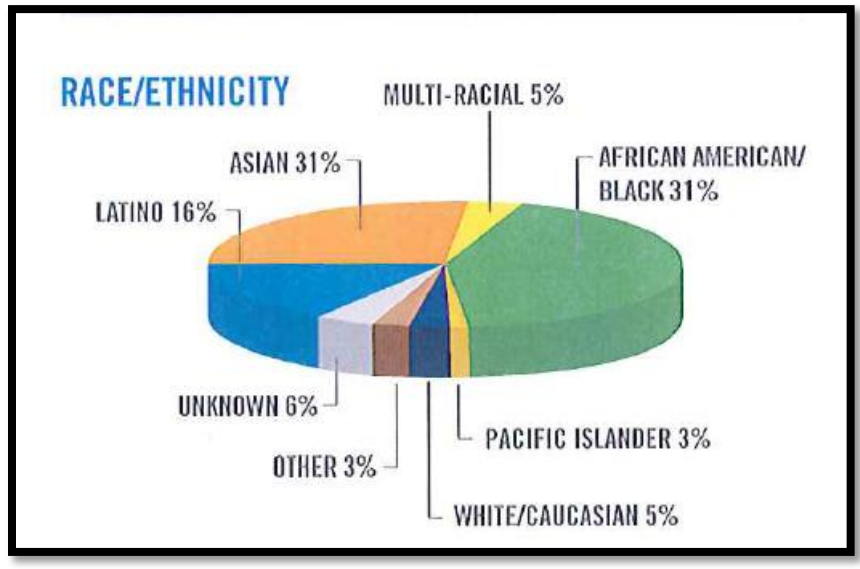


Figure 1.3 SF Summer Jobs+ Statistics on 2012 Work Opportunities

Recommendation

Working very closely with youth advocates and youth employment service providers—especially the youth employment provider consortium the San Francisco Youth Employment Coalition—the Youth Commission developed Youth Commission resolution 1213—05 *Calling on the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to Continue SF Summer Jobs+*, adopted January 13, 2013. At various meetings and community events,

youth employment service providers urged the Youth Commission to continue to prioritize work opportunities for youth who are particularly disconnected from services and who face the most barriers to employment, such as formerly incarcerated youth, disenfranchised youth, foster youth, transitional age youth, and undocumented youth.

Firstly, this resolution commends the Mayor and the Board for the city's implementation of SF Summer Jobs+ in 2012; and the continuation of SF Summer Jobs+ in 2013. This resolution also urges that the SF Summer Jobs+ initiative prioritizes the young people who need these jobs the most. In particular, the Youth Commission calls on the City Family to prioritize the more than 7,000 San Francisco youth and young adults, ages 16-24, who are: involved in public systems, dropped out of high school, undocumented, homeless, living with a disability or special need, and/or are pregnant or parenting. These are the "disconnected" youth who San Francisco City government calls "TAY" (transitional age youth).⁹

We also call on the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to do the following in rolling out the SF Summer Jobs+ 2013 initiative:

- to communicate the importance and benefits of hiring at-risk and low income youth
- to encourage a financial literacy workshop component for all Summer Jobs+ participants so that youth receiving stipends or wages understand their access to bank accounts and financial education;
- to urge DCYF and OEWD and partners involved in the roll out of SF Summer Jobs+ to include a pre and post survey for youth participants to provide feedback to the initiative
- to meticulously document and track the demographics and outcomes of youth involved in the program
- to prioritize disconnected transitional age youth who have the most barriers to employment, and to earmark funds for undocumented youth who do not have right to work documents, but can still benefit from stipend opportunities within SF Summer Jobs+

The Youth Commission is grateful that our great city has prioritized youth employment with a second year of SF Summer Jobs+. With this bigger goal of 6,000 summer jobs, we call on the City and County of San Francisco to help make sure that disconnected youth with the most barriers to employment are prioritized in this initiative in every way.

⁹ See Transitional Age Youth San Francisco initiative (www.taysf.org) and *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Roadmap to Improve the Life Chances of San Francisco's Most Vulnerable Young Adults* (2007), Mayor's Transitional Youth Task Force, City & County of San Francisco, <http://www.heysf.org/download/TYTF%20final%20report.pdf>.

Priority # 2: Fully Fund the Plan for Affordable Housing for Transitional Age Youth.

Ensure that the city follow through with the 2007 citywide recommendations proposed by the Transitional Youth Task Force, specifically urging the city to develop evaluation tools that measure the quality and effectiveness of TAY housing on youth.

Background

In San Francisco, it is estimated that there are between 5,000 and 8,000 disconnected transitional-aged youth – youth between the ages of 16 and 24 who will not make a successful transition into adulthood:¹⁰ 6,000 TAY lack a high school diploma, 5,500 are completely uninsured and 7,000 neither work nor go to school.¹¹ As a result, many TAY experience substantial periods of unemployment, homelessness, and a disproportionately high number of these young people have some degree of involvement with the criminal justice system.

In response to these numbers, the Youth Commission adopted a resolution in 2005 calling on then-Mayor Gavin Newsom to create a task force that would propose methods to better serve this population.¹² Mayor Newsom created this task force in 2006 and after a year of intensive, collaborative work between City officials, community-based service providers, and TAY themselves, the Mayor's Transitional Youth Task Force (TYTF) released its report in October 2007, *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Roadmap to Improve the Life Chances of San Francisco's Most Vulnerable Young Adults*. This document contained 16 comprehensive recommendations for City agencies “to address the problem of the current fragmented policies and programs, with a comprehensive, integrated approach towards disconnected transitional age youth.”¹³ Among the report's 16 recommendations to the city's policy makers, “more accessible housing for disconnected TAY” was a high priority.

Some City Departments responded to the TYTF report with great vigor. For example, the Mayor's Office of Housing (MOH) convened a TAY Housing Work Group with a variety of stakeholders to create a plan to meet the housing goals established by the Task Force. The goal of the TAY Housing Plan is to create 400 additional units for TAY by 2015, using a variety of housing models. The Housing Work Group concluded that there is no one “best model” of housing for youth, but a wide range of models is needed for different

¹⁰ *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Roadmap to Improve the Life Chances of San Francisco's Most Vulnerable Young Adults* (2007), Mayor's Transitional Youth Task Force, City & County of San Francisco

¹¹ Transitional Age Youth—San Francisco (TAYSF) initiative, *TAYSF 2011 Progress Report*, page 2 http://www.heysf.org/download/taysfpublications/TAYSF_Progress_Report.pdf.

¹² Youth Commission Resolution 0405—005, *Resolution urging the Mayor to Ordain a Transitional Youth Task Force*.

¹³ *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco*: (p50)

populations. MOH went ahead and issued its first Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) exclusively for projects serving TAY in 2009, and the Department is financing 3 developments which will create 88 additional TAY supportive housing units over the next several years.¹⁴ Today, two years before the projected deadline, there are over 187 units to be identified.¹⁵

The Youth Commission is concerned for multiple reasons: rising home prices and rent are a financial burden to TAY and those struggling to make ends meet; there was a 63% decline of new housing stock in the City over the previous years; *no* new housing units were constructed for populations categorized under “Extremely Low Income” - a group which youth transitioning out of the foster care system would most likely fall into; the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency, the institution that provided the vast majority of local affordable housing funding for the City, was eliminated at the end of 2011.¹⁶

In November 6, 2012, the voters of the City and County of San Francisco passed Proposition C, also known as the Housing Trust Fund, which will set aside funding to acquire, create, and rehabilitate affordable housing over the next 30 years.¹⁷ This allocation will help address the housing needs of residents, including the TAY population.

Recommendations

The San Francisco Youth Commission encourages the Mayor’s Office of Housing, the Department of Public Health, and the Human Services Agency to implement the housing recommendations of the Transitional Youth Task Force.

The commission recommends the development of an evaluation tool that measures the quality and effectiveness of TAY housing and its supportive services which includes direct feedback from TAY .

The commission urges the Mayor’s Office of Housing and TAY housing and service providers to develop and implement an evaluation tool as a next step towards meeting the goal of providing 400 additional units of TAY housing by 2015, and extends its resources to contribute towards this process.

¹⁴ Mayor’s Office of Housing (MOH), Transitional Age Youth Housing, MOH website, <http://sf-moh.org/index.aspx?page=771>.

¹⁵ Documents from Mayor’s Office of Housing, June 2011.

¹⁶ *San Francisco Housing Inventory 2011* (May 2012), San Francisco Planning Department (p 2).

¹⁷ Jeff Buckley, Mayor’s Office of Housing. Power point presentation to the Full Youth Commission meeting of July 16th, 2012. <http://www.sfbos.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=42252> “Legislative Digest.” (p 1).

Priority # 3: Expand Implementation of 12N Sensitivity Training and Efforts to Track LGBTQ Youth in City Services

Assure that youth-serving City Departments are undertaking efforts to identify the needs of LGBTQ youth, use inclusive intakes, assume best practices, and train staff in accordance with section 12(N) of the San Francisco admin code

Background

Adopted in June of 1999, Chapter 12N of the San Francisco Administrative Code—entitled *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning Youth: Youth Services Sensitivity Training*—mandates training with very specific criteria regarding Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) youth sensitivity of all City employees who work with youth and all City contractors who receive \$50,000 or more in City (or City-administered) funds.¹⁸

For the past thirteen years, this well-intentioned mandate that was designed to help queer youth access culturally competent services has been an unfunded mandate. In 2012, the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Human Rights Commission (HRC), and the Youth Commission prepared a training tool which is being piloted at DPH sites. However, there are few resources to support other departments in developing relevant staff trainings, developing capacity to make appropriate referrals for LGBTQ youth, or identifying administrative barriers that keep queer and trans youth from equally accessing their services.

