

House District 32

Senate District 15

THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
HAWAII STATE LEGISLATURE
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS & SUBSIDIES
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

Log No: 1-0

For Legislature's Use Only

JAN 21 REC'D

Type of Grant or Subsidy Request:

GRANT REQUEST - OPERATING

GRANT REQUEST - CAPITAL

SUBSIDY REQUEST

"Grant" means an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a specified recipient, to support the activities of the recipient and permit the community to benefit from those activities.

"Subsidy" means an award of state funds by the legislature, by an appropriation to a recipient specified in the appropriation, to reduce the costs incurred by the organization or individual in providing a service available to some or all members of the public.

"Recipient" means any organization or person receiving a grant or subsidy.

STATE DEPARTMENT OR AGENCY RELATED TO THIS REQUEST (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN):

STATE PROGRAM I.D. NO. (LEAVE BLANK IF UNKNOWN):

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual: **Adult Friends For Youth**

Dbas: same as above

Street Address: 3375 Koapaka Street, Ste. B290, Honolulu, HI 96819

Mailing Address: 3375 Koapaka Street, Ste. B290, Honolulu, HI 96819

2. CONTACT PERSON FOR MATTERS INVOLVING THIS APPLICATION:

Name ADRIAN KWOCK

Title Grant Coordinator

Phone # 833-8775

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3. TYPE OF BUSINESS ENTITY:

- NON PROFIT CORPORATION
- FOR PROFIT CORPORATION
- LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
- SOLE PROPRIETORSHIP/INDIVIDUAL

6. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S REQUEST:

YOUTH GANGS AND HIGH-RISK YOUTH PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM

4. FEDERAL TAX ID

5. STATE TAX ID #:

7. AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDS REQUESTED:

FY 2011-2012: \$ 200,000

8. STATUS OF SERVICE DESCRIBED IN THIS REQUEST:

- NEW SERVICE (PRESENTLY DOES NOT EXIST)
- EXISTING SERVICE (PRESENTLY IN OPERATION)

SPECIFY THE AMOUNT BY SOURCES OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AT THE TIME OF THIS REQUEST:

STATE \$ 0
 FEDERAL \$ 0
 COUNTY \$ 0
 PRIVATE/OTHER \$ 0

TYPE NAME & TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE:

[Redacted Signature]

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

DEBORAH L. K. SPENCER-CHUN, PRESIDENT & CEO

NAME & TITLE

1/20/11

DATE SIGNED

Application for Grants and Subsidies

If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".

I. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Include the following:

1. A brief description of the applicant's background;

Adult Friends for Youth (AFY) has been providing therapeutic prevention and mental health programs for high-risk youth for 24 years. The mission of AFY, a 501(c)(3) non-profit tax exempt corporation, is to reduce and eliminate substance abuse, gang-related activities, and family dysfunction in an effort to *enhance the potential for all youth to achieve a rewarding life and become productive members of society.*

Initially established at the University of Hawaii School of Social Work in 1985 under a federal grant, then becoming an independent entity, AFY has been helping build stronger communities and safer schools by providing services to youth in need, receiving wide recognition from the community for its work with the highest-risk youth.

Staffed by professional clinical staff at the master's degree or with an equivalent level of experience, AFY believes that no youth or child is beyond hope. AFY's therapeutic approach, ***Redirectional Therapy***, has helped some of the highest-risk youth on Oahu, and its outreach services have focused on communities with some of the highest levels of critical youth issues, including drug use, unemployment, crime, poverty, gang involvement, teen pregnancy, and truancy, helping redirect their pent-up energy from destructive to constructive activities.

The Redirectional Therapy is unique. It is a non-judgmental, non-threatening, replicable model AFY developed that has been field-tested for over 20 years to combat negative youth behaviors (violence, drugs, crime, teen pregnancy, family dysfunction, and other anti-social behaviors). A core belief of Redirectional Therapy is that people have the capacity to change. The model uses a Six Point Plan to expand the horizons of youth from their very limited experiential backgrounds to enabling them to see themselves and their possibilities in a new and much more positive way. The activity categories in the six point plan are social activities, recreation and sports, education, employment and careers, culture and religion, and community service. Redirectional Therapy deals with these gang members not by trying to separate an individual from the gang, which is his/her supportive community, but by addressing the gang as a group, often mediating between gangs. In addition to group sessions and working with youths,

AFY also makes collateral contacts as necessary that include, but are not limited to, school officials, probation officers, attorneys, and parents/guardians.

In addition to helping youth make better decisions and smoother transitions into adulthood, the agency also helps struggling teens avoid becoming school drop outs and achieve their high school diplomas and move on to higher education and/or careers, enhancing self-confidence, esteem, and teamwork capabilities.

In the past 24 years, AFY has gained a notable reputation for its overwhelming success in working with youth gangs and the highest-risk youth, integrating most members into society with a high school diploma in hand. AFY's outreach services are able to enhance the potential for achieving community goals, such as reducing extreme poverty, improving health and access to educational and other opportunities, and to enhance the quality of life for struggling families by accessing low-income minority youth at the grassroots. These are youth who believe they have no place in the dominant social system.

The group therapy approach, *Redirectional Therapy* has been applied to 40 gangs in Honolulu and has a success rate of approximately 80 percent. High-risk youth and ex-gang members who have participated in AFY's programs have graduated from college, e.g., specializing in electrical engineering, welding, automotive mechanics/technology, or liberal arts. Some are now working as a pilot, social worker(s), office manager, sous chef, waiter, and/or entertainer; others have completed specialized apprenticeships and joined the work force as plumbers, sheet metal workers, and carpenters through the unions; and many are serving the state and country as proud members of the U.S. Air Force, Army, Navy, and Marines.

AFY is in a unique position to reach a youth population that most needs therapeutic guidance and solid role models. AFY has been successful for more than 20 years because its staff is trusted by the target population. It is the agency's hope to reach greater numbers of high-risk youth who are prone to destructive and addictive behaviors, before they settle into a lifelong pattern of neglect, despair, substance abuse, crime, and poverty. Should the need arise, AFY's parenting program is also prepared to help teen parents cope with unexpected pregnancies and other young parenting issues.

Adult Friends for Youth has received wide recognition over the years for its work with high-risk youth, including the *Outstanding Community Mental Health Agency Award* by Mental Health America of Hawaii for its "*pioneering therapeutic approach in the field*" commitment." AFY was also saluted by the Hawaii State Legislature's Keiki Caucus, McDonald's Restaurant, and Hawaii Children's Trust Fund with Hawaii's *2008 Outstanding Advocate for Children and Youth Award*. The Hawaii Psychological Association awarded Adult Friends for Youth the *Po'okela Award* for *excellence in promoting "educational achievement and offering a prescription of hope for significantly reducing poverty and destructive behaviors among youth gang members."*

Adult Friends for Youth has also been delivering presentations, workshops, and training seminars on youth issues and youth gangs, both on the local and national levels for over two

decades. The most recent presentations made on the national level were in early 2009 in Seattle-Tacoma and Des Moines, Washington; to Henderson Metro Police, Nevada; to the Mayor's Office in Salt Lake City, Utah; and to the San Jose Rotary Club, California. Presentations made in recent years on the local level were: The Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Associates and Practitioners in 2008; the 5th (2007) and 7th (2009) Annual Hawaii Conference on Preventing, Assessing and Treating Childhood, Adolescent and Adult Trauma; and the 2010 International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN) session for Innovative Programs for At Risk Youth to Prevent Trans-Generational Child Abuse and Neglect. Curricula on the specifics of working with high-risk youth, especially youth gangs, have been in discussion with the University of Hawaii and Hawaii Pacific University Schools since 2009.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

Youth violence and incarceration are critical issues facing today's society. The seeds of violence can often be traced to dysfunctional homes and families. If we are to break the cycle of family violence, it is of utmost importance to disseminate and promote healthy and sound skills among the violent or high-risk population. On Oahu many communities are pressed with urgent needs that are going unmet for troubled youth, often reeling under a heavy load of emotional issues in high-risk environments. Substance abuse is starting at an earlier age, as young as 8 we have found; pockets of youth violence are erupting with increasing frequency on and off campus; teen pregnancies and STDs; learning disabilities; growing state resources spent on incarceration; the rising number of young adults who can neither read nor write; growing numbers of girls exhibiting violent gang mentality/behaviors; and unwed teen parents struggling to keep themselves and their "family" afloat...these are signs that point to a bleak future.

During the past decade, AFY has worked with 40 youth gangs and provided group therapy and gang prevention services to ten schools. AFY's programs aim to halt the cycle of poverty, violence, abusive and destructive behaviors that are often passed on from generation to generation by working with the highest-risk youth from low-income, minority, and/or immigrant families. These youth are often already involved in gang-related activities posing a danger to the community, if not to themselves, and disruptive in school. Lacking stable role models and trying to find their way through life on 'survivor mode,' they are one miss-step away from slipping into a world of crimes. These youth believe they have no place in the dominant social system. So-called "problem youth" may disappear from the school campus, but they will not go away. They will surface in other parts of the community, possibly with more potential than ever before to inflict damage and destruction.

GOALS:

- High risk youths involved in gang related activities will move from anti-social and destructive behaviors to becoming productive members of society.
- High risk youths involved in gang related activities will move from the cusp of being school drop outs to obtaining a high school diploma.

- High risk youths involved in gang related activities will move from seeing a dead end future for themselves to recognizing their potential and life's possibilities.

OBJECTIVES TO REACH GOALS:

- to reduce and/or end delinquent, violent, and criminal behaviors,
- to improve school attendance and grades,
- to increase high school graduation rates,
- to reduce and/or eliminate of alcohol and drug use,
- to reduce and/or terminate gang activity,
- to provide teen pregnancy prevention instruction,
- to promote healthy parenting skills among teen and young adult parents to halt, the cycle of poverty and despair, and
- to provide more stable and healthier schools and communities.