Notably, most city departments and contractors do not currently collect information regarding the sexual orientation or gender identity of youth they serve.¹⁹ As a result, there are few means of determining how and whether queer and trans youth are accessing services, let alone determining what outcomes they experience.

San Francisco's LGBTQ youth are still very in need of excellent services. Nationally, 20-40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ.²⁰ LGB youth in San Francisco are harassed

¹⁸ San Francisco Administrative Code, Chapter 12N: *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Questioning Youth: Youth Services Sensitivity Training*. [http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/California/administrative/chapter12nlesbiangaybisexualtransgender?f=templates\\$fn=default.htm\\$3.0\\$vid=amlegal:sanfrancisco_ca](http://www.amlegal.com/nxt/gateway.dll/California/administrative/chapter12nlesbiangaybisexualtransgender?f=templates$fn=default.htm$3.0$vid=amlegal:sanfrancisco_ca)

¹⁹ To our knowledge, only certain DPH sites collect this demographic data and data on sexual orientation and gender identity is not being collected by other youth-serving city departments. 2013 personal communication between YC staff and Michael Baxter and Jodi Schwartz.

²⁰ See: <http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/lgbt/news/2010/06/21/7980/gay-and-transgender-youth-homelessness-by-the-numbers/>

more (Figure 4)²¹ and are more likely to consider suicide (Figure 5)²² than their heterosexual peers. There is a lack of research on how suicide risk affects transgender youth, but one study among adults and young adults found that 30.1 percent of transgender individuals surveyed reported having ever attempted suicide; this is 6-7 times higher than the general young adult population.²³

School-Based Harassment Due to Sexual Orientation (Figure 3.1)

During the past 12 months, have you ever been harassed because someone thought you were gay, lesbian or

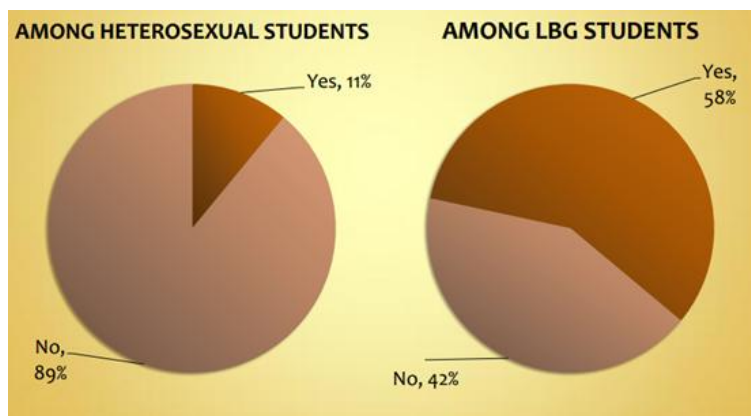


Figure 3.1 School-Based Harassment Due to Sexual Orientation

Suicide Risk (Figure 3.2)

²¹ San Francisco Unified School District, Student Support Services for LGBTQ Youth, <http://www.healthiersf.org/LGBTQ/index.php>.

²² Ibid.

²³ See: http://www.suicidology.org/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=232&name=DLFE-334.pdf

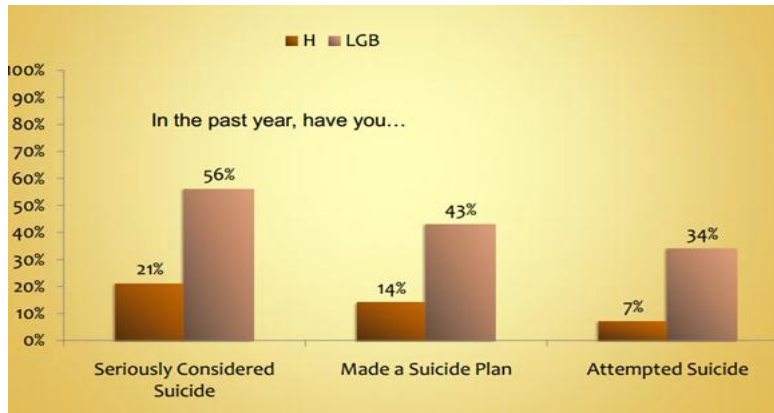


Figure 3.2 Suicide Risk

Recommendation

The Youth Commission urges Mayor Lee, the Board of Supervisors and youth-serving City departments, to develop a timeline for implementing Chapter 12N, as well as identify funding sources to support planning and implementation. The Commission additionally requests that the Mayor and Board of Supervisors call on City departments to begin collecting information on sexual orientation and gender identity in intake forms, beginning in the upcoming fiscal year.

Priority # 4: Urging the SFUSD to prioritize and evaluate the accessibility and quality of credit recovery programs with student feedback

Evaluating the accessibility and quality of SFUSD’s credit recovery programs with student feedback and prioritize credit recovery programs for students not on track to graduate.

Background

Students must be educated in a rigorous high school curriculum in order to compete and be successful in today’s job market and society. The future of San Francisco depends on having an educated workforce and citizenry to maintain the vitality of the city.

“The mission of the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) is to provide each student with an equal opportunity to succeed by promoting intellectual growth, creativity, self-discipline, cultural and linguistic sensitivity, democratic responsibility,

economic competence, and physical and mental health so that each student can achieve his or her maximum potential".²⁴ The SFUSD's mission statement further states that, "Every student who enrolls in our schools will graduate from high school ready for college and careers and equipped with the skills, capacities, and dispositions necessary for 21st century success".

A-G requirements are the high school courses necessary for students to pass in order to enroll in any University of California or California State University. The previous graduation requirements did not fully prepare every student for college in that it was possible for a student to graduate high school and not be eligible for admission to UCs and CSUs.

In December 2008, the SFUSD's Board of Education voted to approve new graduation standards so that students who graduated high school earning a C or better in A-G requirements would be eligible to apply for University of California (UCs) and California State Universities (CSUs). In accordance with their mission statement and the Board of Education resolution, the SFUSD raised their graduation requirements to A-G requirements and implemented this new policy in 2010.²⁵ The SFUSD high school class of 2014 is the first graduating class to go through high school under the new A-G requirements.

In fall of 2012, SFUSD data showed that almost half of students of the class of 2014 were not on track to graduate, with as many as 45% of high school juniors missing one or more of the requirements. Out of the 4,024 juniors in SFUSD high schools, only 2,216 were on track to graduate and be eligible for UCs and CSUs (See Figure 4.1).²⁶ The data also showed that a large proportion of African American, Latino students, and English-language-learners were not on track.

Youth serving organizations, youth advocates, officials, and other SFUSD stakeholders met in community meetings to discuss how to best support students who were severely off-track to graduate. The joint Youth Commission and Student Advisory Council (SAC) Education committee participated in various community meetings around the issue of supporting students who were off track. Commissioners and SAC reps heard and saw that there was a clear need to expand credit recovery options available within high schools and target students who were off track.

In November of 2012, Supervisor Jane Kim introduced a budget supplemental to increase credit recovery programming for SFUSD students. Youth Commissioners and SAC representatives on the Education committee supported Supervisor Kim's legislation

²⁴ "Mission Statement" *SFUSD: Overview*. San Francisco Unified School District, n.d. Web Accessed December 5, 2012, <http://www.sfusd.edu/en/about-sfusd/overview.html>.

²⁵ San Francisco Unified School District A-G Implementation Plan FAQ. Accessed December 5, 2012. <http://www.sfusd.edu/en/assets/sfusd-staff/curriculum-and-standards/files/a-g-implementation-faq.pdf>.

²⁶ Koskey, Andrea. "Nearly Half of San Francisco Public School Juniors Lack Credits Needed to Graduate." *San Francisco Examiner*. San Francisco Examiner, 16 Nov. 2012. Web. 13 Jan. 2013.

and worked with youth organizations to get youth and community feedback, as well as participation in raising awareness about the need for more credit recovery options. In January of 2013, the \$1.4 million budget supplemental was approved by the Board of Supervisors.

Credit recovery programs are defined as programs that “aim to help schools graduate more students by giving students who have fallen behind a chance to ‘recover’ credits through a multitude of different strategies”, thereby increasing the number of high school graduates and their future opportunities.⁴ Budget cuts in recent years have reduced the amount of funding given to recovery programs, including summer school, severely impacting the amount of opportunities students have to get back on track to graduating if they miss or fail a class.⁵

There are currently online credit recovery opportunities for students in the San Francisco Unified School District, including CyberHigh, Aventa, and OdysseyWare.⁶ Credit recovery programs, such as the online options, are the main platform for off track students to regain credits to graduate in a timely manner. It is imperative that the SFUSD prioritize current credit recovery programs for students who are not on track to graduate. We feel that credit recovery programs are not being used to their fullest potential due to questionable student satisfaction and lack of information for English language learners.

Working very closely with our SAC representatives, the Youth Commission developed resolution 1213—06 *Evaluating Current SFUSD Credit Recovery Programs*, adopted January 13, 2013. The SAC approved a similar resolution in February 2013 and with the support of the SAC, the SFUSD’s Board of Education adopted a resolution *Urging the Board of Education to Evaluate the Quality and Accessibility of Credit Recovery Programs* (sponsored by Board of Education Commissioner Sandra Lee Fewer and SFUSD student delegates Windy Ly and Megan Wong) on March 12, 2013.²⁷

⁴ "Credit Recovery Programs: At a Glance." *Credit Recovery Programs: At a Glance*. Center for Public Education, 9 Jan. 2013. Web. 13 Jan. 2013. <<http://www.centerforpubliceducation.org/Main-Menu/Staffingstudents/Credit-recovery-programs>>.