3. State the public purpose and need to be served;

Gang members are disruptive in school, whether by bullying, threats, or outright violence. This disruption impacts the educational environment for the entire school community including students, teachers, administrators, and support staff. Gang members are also prone to becoming high school drop outs, with dead end possibilities in the future. This negative framework impacts not only the gang members, but also the families they will raise and the neighborhoods where they will live. AFY seeks to halt the poverty, drug-alcohol use, dysfunctional family relations and abuse, violence, and poor academic performance that are often passed on from generation to generation. In most cases, youth from low-income, minority, and high-risk environment/backgrounds want to find a path to a better life when provided with stable role models, guidance, and options. AFY helps these gang members move from anti-social, disruptive, and at times criminal behavior to becoming productive members of society with a plan and goals for their future.

Former Principal of Farrington High School, Catherine Payne has encountered many serious threats and acts of violence that "moved from the community" to her campus. She has seen injuries and deaths from gang violence and affiliations. Ms. Payne has worked for years with Adult Friends for Youth to bring campus violence under control and to help students turn away from drugs to enable them to safely complete high school education. In a Honolulu Advertiser article (3.07.09 Principal sees crime risk in cutting anti-gang cash), she openly aired her fears that fights, vandalism and crime by gang members will rise if budget cuts severely impact nonprofits such as AFY.

Emerging developments: AFY's success in changing the destructive behaviors of youth gangs has focused primarily on male groups in the past 23 years. However, recent trends indicate a growing rise in active female involvement in gang activities and violence, at levels on par with their male counterparts. This has also been evident on school campuses. These young girls (ages 14-17) mostly of Tongan and Samoan ethnicity, have been identified by Farrington High School as high-risk youth in need of AFY help and therapeutic assistance. Despite the fact that this is an all girls' group, they identify themselves as the Tongan Crip Gang (TCG). TCG can be traced

back to Los Angeles and California, when families immigrated from Tonga in the 1970's. Although gang migration does occur, the names are often just copied or adopted by youth groups. But when combined with emerging destructive behaviors, it is a heavy red flag -- signs that prevention and intervention are needed. The TCG girls in question are divided along ethnic and cultural backgrounds (Tongan and Samoan), showing increasing hostility toward the other with incidents of rivalry and skirmishes. School officials have asked AFY to defuse the conflicts, and staff has been making a strenuous effort to bring harmony to the divided group, but more long-term work is needed to introduce / educate concepts of tolerance toward different ethnic, cultural, and community backgrounds, and nonviolent lifestyles respectful of others. Attention to these girls now are crucial, since one day, they will most likely become mothers and "role-models" to one or more offspring. This could indicate a "doubling" or "tripling" of a population with violent or destructive role-models/behaviors.

In addition to the escalating behaviors of violence among girls, there are a growing number of unwed teen parents who need attention. In working with high-risk youth, it has become a serious concern to AFY that those had already become fathers before reaching maturity were in critical need of parenting services. Many saw no need to take an active role in parenting, stemming from value systems that delegated the role solely to mothers -- to the extent that there was no physical contact between father and child. In many cases, the pre-adult fathers had no fathers themselves, or had fathers who were less than stable role models, leaving them with no guideposts or experience as to what a positive child-father relationship can be.

When students, gang members, at various high schools were asked how many students they would guess were actual gang members or affiliated with the gangs, the guesses ranged from 50% to as high as 70%. Again, this is an estimate from known gang members. But even if the percentage were half of their estimate, and taking the low end, it would mean that 25% were gang members or affiliated with a gang in a given school. If the student enrollment was 2,000 it would mean 500 were gang members or affiliated with a gang.

In 2010, after a mass fight occurred at Kapolei High School, AFY was asked to intervene and mediate. This resulted in the situation being calmed and AFY picking up additional troubled youths to work with.

The cost for AFY to redirect these youths into productive lives is a wise investment in their future, and a small price especially if compared to the cost of an un-served gang member entering the juvenile justice system, with possible confinement at the Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, or later entering the criminal justice system and possible incarceration.

The youth with whom AFY works are in the highest risk categories and often engaged in substance-abuse, violence, and illegal activities. They are often youth who feel they have "nothing to lose," and, consequently pose a danger to themselves and to the community; they are mostly from low-income minority backgrounds, struggling with poverty. No other organization has access to this population to the extent AFY does.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

AFY proposes to apply its expertise and skills by continuing to reach out to low-income minority youth, including unwed/married teen parents and violence-prone girls who are involved in gang-related activities (ages 11 – 22) who are at very high risk for crime, violence, and abuse. This population tends not to avail itself of services where it must reach out to the service. Therefore, AFY proposes to take its services to them.

The target population consists of alienated and aggressive youth, many of whom are in gangs and using drugs, who are dangerous to other students, the community at large, and to themselves.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

AFY finds the urgent need to provide outreach services in *Honolulu (notably Kalihi) and Leeward Oahu (including Waipahu, Ewa Beach, Kapolei, and the Waianae Coast).*

There is a pressing need to reach out to the troubled youth of Kalihi and Leeward Coast communities. Anger, at what appears to be a hopeless situation, is building among many young people. It is a matter of urgency to reach them before helplessness sets in and their anger turns to violence. AFY already maintains close collaborative relations with the public schools in these areas.

In 2009 property damage, vandalism, graffiti, and 20 smashed auto windshields and windows prompted residents at Kalihi Valley Homes to organize a citizen patrol. The smashed autos are suspected to be the result of an ongoing rivalry between youth groups/gangs. Another incident involved a 10-year old girl who was arrested on suspicion of second-degree assault for picking up a weapon and hitting her 8 year old brother. What was significant about another 12-year old girl related report was a reader's comment made to the Honolulu Advertiser regarding a worrisome trend in violent behaviors among girls in the classroom(s) and disregard for authority (Honoluluadvertiser.com. 11.10.2009. *Girl, 12, arrested in robbery of girl, 11.*).

The trial of a 20-year-old man in a freeway shooting indicated the incident was connected with violent rivalry between youth gangs BTK and INR (Honoluluadvertiser.com. 1.11.2010. *Trial begins in freeway shooting that left Hawaii teen paralyzed.*)

In 2010, three weeks of violence, including a beating and stabbing, came to a head with a shooting at Kalihi Valley Homes. An on-going feud between gangs from Kalihi Valley Homes and Kuhio Park Terrace prompted a curfew being imposed at both sites by the Hawaii Public Housing Authority. (KITV.com 3.30.10 *Shooting Allegedly Between Feuding Gangs Prompts Tighter Rules.*) AFY staff intervened in collaboration with Major Chur at the HPD Kalihi Substation. Working behind the scenes, AFY staff was able to bring key players from each side to the table to discuss the feud. Mediations took place in restaurants across the island, including Aina Haina. Eventually, the two main players agreed to a truce. Subsequently, AFY has enlisted 21 members of one side in a new Clinical/Competency Based (C-Base) class, and enrolled a key

player from the other side into Honolulu Community College. This student received high grades in his first semester and is now in his second semester. The C-Base class will enable AFY not only to help the members, who had dropped out of school, work towards a high school diploma, but also to address their personal issues that may have hindered their progress in the past.

It should be noted that AFY has also been asked to work with groups in another geographical area, but is unable to because of being short staffed and clinical specialists already being over extended.

II. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request.

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;

Adult Friends for Youth is the only nonprofit agency in the state of Hawaii that works with youth gangs/high-risk groups as whole entities (versus individuals who belong to gangs). Working in collaboration with the State Department of Education, AFY's clinical staff identifies children and youth (ages 11-22) with high-risk negative/gang behaviors, such as violence, truancy, drug or substance dependency, or group fights. After initiating communications, clinical staff work to establish a relationship of trust, becoming knowledgeable of their environment and issues, meeting their families, and organizing the children/youth into therapeutic groups (if they are not already engaged in natural friendship groups). Gang members and high-risk youth participating in AFY's group counseling/therapy sessions and programs have experienced a high school graduation rate of 80% (compared to 20% in 1990).

AFY uses an effective replicable pediatric therapy approach, *Redirectional Therapy*¹, which has been tested and refined for over 20 years, to combat negative youth behaviors, such as violence, drugs, crime, teen pregnancy, family dysfunction, learning disabilities, and other anti-social behaviors, both on and outside of the campus. Following two decades of experience with at-risk youth, AFY has found that the application of *Redirectional Therapy* has been overwhelmingly successful in helping them to become constructive people with a bright future. Most of its clients have progressed from angry, violent, and anti-social people to individuals who are participatory, enterprising, and law-abiding, who have graduated from high school and gone on to higher education, the military, and successful employment.

Groups meet for therapeutic counseling sessions once a week, in addition to individual conferences, collateral contacts with school officials, parents, employers, police, etc. for an average of 8 hours/group per week. Children and youth groups are continuously engaged in

¹ Rosen, S. M., Hingano, P. V., & Spencer, D. L. K. (1996). *Toward a Gang Solution: The Redirectional Method*. Tulsa, OK: National Resource Center for Youth Services, The University of Oklahoma.

activities aimed at replacing destructive behaviors with constructive, socially acceptable behaviors. In-depth sessions (both individually and in groups) are held to break the cycle of negative behaviors, including substance abuse and violence that may exist in their circles of friends and families. Opportunities are also provided to expose youth to new and positive experiences, including field trips, social activities, recreation and sports, education, community service (such as graffiti wipeouts, voter registration, and visits to senior care homes), exploring employment and career possibilities, and culture – all activities that steer attention away from negative, anti-social, or violent activities. Services are coordinated with school officials, teachers, family members and community leaders to provide the most effective services tailored to help the at-risk children and youth adopt positive and socially acceptable behaviors.

AFY helps school dropouts obtain a high school diploma through its *Clinical Competency-Based Alternative Education program*. The graduation rate for students who entered the program in January 2007 and completed it in August was 91%. Farrington Adult Community School administers testing and grading, and confers diplomas. The program uses the Department of Education's Adult Community School curriculum in conjunction with AFY's clinical program. This therapeutic component helps troubled youth to get a handle on their often overwhelming personal issues that opens the door to academic success.

The agency also provides cultural experiences to youth, and athletics are emphasized as an outlet for pent-up energy and as a diversion from the monotony of "just hanging out in neighborhoods," offering a chance to take part in an out-of-school team activity. AFY's *7-a-Side International Rugby Tournament* has grown into a premier annual tournament. The safe, speedy, and great spectator sport has drawn both boys' and girls' teams from as far away as Canada, New Zealand, and Pennsylvania, playing with local teams from the Big Island, Maui, Kalihi, Radford, Waipahu, Laie, and Kahuku.