⁵ Koskey, Andrea. "Nearly Half of San Francisco Public School Juniors Lack Credits Needed to Graduate." *San Francisco Examiner*. San Francisco Examiner, 16 Nov. 2012. Web. 13 Jan. 2013.

⁶ San Francisco Unified School District presentation to the Board of Supervisor’s City and School District Select Committee meeting of October 25, 2012.

²⁷ SFUSD Board of Education meeting of Tuesday, March 12, 2013. Resolution *Urging the Board of Education to Evaluate the Quality and Accessibility of Credit Recovery Programs*.

Figure 4. 1 Report card on new requirements



Recommendations

We feel that an updated and thorough evaluation of current credit recovery programs offered within SFUSD would identify the problems that might inhibit its current use and provide robust guidance for the expenditure of limited SFUSD funds. We feel that an evaluation process which includes intentional and targeted outreach of youth who have had experiences with credit recovery programming offered would most benefit the school.

The Youth Commission and the Student Advisory Council have passed similar resolutions urging the SFUSD to evaluate current credit recovery programs with youth feedback to improve the quality and accessibility of these aforementioned programs. The Youth Commission is grateful that the Board of Education has adopted our resolution in March 2013.

We also urge the continued communication between the city of San Francisco, the SFUSD, and community based organizations regarding student achievement, the reduction of the achievement gap, and how we can best support and provide opportunities for students who are not on track to graduate high school.

Priority # 5: Urging Against the Arming of Juvenile Probation Officers

In support of the already-successful rehabilitative approach to juvenile probation, and recommending against the arming of juvenile probation officers in any revised field safety protocol.

Background

At a January 9, 2013 meeting of the Juvenile Probation Commission, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer, William Siffermann, announced, subsequent to a presentation by Assistant Chief Allen Nance entitled “Juvenile Probation Officer Field Safety and Monitoring Compliance: The Changing Landscape of Community Corrections and Supervision of High Risk Offenders,” that he was “examining those existing safety measures provided to Juvenile Probation Officers” who work with the most violent and highest-risk youth, and that he planned to develop a revised safety protocol for the Juvenile Probation Department’s (JPD) probation officers to be announced sometime in April 2013. It was reported that one possible such revision will be equipping probation officers in the Serious Offender Program (SOP) unit with firearms.²⁸ Several community members and juvenile justice advocates spoke out against the proposal, and the Youth Commission adopted a resolution urging against the arming of Juvenile Probation Officers in February 2013.²⁹

Chief Siffermann has repeatedly argued that revisions to JPD’s safety protocol are a result of state criminal and juvenile justice realignment, and he has repeatedly referred to a potentially fatal incident on September 20, 2012 in which juvenile probation officers, working in tandem with San Francisco Police Department police officers, encountered a violent youth probationer, as an example of the need for a revised safety protocol.

While one of the stated values and beliefs of the JPD is that “data-driven decision-making ensures positive outcomes,”³⁰ the necessity of equipping juvenile probation officers with firearms has not yet been substantiated by any body of evidence, nor has evidence been presented suggesting that arming juvenile probation officers with firearms will lead to a reduction in violent incidents or an enhancement of public safety. One of the main premises behind making the Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) an

²⁸ “SF juvenile probation chief explores arming officers,” Amy Julia Harris, December 21, 2012, *The Bay Citizen*, <https://www.baycitizen.org/news/crime/youth-probation-officers-sf-may-get-guns>

²⁹ San Francisco Youth Commission Resolution 1213-AL 11 “Urging the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to Urge the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department Not to Equip SOP Unit Probation Officers with Firearms,” adopted February 19, 2013.

³⁰ <http://sfgov3.org/index.aspx?page=2262>

entity separate and distinct from other adult law enforcement agencies—an act that distinguishes San Francisco from all other counties in the state of California—was the importance of differentiating JPD from an armed approach to juvenile justice, and also to provide a more specialized focus on youth rehabilitative service needs.

There is a lack of clarity on the need for JPD probation officers to participate in operations that would seem to categorically fall under the purview of the City’s law enforcement strategies (like the September 20, 2012 incident), and the participation of JPD probation officers in such operations would seem to expose these officers to unnecessary risks and dangers. The Deputy Probation Officers Association (DPOA), the labor organization representing the interests of the Probation Officers whose caseloads include these high risk juveniles, has recommended that a “renewed focus on training of officers for these new, more dangerous situations, should be emphasized.”³¹

Recent Updates

At the April 2013 Juvenile Probation Commission meeting, Chief Siffermann asserted during his closing remarks that he had dropped any plans to create an armed unit of probation officers within JPD, but rather, was proposing to export some juvenile probation officers to SFPD for arms training in order to work on a joint SFPD-JPD task force that would carry out the most high-risk peace officer activities assigned to probation officers³².

While Youth Commissioners are pleased to hear that JPD has dropped plans for the department to take on arming procedures within the department, the Commission is still awaiting an assessment of the time frame, training protocols, and costs associated with the proposed joint task force. Youth Commissioners continue to have outstanding concerns about the general trend toward militarizing Juvenile Probation, and note that such procedural changes to arm juvenile probation officers have not taken place in several surrounding counties’ probation departments.³³

It is not clear how the proposed task force substantively differs from the existing relationship between JPD and the police department’s Gang Task Force (GTF). Further, it is unclear why the Chief is pursuing heavier enforcement strategies at this time, given that in 2012, San Francisco experienced the lowest rate of juvenile homicides in recorded history,³⁴ suggesting that the rehabilitative approach to juvenile probation that has characterized Chief Siffermann’s eight-year tenure has been consistent with positive public safety outcomes.

³¹ <http://sfgov3.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=3641>

³² Chief Siffermann’s April 10, 2013 presentation to the Juvenile Probation Commission
<http://sfgov3.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=4346>

³³ Chief Siffermann’s April 10, 2013 presentation to the Juvenile Probation Commission

³⁴ Juvenile homicides were lower than any time since statistics had begun being collected in the 1960’s. See: Center for Juvenile and Criminal Justice December 2012 Report, “San Francisco 2012: Out Least Violent Generation?” http://www.cjcj.org/uploads/cjcj/documents/San_Francisco_Youth_2012.pdf

Recommendations

The Youth Commission appreciates Chief Siffermann's responsibility to ensure that the men and women under his command are safe. We call on the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to urge the Juvenile Probation Department not to begin arming juvenile probation officers with firearms as part of any revised safety protocol, and to hold Chief Siffermann to his assertion that the Juvenile Probation Department will not take on arming protocols for its probation officers. The Youth Commission is grateful for the leadership of the Board of Supervisor's Neighborhood Services and Safety committee in holding a hearing on May 2, 2013 aimed at clarifying several aspects of JPD's proposed safety protocol revisions.

The Youth Commission would like to submit that any plan to handle high-risk juvenile offenders should work to preserve the social work ideals of the only stand-alone juvenile probation department in the state. Under no circumstances should an armed juvenile probation officer act as the primary case contact for a juvenile probationer, and JPD should undertake all possible efforts to minimize contact between police and juvenile probationers to avoid incidences of recidivism. Therefore, the criteria for youth referral to the proposed task force, and number of youth affected should be made clear.

We also urge the Juvenile Probation Department to identify practical tools and alternative practices, other than firearms, that will help to address -personal safety concerns for probation officers whose caseloads include high-risk juveniles. The Youth Commission urges the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to urge the Juvenile Probation Department, per the DPOA's recommendation, to provide new training for probation officers who will supervise high-risk offenders.

Priority # 6: Fully Implement SFPD's Crisis-Intervention-Team Model in Lieu of Issuing Tasers

Support the implementation of a crisis-intervention model in local policing, rather than the issuance of 'less-than-lethal' weaponry.

Background

Among the Youth Commission's chartered responsibilities is a requirement to submit recommendations to the Mayor and Board of Supervisors about juvenile crime prevention. The commission believes this responsibility entails ensuring local law enforcement institutions employ a dignified and rehabilitative approach to policing and to working with justice-system-involved youth.

Stun weapons, or “Tasers,” are commonly branded as a ‘less than lethal’ alternative to the use of firearms. However, research on the use of Tasers in other cities shows that Tasers can be lethal and often lead to unnecessary deaths. Data collected by Amnesty International shows that since 2001, at least 500 people in the U.S. have died after being shocked by Tasers during arrests or while in custody.³⁵ At least 92 of these deaths were in California, the highest number of any state.³⁶

Tasers pose particular dangers to individuals who are mentally ill, thin, pregnant, old, young, or living with heart conditions. The high cost of purchasing Tasers, ammunition, defibrillators, re-calibration services, and police training are only a fraction of the likely overall costs to the City when the costs of potential liability from those harmed by the use of Tasers are considered.³⁷ Additionally, the purchase of stun weapons from Taser International would violate San Francisco’s economic boycott of Arizona.³⁸

The San Francisco Police Commission passed a 2011 resolution calling for full implementation of San Francisco Police Department’s Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model, which would train officers in non-lethal de-escalation and community-policing techniques.³⁹ The same 2011 resolution called on SFPD to work with a mental health working group and the Dept. of Emergency Management to design new procedures and training for 911 dispatchers, allowing them to identify mental health crisis calls and dispatch CIT officers. To date, only 5 of approximately 150 911 dispatchers have been trained. The resolution also required SFPD to ensure 20-25% of patrol officers undergo CIT-training. However, only 118 officers have been trained.⁴⁰ The Youth Commission believes the CIT techniques and dispatcher trainings, once fully implemented, offer a more effective way to avoid injuries to officers and citizens than the use of ‘non-lethal’ weaponry, such as Tasers.