By helping youth establish an awareness of their potentialities, AFY's two decades of field work have found that not only do they give up destructive behaviors as a way of life, but they also give up substance abuse. This is the population who desperately need guidance, before they become entrapped in the web of violence and hard core criminals.

Adult Friends for Youth's experience with young people confirms the widely held view that illegal drugs are a pernicious community problem. There can be no doubt that drugs contribute to the downward spiral of hopelessness and despair felt by many low-income minority youth. If ignored, the impact of drugs not only on these young people, but, subsequently, on their children and the community will be felt long into the future. Many of these troubled students come from homes where drugs are a powerful influence in their lives, with one or both parents into regular use or addiction. Clearly, anyone talking about parental responsibility in the lives of these youth does not make sense, since the sad fact is that abuse and drugs are a constant in most of their families, and criminal activities are not unusual. The hope for these young people lies in the socializing and therapeutic alternative that AFY can provide.

There is no short term solution for the problems that these students present. Persistence will be required for long-term behavioral changes to occur. Progress in some cases is already in

evidence. Unfortunately, society is always looking for the quick fix, and funding for the hard and difficult work required for change is almost nonexistent.

A sample of the impact that AFY's programs makes in youths' lives can be seen by looking at its recent Young Persons of the Year honorees at its annual dinner.

Among AFY's 2009 Young Persons of the Year honorees are five exceptional young men who persevered harsh circumstances and survived the storms. Four are brothers: Jerome Sevilleja and Jeremy Sagadraca, Andrew "Bubba" and Anson Hodges. They hardly went to school, smoked weed, and got into constant trouble, when the eldest of the four, Jerome, encountered AFY. AFY was able to provide the guidance the brothers desperately needed. Jerome, who recently returned from his second tour of Iraq, looks back, "They helped us stay positive, made us stronger..." Jerome has been a proud member of the Army National Guard for seven years now. His brother Anson works for the popular Highway Inn restaurant; Bradda Bubba sings in the band Rebel Souljahz, winner of the prestigious 2009 Na Hoku Awards Best Reggae Album of the Year; and Jeremy recently moved back from Las Vegas and plans to return to his job there. Born in Kalihi, their childhood was a rough one. All of the brothers eventually graduated Waipahu High School. Jerome recalls, "One thing I really noticed, and so did my brothers, is that AFY never gives up." The brothers all agree that they now see life from a different perspective. AFY's 5th honoree, Lerrick Beate, was into frequent fights and drugs, losing a friend to suicide, and seeing another get stabbed. He almost gave up on himself. He was ready to "go to war" with a rival group, when AFY stepped into his life. AFY's alternative education program provided him with new and positive experiences, and a fresh perspective on life. The program helped him earn his high school diploma. Lerrick is currently working as a security guard and aiming for a college certification in refrigeration and air condition maintenance. He is a scholarship recipient and attending Leeward Community College.

AFY's 2010 Young Persons of the Year honorees were Jonathan Puletasi and Arnold Tagalicud. Growing up, gangs were a part of Jonathan Puletasi's neighborhood. He got in numerous fights and found it difficult to walk away from confrontations. At the end of his sophomore year, he met an AFY counselor. Through regular sessions with AFY he started to believe that good things could actually come to fruition through perseverance, commitment and hard work. AFY helped Jonathan see his priorities in life. With his newly found focus and AFY's continued support, he graduated from high school in 2006 and played college football at Shasta Junior College in California. Currently employed at Pearl Harbor, he is also enrolled in the welding program at Honolulu Community college. As a freshman, Arnold Tagalicud was immersed in the gang life. It appeared to be his destiny. He seemed angry with everything and everyone around them and seemed not to care about life. His attendance and grades were poor. After discussion with his high school counselor he dropped out of regular school and joined AFY's Clinical Competency Based Alternative Education Program where he developed the discipline he needed to pursue his studies. Initially struggling and failing, he made a goal of never failing an exam again. With AFY's support, he did it and earned the Most Improved Student Award at his graduation ceremony in 2005. He is currently employed at a botanical garden in Makakilo and hopes to attend college some day.

AFY has been able to lift hundreds of high-risk youth out of their predicaments. Among other things, AFY's programs provide them with opportunities to have fun by exploring new positive experiences, to talk about any subject without being judged or lectured to, to reflect on their lives, and to enjoy the luxury of having someone really listen to them. Preventive measures aimed at building resiliency among high-risk students and teaching our children to be safe, to make better choices, to be respectful of others can spare them the pain and suffering of substance-abuse, crime, and/or violence, while reducing the rising costs of incarceration.

AFY currently enables approximately 400 troubled youths a week to receive help to free themselves from high-risk behaviors. Additional funding will allow the agency to work with the high-risk population of youth living in low-income communities. Without help, they will only sink further into hopelessness, frustration, anger and ultimately violence. Many troubled youth are desperate, seeking to improve their lives. When left unsupervised, they can easily be seduced toward a life of destructive and negative behaviors, but when exposed to well-guided supervision by solid role models who provide positive therapeutic interaction and mental health services, they can be prompted to adopt positive behaviors, rising above the despair and hopelessness of their negative environment.

AFY's policy is that assistance is available to clients on a 24/7 basis. Clinical staff provide their cell phone numbers to the youth, and are available to help if a personal or social crisis occurs. AFY also has a "once a client, always a client" policy. Years later as an adult, a former client may seek assistance from AFY.

2. The applicant shall provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

Under the *Youth Gangs and High-Risk Youth Prevention and Intervention Program*, AFY's primary objective is to work with a minimum of 50 very highest-risk students, both boys and girls (mostly youth gangs members) on Oahu, to reduce destructive and violent behaviors and replace negative behaviors with more socially acceptable behaviors. Start date and completion date will hinge on the program's "notice-to-proceed" contract agreement. Otherwise, the start date is anticipated on July 1, 2011 and completion date on June 30, 2012.

AFY is focused on the clients' needs, and not on serving the agency's needs. AFY meets clients at their level. Troubled youth know that AFY serves their best interests, and their trust is based on the perception that, at AFY, they are treated as individuals who matter. Clinical staff are on 24-hour call so that youth can contact them in times of pressing situations (i.e., a possible fight brewing with other rival gangs, possibly violent confrontations with parents, girlfriends and/or boyfriends, etc.). Staff go out of their way to prevent violent conflicts and get the youth out of intensely emotional situations. Youth know that they can call staff at all times, but they have never abused this privilege and have always been respectful to staff. It is part of the learning process by which they become keenly aware that consequences follow whatever course of action they choose.

AFY's proposed 12-month timeline for its Group Therapy Program (GTP):

Months 1 – 3	Preparation involves working with schools, identifying students with high-risk behaviors, such as violence, truancy, drug or substance dependency, and gang involvement. Initiate communications and start ‘connecting’ with 50 high-risk youth (divided into groups); conduct discussions with individuals and group members to become familiar with their issues and establish a relationship of trust; groups begin to meet for therapeutic and educational sessions.
Months 4 – 6	Continuous engagement of the high-risk youth groups in therapeutic intervention/prevention services and activities aimed at replacing destructive behaviors with constructive, socially acceptable behaviors.
Months 6 – 11	In-depth sessions (both individually and in groups) are conducted aimed at helping break the cycle of substance abuse, violence, or abuse that may exist in their circles of friends and families. All programs ongoing throughout the 12-month program duration.
Months 7 – 11	As part of the group sessions, conduct activities in which groups can engage in new experiences, including field trips, social activities, recreation and sports, education, employment and careers, culture and religion, community service – all activities that steer attention away from negative, anti-social, or violent activities.
Month 12	Year end project evaluation and final report.

It should be noted that services to youth in gangs and school groups are indeterminate. They continue as long as there is mutual agreement that they are needed. The agency does not unilaterally terminate clients except in the most extraordinary circumstances. It is common for service to gangs to be provided for two or more years. During the initial year of service, relationships and trust are established. It is a period during which food and activities are provided to the client, and acceptance, regardless of past or current behavior is also provided. Problems and needs are explored as they emerge, and approaches to resolving issues are developed. The beginning for service is intake, derived either from referrals from school groups or through outreach with gangs.

3. The applicant shall describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

Evaluation, measures, and assessment instruments to be used to determine changes in behaviors and attitudes: Outcomes for gang and school therapy groups will be measured through oral and written self-reporting, school records and reports, a baseline study, and through on-going staff assessments that are reported in written records for each group and individual session. Staff also meet at least bi-weekly to discuss client progress. Meetings are both peer-to-peer and with a

supervisor. Staff assessments and session records are reviewed by and discussed with a supervisor. Annual all-day or multi-day retreats are held to discuss issues in depth and to plan future work.

The analytical process is continuous. The increased clarity generated by this process led to writing the book, *Toward a Gang Solution: The Redirectional Method*, in 1996. This is still the only published book on a replicable gang methodology in the United States. A second book, *Turning It Around: Redirectional Therapy*, describing the depth of *Redirectional Therapy's* success in the last twenty years, has been completed and a publisher is being sought

Both financial and program services are continuously monitored and evaluated. Quarterly financial reports are submitted and annual audits are conducted by the accounting firm of Carr, Gouveia and Associates, CPAs, Inc. The annual audits are formally presented to the AFY Board of Directors by the CPA firm at a meeting called for that purpose.

Improving results and training for staff: Working with the very high-risk youth population entails specialized skills that go beyond textbooks. Finding personnel with the required qualifications and character to defuse what could easily turn into dangerous or violent situations is a challenge. New staff will be trained in *Redirectional Therapy*. Training includes study of the method, beginning with the book, *Toward a Gang Solution: The Redirectional Method*, supervision by senior staff, "shadowing" veteran staff in the field, assisting in counseling sessions, and participating in staff seminars. When training has progressed sufficiently, as determined by the President and Chief Executive Officer, new staff will be assigned groups and clients of their own.