³⁵See: “Amnesty International Urges Stricter Limits on Police Taser Use as U.S. Death Toll Reaches 500,” press release, Amnesty International website, February 12, 2012, <http://www.amnestyusa.org/news/press-releases/amnesty-international-urges-stricter-limits-on-police-taser-use-as-us-death-toll-reaches-500> And: ‘Less than Lethal’? The Use of Stun Weapons in U.S. Law Enforcement, Amnesty International Publications, 2008, <http://ddq74coujv1i.cloudfront.net/Taser-Amnesty Intl Report-Dec 2008.pdf>

³⁶ “First study to test real-world effects of stun gun use raises questions about safety,” by Lauren Hammit, January 27, 2009, UCSF News Center, <http://www.ucsf.edu/news/2009/01/4188/first-study-test-real-world-effects-stun-gun-use-raises-questions-abo>

³⁷ Letter to Mayor Edwin M. Lee from the American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, “Regarding Civil Rights Organizations’ Opposition to SFPD Taser Deployment,” https://www.dropbox.com/s/aw6lgcvb4kja7d/Letter%20to%20Mayor%20Lee%20from%20ACLU%20and%20LCCR%207_31_12_Corrected%20Version.pdf.

³⁸ See file #100256, Resolution adopted May 11, 2010: <http://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=659877&GUID=F5A196A4-1425-478B-A51A-FEFDFA15E20B&Options=ID|Text|Search=arizona>

³⁹ San Francisco Police Commission resolution 11-18, “Resolution to Enhance the San Francisco Police Department’s Response to Incidents Involving Individuals with Mental Health Needs,” <http://www.sf-police.org/Modules/ShowDocument.aspx?documentid=25386>

⁴⁰ Chief Greg Suhr, Remarks at Bayview Community Forum on Tasers, Monday, February 11, 2013.

The Youth Commission commends the police department's desire to reduce the use of lethal force, however the commission does not believe that Tasers are a safe alternative, and would feel a profound concern for the safety of young people experiencing mental health crises and psychiatric distress if officers were armed with Tasers. Thus, the commission passed a resolution against the issuance of Tasers at their February 19, 2013 meeting and participated in several community forums on the issue thereafter. Youth Commissioners also spoke on a panel at the Tenderloin Forum and Speak Out on Tasers on March 25th, 2013, where over 100 community members attended.

At the Police Commission meeting of April 10, 2013, Police Chief Suhr announced that he was rescinding the proposal to arm officers with Tasers, citing community opposition and overly-restrictive recommendations that were being imposed on the proposed use of Tasers. The Youth Commission would like to thank the public for the series of well-organized community forums that gave community members a chance to share their concerns with police commissioners, and especially highlight the work of groups like the Coalition on Homelessness that supported the advocacy of disenfranchised groups who would have been heavily affected by the use of Tasers.

It should be noted that the proposal to arm officers with Tasers was the third such proposal by a San Francisco Police Chief. Chief Suhr's proposal followed recently-concluded community processes in which the public had similarly voiced strong opposition to the use of Tasers in San Francisco.

Recommendation

The San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to urge the San Francisco Police Department to honor the community's calls for a focus on crisis intervention by fully implementing the Crisis Intervention Team model, as well as demonstrating leadership in changing the culture and practices of treating mentally ill, homeless, and psychiatrically-distressed people in San Francisco.

Priority # 7: Three Changes at Police Department

Assist and assure that the Police Department follow-through on the three policy recommendations to which Chief Suhr and the Police Commission have agreed.

Background

Among the policy areas named in the Youth Commission's Charter language on which the Commission should focus is "juvenile crime prevention." And, indeed, for much of its 15 year history, the Commission has turned its attention to the arena of youth-police interactions—from sponsoring two Citywide hearings in June of 2000 regarding the recently adopted state Constitutional Amendment and statute on Juvenile Crime known as Proposition 21; to putting on a town hall in December 2002 that drew over 200 youth, many of whom spoke about their experiences with police in schools; to working

with Police Department (SFPD) and the Office of Citizen Complaints staff to develop revisions adopted by the Police Commission in September 2008 to the SFPD's protocol on youth detention and arrest and interrogation codified in Department General Order (DGO) 7.01.

On March 7th, 2012, the Youth Commission furthered its focus on improving youth-police relations by initiating and holding the first ever joint hearing with the Police Commission. This successful hearing, held in the Legislative Chamber of the Board of Supervisors, included presentations from experts in youth and criminal justice and staff from the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) and Office of Citizen Complaints (OCC). There was also lengthy public comment testimony from over seventy speakers (the meeting itself lasted for over four hours). At least forty of these speakers were youth—a great many of whom offered passionate, compelling stories—and the balance was mostly youth service providers, principals, teachers, and parents.

At the joint hearing, commissioners heard inspiring stories as well of heartfelt suggestions for improving youth/police relations. Many community members and department staff discussed the positive and life-changing work in which SFPD is involved each day. There were also numerous stories of miscommunication and seemingly unnecessary escalations between police officers and youth.

Synthesizing both the information gathered during the March 7th 2012 hearing and months of earlier research, on March 19, 2012, the Youth Commission's Youth Justice Committee provided the Police Commission and Chief Suhr with a formal memo that requested the Police Department implement three policy changes to improve relations with youth.

These recommendations were:

#1: To provide a new training for all police officers, with a priority for sergeants and patrol officers that address topics and policing tactics unique to juveniles. This training should include topics such as adolescent cognitive development, mental health issues for youth, asserting authority effectively with juveniles, recognizing and interacting with traumatized youth and responding to accusations of racial profiling. The Youth Commission Youth Justice Committee strongly suggests that the training incorporate scenarios of real life police-youth interactions and emphasize effective communication and de-escalation tactics during police interactions with youth;

#2: To ensure widespread and regular distribution of SFPD Juvenile *Know Your Rights* pamphlets through all City agencies, the school district, and social media, including delivery of pamphlets at the beginning of each fiscal year to the Department of Children Youth and Their Families (DCYF) for distribution to nonprofit contractors, and at the beginning of each school year to the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD); and

#3: To establish an active Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between SFPD and SFUSD, which at minimum states the procedures for arresting and interrogating students on campus, the manner in which police will notify parents or guardians when a

student has been taken into custody by the police, and how the student will be informed of her or his rights and responsibilities.

At the April 4, 2012 meeting of the Police Commission, Chief Suhr indicated his desire to implement all three of these recommendations, and to stay in communication with the Youth Commission about implementation. Chief Suhr articulated the following timelines: SFPD would prepare a draft of its new training module with the characteristics described above in 90 days (i.e., July , 2012) and roll out the training for incoming Police Academy classes and Advanced Officer training within six months (i.e., September 2012); SFPD would begin annual distribution of Juvenile *Know Your Rights* pamphlets to DCYF and SFUSD at the beginning of the next fiscal and school years (i.e., July 2012 and August 2012, respectively). SFPD would work with the SFUSD to develop an active MOU.

2013 Updates and Recommendations

Police Training

In 2013, the Police Department confirmed that newly hired officers had begun volunteering with youth organizations throughout their training period at the police academy. Additionally, the police department is involved in drop-out prevention efforts and encourages ongoing youth athletic coaching commitments among its officers. We applaud the police department's commitment to developing relationships with youth-serving organizations, especially with the Boys and Girls Clubs. We also appreciate the department's commitment to achieving public safety through prevention strategies, such as encouraging school success.

Comprehensive police training on youth-police interactions remains an important factor in avoiding unnecessary escalations between police and juveniles, and is a strong priority for the San Francisco Youth Commission. Such training has already been implemented successfully, in other police departments, including Portland, Oregon and with SRO's in San Diego.⁴¹

Youth Commissioners believe this training should:

1. Be provided to new hires, as well as be incorporated into advanced officer training.
2. Be prioritized for sergeants and patrol officers.
3. Focus on policing tactics unique to juveniles, and offer a comprehensive overview of the department's policies surrounding juvenile policing outlined in the Department General Order 7.01.
4. Offer practical communication skills and best practices for working with youth that are grounded in developmental psychology. Topics that should be included

⁴¹ For more information regarding the content and use of training in work with juveniles in other departments, including Portland, Oregon, see the 2013 report by Strategies for Youth: *If Not Now, When?: A Survey of Juvenile Justice Training in America's Police Academies*.

are: adolescent cognitive development, mental health issues among youth, and recognizing and interacting with traumatized youth.

5. Include de-escalation skills and strategies for asserting authority effectively with youth.
6. Address the issue of racial profiling and disproportionate police contact with youth of color.
7. Incorporate scenarios of real life police-youth interactions and include youth in training components.
8. Offer officers an opportunity to practice and apply their skills.

The SFUSD and SFPD MOU

Since 2004, there has not been an active memorandum of understanding between the police department and the school district. As school safety concerns are increasingly a matter of local, state, and national attention, changes in the availability of extra-local funds are shifting the scope and nature of school resource officer programs. The Youth Commission believes that an MOU will serve as an important historical document that can guide the relationship between school sites and SRO's and delineates the respective roles of the school district and police department in the handling of school related offenses.