4. **The applicant shall list the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.**

Performance Targets to Raise Protective Factors:

- Prevent destructive activities, such as gang fights, graffiti, drugs, and crime by redirecting youth from risky behaviors, such as truancy, delinquency, and violence
- Provide a "safe" place to gather
- Improve school attendance and grades
- Develop responsible and democratic decision-making skills
- Promote problem-solving and self-determination that leads to constructive and rewarding outcomes and acceptance of own responsibility
- Work on personal issues to resolve angry, violent and other destructive emotions
- Nurture feelings of well-being and accomplishment and help vulnerable youth gain confidence and improve self esteem
- Promote a healthy, rewarding, and law-abiding lifestyle

Milestones to gauge effectiveness (following one year of service):

- 50 youth participate in program
- 50% of participants attend at least 75% of group sessions
- 100% of youth participate in baseline survey
- 25% of youth report reduced drug and alcohol use
- 25% of youth reduce destructive behaviors
- 75% of youth will not experience school arrests, suspensions, and expulsions
- 50% of youth will maintain or improve their current level of academic achievement
- 75% of youth will report increased awareness of the dangers of ATOD (alcohol, tobacco and other drugs) use.

III. Financial

Budget

1. **The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.**

Please see attached.

2. **The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2011-2012.**

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$200,000

3. **The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are trying to obtain for fiscal year 2011-2012.**

AFY is not aware of other sources of funding, at this moment in time, that will be available for FY 2011 – 2012.

IV. Experience and Capability

A. Necessary Skills and Experience

The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.

Over the past 23 years, AFY has been widely recognized for its outstanding results in working with the highest risk youth. Awards in recent years mentioned earlier are: ***Outstanding Community Mental Health Agency*** by Mental Health America of Hawaii; Hawaii's ***2008 Outstanding Advocate for Children and Youth Award*** by the Hawaii State Legislature's Keiki Caucus, McDonald's Restaurant, and Hawaii Children's Trust Fund; the ***Po'okela Award for excellence in promoting "educational achievement and offering a prescription of hope for significantly reducing poverty and destructive behaviors among youth gang members"*** from the Hawaii Psychological Association in November 2006. In the past, AFY has also been recognized by/for:

- the Hawaii State Board of Education and Hawaii Department of Education in December 2007 with the ***Partnership in Education Award for Outstanding Contributions to Hawaii Public Schools;***
- the Honolulu City Council on December 13, 2006, for 20 years of cutting-edge youth and parenting services;
- for reaching hundreds of children and their families in partnership with the New Hope Christian Fellowships Prison Ministry in April 2006.

As earlier mentioned, curricula on ***Redirectional Therapy*** and the specifics of working with high-risk youth, especially youth gangs, have been in discussion with the University of Hawaii and Hawaii Pacific University Schools.

Dr. William Coulson, who trained under the famed psychologist Carl Rogers at the Western Behavioral Sciences Institute, visited AFY to discuss the Rogerian Person-Centered Therapy, and how AFY's Redirectional Therapy has taken the principles and applied it to a high-risk population that went beyond the imagination of the founders of the humanistic approach and psychotherapy research. (The humanistic bedrock of AFY's Redirectional Therapy is the Rogerian Person-Centered Therapy.)

AFY's program(s) works closely with school administration and teachers, ensuring safety on the campus; police and law enforcement officers to deter gang activity and diffusion of problems before they spiral out of control posing a safety threat to the public (officers in Kalihi often allow AFY staff to act as first responders when gang violence erupts on campuses. Please see attached letter from Major William Chur, Commander of the Honolulu Police Department's District 5); community leaders, apprising them of youth gang/group issues that are potentially harmful to their community and the possible solutions.

Says former Principal Payne, "I am aware of the high levels of commitment and professionalism that the agency provides, and their willingness to go well beyond the traditional parameters of the workday, and by their determination to make sure every troubled youth has an opportunity to become a good citizen....No group is doing what they are doing in the community. Suppressing gang activity has never worked, but working with these young people to help them see that they can choose a better way of life makes a difference of the community that is long lasting."

Former Principal Dr. Gail Awakuni of Campbell High School says, “Leeward schools tend to be fairly large, and many families in our community struggle with limited incomes or with both parents working multiple jobs. Our high-risk youth face intense problems, and we would welcome expanded help from Adult Friends for Youth to assist some of our students cope with their drug/substance-related issues and prevent them from ‘falling through the cracks.’”

Adult Friends for Youth has been providing youth gang and school therapy services since 1989, and has worked with more than 40 youth gangs and/or highest-risk youth groups during that time. Gangs/groups served include:

Junior Sons of Samoa	Peewees SOS	Baby Gangsters SOS
Young Original Bloods	Halawa Mobs	KVH Young Boys
INR	Fobmob	Sisters of Kuhio
Baby Hawaii Brothers	Pinoy Boys	Little Pinoys/Bad Boys of Ilocano
Flipside Pinoys	Hamocide	Young Terrible Kids
Born to Kill	Rapas	Bad Boys Bisayan
North Shore Boys	West Side Islanders	Kalihi Umi Boys
Backyard Boys	MMs	KPT Young Boys
Cross Sun	Black Guerrilla Army	KC
Ilocano Boys	Barcadas	Bad Hamo Bloods
Infamous	KPT	XBB
KIS	KAM IV ESPG	Tongan Crip Gang
BGA	Hard Knoccs (KPT)	PYG – Parkside Young Gangsters (KPT)
Soldier Boys	Barcadas	