The establishment of a joint document between the school district and police department should in turn, serve as the basis for respective department orders and administrative regulations. The Youth Commission's specific recommendations regarding the establishment and content of an SFPD-SFUSD MOU, based on previous drafts of a potential MOU, are as follows:

Youth Commission's 2013 Recommendations on the SFUSD-SFPD MOU

1. Use binding language, i.e. "shall" rather than "should" when specifying the roles of SFPD officers and SFUSD administrators.
2. Make clear the respective and separate roles of involved entities (SFUSD and SFPD) in each section of the MOU.
3. Include excerpted language from SFPD's DGO 7.01.
4. Both parties undertake concerted efforts to inform students of their rights.
5. Plan to provide School Resource Officers with quality training.

Specific Priorities and Recommended Inclusions to the MOU

General Suggestion
SFPD
SFUSD

ARREST:

- Non-conditional language clarifying when it is necessary for police to come on campus, when it is necessary for them to make an arrest, and who makes the decision.
- Non-conditional language specifying that officers *shall* collaborate with school site staff and that principals *must* be informed when police are coming on campus.
- Specify that SFPD must read students their Miranda rights, and in the student’s primary language.⁴²
- Clarify where SFPD should be taking students once arrested (i.e., to CARC, not to a police station, except in exceptional circumstances).⁴³
- SFUSD develop and forward guidelines for site procedures to principals.

Goal: MOU makes clear under what circumstances an arrest on school is necessary, and specifies that principals *must* be informed. Officers inform students of their rights in accordance with the specifications in DGO 7.01

PARENTAL NOTIFICATION:

- Specify that parental notification is necessary for all incidents involving police contact on campus (questioning, interrogation, being pulled out of class, arrests).
- Clarify that SFPD is responsible for immediately notifying parents (and cannot assume school site staff are doing so).⁴⁴
- Specify that students will be allowed to speak with parents once a parent is reached.
- Specify that SFPD ‘must permit a parent to be present during an interrogation.’ (In addition to the current specification that students will be advised they can request a parent to be present).
- Specify that school site staff will notify parents as soon as notice is given that a student will be interrogated or arrested.

⁴² Page 3 of SFPD Bulletin: “Application of General Order 7.01” and Page 6a of DGO 7.01 under “Procedures”

⁴³ Page 2 of DGO 7.01 and Page 1 of SFPD Bulletin: “Application of General Order 7.01”

⁴⁴ Page 3 of DGO 7.01 and Page 2 of SFPD Bulletin: “Application of General Order 7.01”

Goal: Parents are immediately notified when police will have contact with their child. It is clear which entity is responsible for establishing contact with parents. Students know that they are permitted to speak with their parents and have a parent present during an interrogation. Police will permit the presence of parents during interrogations.

INTERROGATION:

- Make clear which entity will provide an interpreter for students.
- Specify that police must audio-tape an interrogation.⁴⁵
- Specify students must not be interrogated by more than 2 officers.⁴⁶
- Specify that Miranda rights must be read, and in student's primary language.⁴⁷
- Specify that school site staff shall be allowed to be present during police interviews with witnesses and victims, as well as interrogations with suspects.
- Specify that school site staff will inform SFPD of a student's primary language.
- SFUSD should provide an interpreter *for parents* for on-site interrogations related to a school-based offense.

Goal: Police conduct juvenile interrogations in accordance with the General Order 7.01. Appropriate interpretation is provided for students and parents during interrogations. School site staff are permitted to be present during all forms of questioning by police.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS:

- Specify school site staff shall give "Know Your Rights" pamphlets to a student when they are notified police are coming on campus to question or arrest a student.
- Include "Know Your Rights" pamphlets in the 2013-14 Student Handbook.
- Post "Know Your Rights" in multiple languages on the school district website.
- Put "KYR" pamphlets in administrators' offices and Wellness Centers.
- Ensure deans and assistant principals have been trained in "KYR" material, have pamphlets in offices, and can advise students on how to file a complaint.

Goal: Students have consistent opportunities to become aware of their rights regarding police contact, and can easily learn how to file a complaint regarding police contact.

⁴⁵ Page 3 of SFPD Bulletin: "Application of General Order 7.01" and Page 7, Sec 3E of DGO 7.01

⁴⁶ Page 3 of Page 3 of SFPD Bulletin: "Application of General Order 7.01" and Page 7, Sec. 3D of DGO 7.01

⁴⁷ Page 3 of SFPD Bulletin: "Application of General Order 7.01" and Page 6a of DGO 7.01 under "Procedures"

TRAINING:

- The draft MOU specifies that SFUSD will provide SRO's with training. The Youth Commission would like to see training for SRO's that includes a focus on: special education law, juvenile law, adolescent development, asserting authority effectively, de-escalation, and the district's restorative practices, and that includes examples of real-life scenarios, as well as youth-led training components. The Youth Commission is enthusiastic about supporting the development of these trainings.

Goal: SRO's are provided model training regarding youth-police interactions on school campuses, as have been conducted in other school districts, including San Diego.⁴⁸

GRADUATED OFFENSES:

- Clarify the plan for institutionalizing the use of graduated offenses, including how officers will be trained and how graduated offense policies will interface with existing police orders.
- Determine and specify how school-based offenses will be documented to ensure arrests are happening on a students' third, rather than first or second, offenses.

Goal: The graduated offense model is applied successfully, consistently, and fairly, in collaboration with the school district.

OTHER RECOMMENDED INCLUSIONS:

- Specify what constitutes "exigent circumstances" in the MOU.⁴⁹

Goal: Circumstances requiring exceptions to the guidelines set forth in the MOU are clearly defined within the body of the MOU using language in accordance with DGO 7.01.

The Youth Commission calls on Mayor Lee, the Board of Supervisors, Chief Suhr, and the Police Commission to follow through on the implementation of the above three recommendations.

⁴⁸ See model trainings for police and students conducted by Lisa Thureau at: www.StrategiesForYouth.org.

⁴⁹ 'Exigent circumstances' are clarified in the DGO 7.01.

Priority # 8: Following up on Recreation Access at Juvenile Hall

Juvenile Probation Department must prioritize capital improvements to recreation areas in order to provide full access for detainees

Background

On December 31, 2006, the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department (JPD) opened a newly constructed juvenile hall (officially the “Juvenile Justice Center” (JJC) previously the “Youth Guidance Center” (YGC)). This newly renovated structure was a result of a \$47.4 million capital investment on the part of the City.⁵⁰

The remodeled JJC includes an expansive outdoor recreation area replete with a natural grass soccer pitch, an amphitheater, and tetherball, volleyball and basketball courts. However, as the Youth Commission has documented in resolution 1112—AL06 *Urging Access to the Juvenile Justice Center's Outdoor Recreation Areas* (adopted on March 6, 2012), and as was reported by the *Bay Citizen* in the February 25 Bay Area edition of the *New York Times*,⁵¹ this recreation area has been tremendously underutilized for the past six years.

In JPD’s discussions with the Youth Commission during the development of this resolution in February of 2012, the Department agreed to begin providing detainees with access to two of the basketball courts in the outdoor recreation area—but not, however, access the full recreation area. Indeed, Chief Juvenile Probation Officer William P. Siffermann has made clear that providing detainees with safe and secure access to the full recreation area cannot happen without additional capital funds (and, subsequent staffing increases).

The Youth Commission has been working on this priority since our 2012-2013 term. Last year, we highlighted the fact that it was unclear whether youth detainees were being allowed their yard time in accordance with Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations. Since then JPD has undertaken procedures to ensure youth receive their hour a day of large muscle activity and begun submitting documentation of these practices to the Youth Commission. We’ve also asked the Department to include a cost analysis on how much it would cost to improve the recreation yard to a state where youth detainees can then fully access the large recreation yard; to which the department

⁵⁰ John Coté. “S.F. sues architects of over-budget juvenile hall.” *San Francisco Chronicle*, March 30, 2009, <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/03/29/BAN71607E5.DTL>.

⁵¹ “Giving detainees access to outdoor recreation,” Trey Bundy, February 26, 2012, *Bay Citizen/New York Times*, <http://www.nytimes.com/2012/02/26/us/san-francisco-youth-panel-calls-for-detainee-use-of-outdoor-space.html>.

responded that the estimated amount to improve the JJC Athletic Field and Recreation Yard would be \$811,114 and that the project is in a deferred status.

However, after six years of almost total disuse—and given the fact that JPD has deferred the capital improvements necessary for full access to the recreation areas in Department’s 10 Year Capital Plan (Figure 8.1)—the Youth Commission is worried about detainees *ever* having access to the full recreation area. Will San Francisco’s young people really have to wait another decade-plus to fully use this recreation area at the JJC?

JPD’s 10 Year Capital Plan – (Figure 8.1)

Juvenile Probation								
Program / Project	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017 - FY 2021	Plan Total	Backlog
State of good repair renewal - Need	480	504	529	556	584	3,386	6,040	22,559
<u>SPENDING PLAN</u>								<u>DEFERRED</u>
State of good repair renewal - Proposed Uses	645	779	971	1,118	1,259	9,417	14,188	
Consolidation of Family Court Services at YGC Campus						99,628	99,628	
Replacement of the Youth Guidance Center Administrative Building								76,400
Log Cabin Ranch Improvements and Master Plan Implementation								91,004
Hidden Valley Ranch Reactivation								82,135
TOTAL	645	779	971	1,118	1,259	109,045	113,816	249,539
<u>REVENUES</u>								
General Fund	645	779	971	1,118	1,259	9,417	14,188	
State						99,628	99,628	
TOTAL	645	779	971	1,118	1,259	109,045	113,816	
<i>Total San Francisco Jobs/Year</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>8</i>	<i>713</i>	<i>744</i>	

Figure 8. 1 JPD’s 10 Year Capital Plan

Juvenile Probation Department Capital Plan Submission and Capital Needs

Projects Proposed in FY14-FY23 Capital Plan

Project Name or Description	Amount	Status*
JJC Athletic Field and Recreation Yard Improvements	\$ 811,114	Deferred

Figure 8. 2 JPD Projects Proposed, Deferred⁵²

⁵² See: Juvenile Probation Department Capital Plan Submission and Capital Needs
<http://sfgov3.org/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=3829>

Recommendation

The Youth Commission recommends that the Juvenile Probation Department continues to provide documentation that youth detainees are allowed their hour a day of outdoor recreation, and show that the department is in compliance with Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations.

The Youth Commission also recommends that Mayor Lee and the Board of Supervisors provide JPD with the necessary resources to make the recreation area at Juvenile Hall fully accessible as soon as possible. We ask that JPD develop and propose a timeline for full accessibility and prioritize the capital improvements necessary for full access to the large outdoor recreation areas.

Finally, we want to remind the City Family that the recreation areas have already been dormant for six years.

Priority # 9: Free MUNI for Youth

Find long-term funding to make the existing Free Muni for Youth pilot program permanent. Extend program to ALL high school youth when additional funding become available.

Background

This priority is the result of years of extensive community process, much data-driven deliberation, and now three years of legislative activity in which the Youth Commission has played a central role. The following is a summary of this recent history and updates.

The Youth Commission became distressingly concerned when the cost of San Francisco's public transit, a supposedly affordable mode of transportation, evolved into a cause of greater social and economic segregation.

	FY07/08	FY08/09	FY09/10	FY10/11	FY11/12 YTD – 8 months
Youth Passes Sold	232,640	225,416	222,047	208,283	99,191 Transition 9/1 to Clipper [®]
Youth Pass Fare	\$10	\$10	\$15, May 1 st \$20	\$20	\$21

Figure 9.1 Change in Youth Pass prices

The price for the youth fast pass rose from \$10 in May 2009 to \$15 in December 2009 to \$20 in May 2010 to \$21 in July of 2011. (Figure 9.1) At the same time, youth pass

purchases declined by 55% from 222,047 to 99,191⁵³. Youth and their families could not afford public transportation.

Additionally, policy decisions at the SFUSD have resulted in severe cuts to yellow school bus services for non-special education students in recent years. Students have increasingly observed their counterparts resort to sneaking on the bus because they cannot afford the cost.⁵⁴

The Youth Commission and the Board of Supervisors adopted resolutions that prompted action from the Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) Board of Directors to address the need of San Francisco's youth for accessible public transportation.

Although the MTA Board approved budgeting revenue losses in FY 10-11 and 11-12 for the purpose of selling discounted (Youth Lifeline) fast passes to low-income youth through SFUSD, these passes were never sold due to numerous administrative challenges identified by the MTA and SFUSD.⁵⁵

Seeing San Francisco youth's continued struggle to access MUNI, and the failure of the MTA to implement the Youth Lifeline fast pass prompted the Youth Commission (and subsequently the Board of Supervisors) to once again adopt resolutions in the winter of 2011 that called for action from the MTA Board. On March 1, 2011, the MTA Board authorized providing up to 12,000 free MUNI youth fast passes to the SFUSD for distribution to low-income students from April through June 2011. However, "the SFUSD was unable to implement the program due to a variety of issues related to distribution and collection of cash."

The Youth Commission, the Board of Education, the Board of Supervisors, and a coalition of community based organizations continued to urge SFMTA to consider providing additional free transit passes to youth for a pilot period based on funds identified to replace the lost revenue to the SFMTA.

On October 24, 2012, The Metropolitan Transportation Commission approved a new Transit Performance Initiative (TPI) Incentive Grant Program under the Transit Sustainability Project (TSP), which allocated \$6.7 million to SFMTA for FY 2012-13.⁵⁶ These funds can be used by transit agencies to fund projects focused on increasing ridership and/or productivity, including for free transit service for youth pilot programs.

⁵³ San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. "April 4, 2012, Item 4, Youth Transit Fares" <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/cmta/documents/4-3-12Item14Youthtransitfares.pdf>

⁵⁴ Jonathan Bloom. "Kids, teens will soon ride Muni for free." *ABC Local*. February 27, 2013. http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/san_francisco&id=9009963

⁵⁵ San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. "April 4, 2012, Item 4, Youth Transit Fares" <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/cmta/documents/4-3-12Item14Youthtransitfares.pdf>

⁵⁶ San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency. "December 4, 2012, Item 10.3, Youth Transit Fares" <http://www.sfmta.com/cms/cmta/documents/4-3-12Item14Youthtransitfares.pdf>

Originally approved by the SFMTA Board on April 17, 2012, the Free Muni for Youth Pilot Program kicked off in March, 2013. Applications were opened to San Francisco youth in January 2013 and are accepted by SFMTA on a continuing, rolling basis. The 16-month pilot program will be funded until June 2014 with the option to extend should additional funding be identified in the future.

In the first month of the pilot program, more than 24,000 youth had applied for the program; the number of participants is steadily increasing. Working with a coalition comprised of community organizations and the office of Supervisor David Campos, staff at the MTA, the Youth Commission is working to identify potential funding sources to make the program permanent. As the Youth Commission and coalition continue to conduct outreach for the Free Muni for Youth Pilot Program, we are designing a specific outreach strategy to reach children, youth, and families who have not applied for the program.

Recommendations

The Youth Commission is extremely grateful for the implementation of the pilot program after we addressed the issue in 2010. The commission will continue to be involved in the discussion with a community coalition of how SFMTA will evaluate the program and define its success.

The Youth Commission supports a permanent free MUNI for low income youth program, not only for 5-17 year olds, but all high school students, and possibly TAY in the future, and if funds are available, a program expanded to include ALL youth. We would like to note that the Board unanimously passed resolution 401-05 in support of making SFMTA's youth rates eligible for all enrolled high school youth.⁵⁷

The Youth Commission urges the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors to help find long term funding for the existing free MUNI for low to moderate income youth program. We believe that transportation can become a true public space, a social and common wealth for all young people in our transit-first city of San Francisco.

⁵⁷ *San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Resolution 401-05.* "Urging the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency to make all enrolled San Francisco High School students eligible for their youth rates." <http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/resolutions05/r0401-05.pdf>

Priority # 10: Supporting Eligible Undocumented Students File for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program

Support DACA eligible students file for the program by creating a streamlined system within SFUSD to facilitate requests for transcripts and enrollment history verification for the application process, urging the City to work together with SFUSD to coordinate efforts to outreach and support our undocumented students and transitional age youth who would like to participate in DACA.

Background

On June 15, 2012, the Obama administration via the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), announced the implementation of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), which began on August 15, 2012.⁵⁸ DACA is a program that allows for the discretionary determination to defer removal action of an individual as an act of prosecutorial discretion in addition to providing potential eligibility for employment authorization for youth under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012.⁵⁹ The DACA program offers “deferred action” to undocumented youth who were brought to the United States as children and who meet other specific requirements as indicated on the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) website.⁶⁰

According to the Immigration Policy Center, roughly 936,930 immigrants between the ages of 15 and 30 might immediately meet the requirements of the deferred action initiative, with California leading with 412, 560 potentially qualified youth and adults, followed by Texas (226,700), Florida (85,750), New York (70, 170), and Illinois (67,

⁵⁸ "Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: Who Can Be Considered?" *Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals: Who Can Be Considered?* Department of Homeland Security, 15 Aug. 2012. Web. 11 Feb. 2013. < <http://www.dhs.gov/bloa/2012/08/15/deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-who-can-be-considered>. >

⁵⁹ "Frequently Asked Questions." *USCIS - Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Process*. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 18 Jan. 2013. Web. 11 Feb. 2013.< <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.eb1d4c2a3e5b9ac89243c6a7543f6d1a/?vgnnextchannel=3a4dbc4b04499310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextoid=3a4dbc4b04499310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD>>

⁶⁰ "Frequently Asked Questions." *USCIS - Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Process*. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 18 Jan. 2013. Web. 11 Feb. 2013.< <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.eb1d4c2a3e5b9ac89243c6a7543f6d1a/?vgnnextchannel=3a4dbc4b04499310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextoid=3a4dbc4b04499310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD>>

460).⁶¹ Nearly half of potential beneficiaries live in California and Texas (see Figure 10.1).⁶²

States with Most Potential Beneficiaries

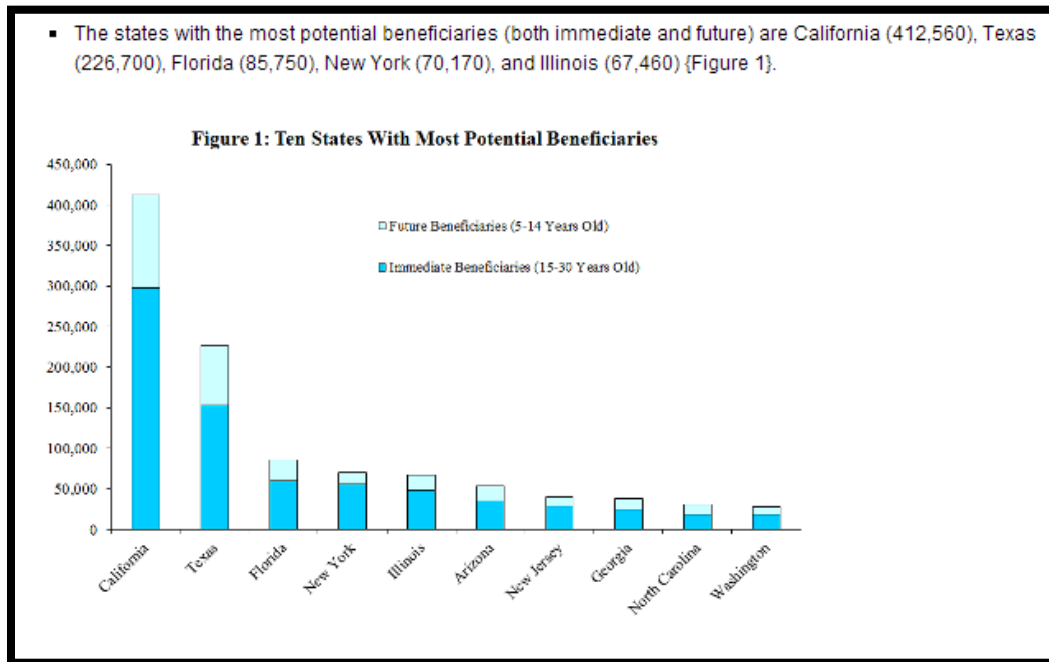


Figure 10.1 1 States with Most Potential Beneficiaries

Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrants and Refugees (GCIR) estimates that there are currently 101,151 estimated Legal Permanent Residents in San Francisco eligible to naturalize, with about 30,000 undocumented individuals. The American Immigration Council’s Immigrant Policy Center estimates that approximately 4,690 potentially eligible individuals for deferred action reside in California District 8 represented by Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi; this district includes most of San Francisco.⁶³

We know that to apply for DACA there are multiple lengthy forms that are necessary to fill out, which includes providing proof of: enrollment in school, graduation from high

⁶¹ Immigration Policy Center, “A Demographic Profile of Immigrants Who Might Benefit from the Obama Administration’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Initiative” Web 11 Feb. 2013. <
<http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/who-and-where-dreamers-are>>

⁶² Immigration Policy Center, “A Demographic Profile of Immigrants Who Might Benefit from the Obama Administration’s Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Initiative” Web 11 Feb. 2013. <
<http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/who-and-where-dreamers-are>>

⁶³ Immigrant Policy Center. (2012). *Who and Where the DREAMers Are*. Retrieved from:
<http://www.immigrationpolicy.org/just-facts/who-and-where-dreamers-are>

school or have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, entrance to the country prior to 16 years of age, residency in the country for continuous 5 years prior to June 15, 2012, and be present in the county on June 15, 2012.⁶⁴ Amidst these requirements, there is also the \$465 in application fees.

Requesting an official school transcript is necessary to prove a person's educational history and current residency in the country for this program. However, due to the arduous application process, many undocumented youth and families seek resources and legal counsel for assistance. Law enforcement and legal officials have sent out warnings against scammers as so-called "notaries" are operating in Spanish speaking communities hiding under the guise of travel agencies, translation services and other businesses are offering to help undocumented immigrants navigate the process of applying for relief under the Obama program, but can charge hefty fees for services that are unnecessary or that are not even legally authorized to provide.⁶⁵

On September 17, 2012, the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) implemented a centralized process to help provide verification to current and former students who are applying for DACA.⁶⁶ Upon researching this, youth commissioners reached out to LAUSD in November 2012 to learn more about the district's Students Record Center's resource page for DACA. We also started meeting with San Francisco's Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant Affairs (OCEIA) to learn more about the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between OCEIA and the Department of Children, Youth, and their Families (DCYF) to work collaboratively to inform and assist the city's potential applicants for DACA. This MOU established a grants program to fund community based organizations providing legal services, cultural and linguistically competent application assistance, outreach and education, and other services to eligible applicants for DACA.

Working very closely with OCEIA, the Immigrant Rights Commission, and student delegates on the Student Advisory Council—the Youth Commission developed resolution 1213—10 *Urging the SFUSD and City & County to Assist Undocumented Students File for Deferred Action*, adopted February 19, 2013. This in turn resulted in the Immigrant Rights Commission adopting a joint resolution with the Youth Commission on March 11, 2013; and the Student Advisory Council's support of the resolution. This work resulted in Board of Supervisors resolution file no.130288 *Supporting San Francisco Applicants for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program* (Chiu, Campos, Yee, Wiener, Cohen, Mar, Kim, Avalos), introduced March 26,

⁶⁴ Frequently Asked Questions." *USCIS - Consideration of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Process*. U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, 18 Jan. 2013. Web. 11 Feb. 2013 <<http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis/menuitem.eb1d4c2a3e5b9ac89243c6a7543f6d1a/?vgnnextchannel=3a4dbc4b04499310VgnVCM100000082ca60aRCRD&vgnextoid=3a4dbc4b04499310VgnVCM10000082ca60aRCRD>>.

⁶⁵ Eng, James. "Undocumented Immigrants Are Warned of Scammers as New Obama Policy Takes Effect." *U.S. News on NBC News*. NBC News, 14 Aug. 2012. Web. 11 Feb. 2013.

⁶⁶ "DACA - Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Update." *Los Angeles Unified School District - District News*. Los Angeles Unified School District, n.d. Web. 11 Feb. 2013. <http://lausd.ediotest.com/apps/news/show_news.jsp?REC_ID=262597&id=0>.

2013, and adopted by the full Board on April 10, 2013.⁶⁷

Starting January 2013 members of the Youth Commission and the Student Advisory Council have been working together with OCEIA staff and Christina Wong, Special Assistant to the Superintendent at SFUSD to provide feedback on building a webpage, similar to LAUSD, on the SFUSD website (see figure 10.2)⁶⁸ that would support DACA eligible students, include a list of the DACA grantees under OCEIA and DCYF's MOU, provide resources for DACA eligible students, and publicize that the \$5 transcript fees will be waived for DACA eligible former SFUSD students.

SFUSD DACA Overview Page (includes information in Spanish and Chinese)

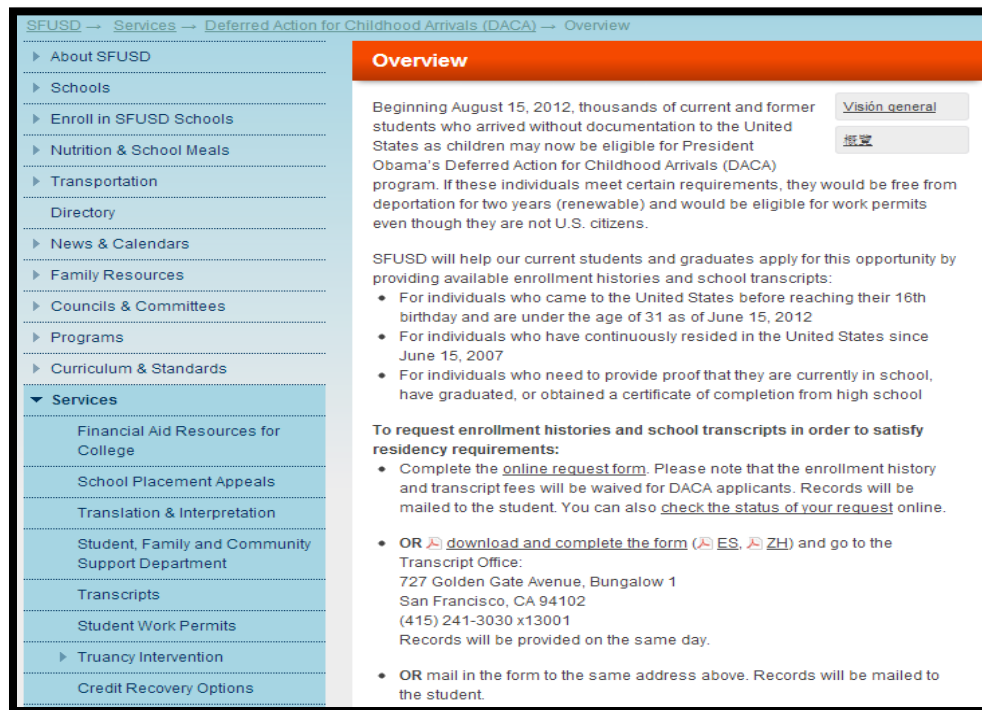


Figure 10.2 SFUSD DACA Overview Page

As of March 2013, the SFUSD's DACA resource page now includes a web platform where eligible students can apply for their transcripts and enrollment history forms directly online with fees waived, with information provided in both Spanish and Chinese (see Figure 10.3), and students can now check the status of their transcript request online.

⁶⁷ BOS File No. 130288 resolution *Supporting San Francisco Applicants for the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Program* < <http://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=1325446&GUID=48FF6473-22E4-401E-8E2E-222235129BCA&Options=ID|Text|&Search=deferred+action> >

⁶⁸ San Francisco Unified School District Services Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Overview Page < <http://www.sfusd.edu/en/services/deferred-action-for-childhood-arrivals/overview.html> >.

SFUSD Request Documentation for DACA page

SFUSD → Services → Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) → Request Documentation for DACA

Request Documentation for DACA

Requesting Information

I am requesting an enrollment history report and high school transcript (if available).

1. NAME (Current):

Last: * First: *

Middle:

2. Name Used in School (if different from Current Name)*

Last: First:

Middle:

Figure 10.3 SFUSD Request Documentation for DACA Page

Recommendations

The Youth Commission commends OCEIA and DCYF for their work in funding agencies such as Catholic Charities CYO, Legal Services for Children, Asian Law Caucus, API Legal Outreach, CARECEN, Dolores Street Community Services and La Raza Centro Legal to aid undocumented youth and families. These organizations are valuable in aiding our immigrant communities. The Youth Commission also commends the SFUSD for already starting the DACA resources webpage for students on its website; and commends the district for providing the information in both Spanish and Chinese.

The Youth Commission recommend that the SFUSD support the OCEIA in publicizing and connecting eligible SFUSD students with their grant funded legal services and application assistance services for DACA; and to uphold the confidentiality of DACA applicants information. We also recommend and urge the SFUSD's transcript office to waive all fees associated with obtaining school documentation for DACA in light of the \$465 in DACA application fees; and to provide outreach of this information to students.

We also call on the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors, and City Departments to work together with the SFUSD to support our undocumented students and undocumented transitionally aged youth in their process of applying for DACA, and help with the outreach efforts of SFUSD's DACA resource page.

Priority # 11: Support City College of San Francisco

Support for a diverse, democratic, affordable, accessible, and financially stable City College.

Background

City College of San Francisco (CCSF) is one the largest community colleges in the country, with a proud record of successfully helping students complete their GEDs, preparing students to transfer to 4-year colleges, and graduating students in the fields of food preparation, nursing, radiology, fire fighting, health education, and many more.⁶⁹ It is also the largest community college in California, serving nearly 90,000 students,⁷⁰ and employing many Bay Area residents as instructors, faculty, and administrative staff.

Since opening its doors in 1935, CCSF has played an active role in the lives and educational achievements of Bay Area residents of all ages, ethnic, academic, and socio-economic backgrounds, and plays a particularly vital role in providing high-quality, affordable instruction to San Francisco's working class and immigrant communities of color. Additionally, CCSF educates a large number of students from the San Francisco Unified School District.

California students are currently facing rising tuition costs and reductions to in-state enrollment within the California State University and University of California systems, leaving many young people in San Francisco and throughout the state increasingly dependent on the educational opportunities provided by community colleges.⁷¹ In early July, 2012, the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC) released a devastating report calling into question the future financial viability of CCSF and demanding that CCSF institute changes to address over a dozen major structural issues.⁷² The ACCJC has placed CCSF's academic accreditation under threat despite the fact that City College maintains a consistently high level of instructional quality.⁷³ The ACCJC's recommendations have focused on building the college's financial reserves, restructuring its governance, and hiring more

⁶⁹ "Save CCSF." *Save CCSF We Are City College*. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013. <<http://www.saveccsf.org/>>.

⁷⁰ "City College of San Francisco." N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013 <<http://www.ccsf.edu/NEW/>>

⁷¹ Asimov, Nanette. "Cal State to Close Door on Spring 2013 Enrollment." *SFGate*. SF Gate, 20 Mar. 2012. Web. 15 Mar. 2013.

⁷² Koskey, Andrea. "City College of San Francisco Working to Keep Accreditation, Avoid Closure." *San Francisco Examiner*. San Francisco Examiner, 10 July 2012. Web. 14 Mar. 2013. <<http://www.sfoxaminer.com/local/education/2012/07/city-college-san-francisco-working-keep-accreditation-avoid-closure>>.

⁷³ By the accrediting commission's own account, CCSF's instructional quality and commitment to its mission were high. See the accrediting commission's report: *CCSF Evaluation Team Report May 2012*. ACCJC, n.d. Web. <http://www.accjc.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/CCSF_COMP_Eval_Team_Report_May_16_2012.pdf>.

administrators, with resulting cuts to faculty and staff wages and benefits, cuts to classes, and the consolidation of academic departments in such a way as could reduce the diversity of programs and course offerings, especially courses like ethnic, women's, and LGBT studies.⁷⁴

Members of the ACCJC maintain significant ties to for-profit educational ventures⁷⁵ and conduct their investigations and meetings in a non-transparent manner.⁷⁶ The state's for-profit post-secondary institutions with much lower graduation and career success rates have not been sanctioned by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, ACCJC's parent organization, at a rate nearly commensurate with the accelerated sanctioning of California's public colleges.⁷⁷ Meanwhile, ACCJC has placed 37% of California community colleges on sanctions during a period of intense state budget cuts,⁷⁸ and the commission has maintained its sanctioning of City College following the passage of Proposition A, inhibiting the democratic allocation of voter-approved supplemental funds.

The voters of San Francisco approved Proposition A to save City College of San Francisco from budget threats and class cuts. According to Alisa Messer, Faculty Union President at City College, funds from Prop A that were supposed to be used for programs, maintaining classes, preventing layoffs, and offsetting state budget cuts are now being used to cover outstanding obligations to retiree health benefits and build college financial reserves.⁷⁹

Assembly Bill 1199 was introduced for the adoption of a stabilization formula for making the calculations of a community college district's revenue level for each fiscal year, providing for revenue adjustments if certain conditions are met, including that the

⁷⁴ "Save CCSF." Save CCSF. N.p., n.d. Web. 15 Mar. 2013.<<http://www.saveccsf.org/>>

See also: Asimov, Nanette. "CCSF Activists Demand City Hall's Aid." *SFGate*. SF Gate, 15 Mar. 2003. Web. 15 Mar. 2013

⁷⁵ According to an article by Josh Keller, "Accreditor of California Colleges Lacks Conflict of Interest Protections, Federal Review Says," originally published in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, August 31, 2010. See also: Hittelman, Marty. "ACCJC Gone Wild." (n.d.): 3. Web. <<http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Gone-Wild.pdf>>.

⁷⁶ Asimov, Nanette. "CCSF Activists Demand City Hall's Aid." *SFGate*. San Francisco Chronicle, 15 Mar. 2013. Web. 15 Mar. 2013. <<http://www.sfgate.com/education/article/CCSF-activists-demand-City-Hall-s-aid-4356351.php>>.

⁷⁷ "CSAC to Examine Impact of "Wild West" Online Degrees on Cal Grants." Press Release. *California Student Aid Commission Press Advisory*. 14 Mar. 2012. And "What Is the ACCJC? Facts and Analysis." Web. <<http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Facts-and-Analysis.pdf>>.

⁷⁸ The level of sanctioning was incongruent with national levels. Since 2011, ACCJC sanctions of California community colleges represented 64% of college sanctions nationwide. See: Hittelman, Marty. "ACCJC Gone Wild." (n.d.): 3. Web. <<http://www.saveccsf.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/ACCJC-Gone-Wild.pdf>>.

⁷⁹ "The Guardsman Online." *Faculty Union President Alisa Messer on Accreditation, Salaries and Cuts*. The Guardsman Online City College of San Francisco Online Newspaper, 6 Mar. 2013. Web. 14 Mar. 2013. <http://theguardman.com/faculty-union-president-alisa-messer-on-accreditation-salaries-and-cuts/>.

community college district or a campus is subject to a probation or a “show cause” accreditation sanction and the district develops an improvement plan certified by the Chancellor of the California Community Colleges.⁸⁰ Supervisors Eric Mar and David Campos jointly sponsored a resolution in support of AB 1199, which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on March 12, 2013.⁸¹

Diverse groups of students, faculty, staff, and community members have responded to CCSF’s accreditation threat by questioning the legitimacy and nature of the sanctions placed on City College of San Francisco and the authority of the ACCJC to determine the use of voter-approved Prop A funds.

Recommendations

The San Francisco Youth Commission urges the Mayor and Board of Supervisors to urge the CCSF administration to use Proposition A funds as intended by voters. The Commission is thankful for the leadership of the Board of Supervisors for passing legislation on April 23, 2013 which called on the college’s administration “to preserve the quality and diversity of education that has served San Francisco well” and for the City to “consider additional support for CCSF by evaluating fees currently charge by the City to CCSF, the possibility of providing more in-kind services, and exploring long term local support structures.”⁸² The Youth Commission also urges the City’s elected leaders to call on the Department of Education to question the rate and nature of the sanctioning of California’s community college system.

Appendix: Youth Commission Overview

Purpose & Duties

The Youth Commission is a body of 17 San Franciscans between the ages of 12 and 23. Created by the voters under a 1995 amendment to the City Charter (Sec. IV.122-IV.125), the commission is responsible for advising the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor on "the effects of legislative policies, needs, assessments, priorities, programs, and budgets concerning the children and youth of San Francisco." The Youth Commission also has the duty to provide the Board and the Mayor with "comment and recommendation" on all proposed laws "that primarily affect the children and youth" of San Francisco.

In particular, the Youth Commission is charged with "identifying the unmet needs" of San Francisco's children and youth through a variety methods. These include researching existing government and private programs and sources of funding for such programming, holding public forums and cooperating with existing advocacy organizations.

⁸⁰ *AB-1199 Community Colleges: Funding*. Assembly Member Fong, 22 Feb. 2013. Web. 15 Mar. 2013. <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB1199>.

⁸¹ Board of Supervisors file no. 130237, accessed on March 15, 2013, <http://www.sfbos.org/ftp/uploadedfiles/bdsupvrs/bosagendas/minutes/2013/m031213.pdf>

⁸² See File #130303 at: <http://sfgov.legistar.com/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=1343251&GUID=282FBFED-22A4-48A6-B153-7614F1F9D17F&Options=ID|Text|&Search=city+college+of+san+francisco>

Following the Charter, each year the Youth Commission provides the Board of Supervisors and the Mayor with the following: comments and recommendations on pieces of proposed legislation that would affect San Francisco's young people; resolutions that formally articulate the Youth Commission's positions on various youth-related issues; and a set of policy priorities to guide the City's annual budget process as it relates to young people.

Structure



Commission Organizational Structure