AFY has received funding contracts within the past three years from:

The Atherton Family Foundation; City and County of Honolulu CDBG Grant, Leeward Community Benefit Grant, Mayor’s Task Force Grant, and Workforce Investment Act; Department of Health and Human Services – TANF Grant; George P. and Ida Tenney Castle Trust; Hawaii Children’s Trust Fund; Hawaii Community Foundation Crystal Meth Initiative; State of Hawaii – Office of Youth Services; State of Hawaii – Department of Transportation; State of Hawaii – Department of Education; AES Hawaii; Alexander & Baldwin Foundation; Aloha United Way; Castle & Cooke Hawaii; Combined Federal Campaign; Farrington High School; Friends of Hawaii Charities; GEAR UP Hawaii; Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation; Heather and Colene Wong Foundation; Hiroshi Asakawa Charitable Remainder Trust; James Campbell High School; Kaiser Permanente; Kaneta Foundation; Kapolei High School; KTA Super Stores; LikeLike Elementary School; Maryl Group; Schuler Family Foundation; Servco Foundation; 7-11 Hawaii; the Seto Foundation; Sidney Stern Memorial Trust; Waianae Intermediate School; Watamull Foundation; G. N. Wilcox Trust; the Frear Eleemosynary Trust; the Women’s Fund, the Ouida and Doc Hill Foundation, and 22 straight years of funding from the McNerny Foundation.

B. Facilities

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities. Also describe how the facilities meet ADA requirements, as applicable.

Gang prevention and rehabilitation is conducted through schools and in the community. The program utilizes community facilities, including classrooms, recreation centers, beaches, parks, and a variety of commercial establishments, including bowling alleys, billiard parlors, and movie theaters. Staff use various sites depending on program requirements. AFY maintains a 4,287 square foot office at the Airport Industrial Park (3375 Koapaka Street, Suite B290). Classes and presentations are often held in our classroom/conference room. ADA requirements: The AFY office is immediately off of the parking lot, Level B. There are no steps. The office is accessed by several doors: two double doors and a single door that can easily accommodate a wheel chair. No special equipment nor remodeling is necessary.

V. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

A. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

Key staff who will lead this program are: *Deborah L. K. Spencer-Chun*, President and C.E.O., M.S.W., provides direct supervision to the Vice President, Grant writer/Communications Coordinator, and Program Specialists who provide direct services to youth, as well as to overall AFY operations/administrative staff, and maintains the linkage between the Board of Directors and staff, and implements board policies. This position supervises all fiscal matters and oversees all aspects relevant to client services, recording instruments and other instruments required for practice accountability, and maintains close communication with the clinical staff on all issues. Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree in Social Work or advanced degree in a related education, human service or health field and five years of direct practice/management experience. Preferably, a minimum of three years of experience will be with Adult Friends for Youth. Ten years of direct practice or managerial experience at AFY may be substituted for an advanced degree. This position is also responsible for providing staff services to the Board of Directors, which involves arranging meetings, providing materials and information, serving ex-officio on all committees, and implementing board policies. Ms. Spencer-Chun has been a staff member for 20 years, most recently as Senior Master Practitioner, before being appointed to her present position. She also provides direct services as appropriate.

McKay Schwenke, Vice President and Sr. Master Clinician, B.S., provides, instruction for practicum students, the community service program, and helps establish and maintain relationships with organizations that are relevant to client services, develops recording instruments and other instruments required for practice accountability. He also provides direct services. The VP is in close communication with the C.E.O. on all issues related to clinical practice, and reports directly to the C.E.O. Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree in Social Work or advanced degree in a related field of practice and five years of direct practice. A bachelor's degree and ten years of practice, at least three of which will have been at AFY, may be substituted for an advanced degree. Mr. Schwenke has been on staff for 17 years, most recently as Master Practitioner, before being appointed to his position.

Master Clinician / Clinical Coordinator **Malakai Maumalanga**, M.S.W., provides direct services to groups and individuals, mentors and directly supervises clinical specialists, conducts intake of clients, and reports directly to the Vice President or President. This position recognizes an intermediate level of practice requiring supervision of a collegial nature but also able to provide services independently. Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree in Social Work or advanced degree in a related field and two years of clinical practice. A bachelor's degree and four years of clinical practice at AFY may be substituted for an advanced degree.

Clinical Specialists: Funding under this grant will allow AFY to meet the growing needs at the schools and neighborhoods of Honolulu (Kalihi) and Leeward Oahu (Waipahu, Ewa, Kapolei, and Waianae) and to hire an additional Clinical Specialist to address the swelling number of youth gangs and gang activities. Clinical Specialists will work under the close supervision of either the C.E.O., V.P., or a Master Clinician, providing the same direct services as those by their senior counterparts. (A Clinical Specialist is the entry level clinical practice position. Minimum Qualifications: Master's Degree in Social Work or advanced degree in a related field. A Bachelor's Degree and two years of practice experience may be substituted for an advanced degree. In rare instances, an outstanding practitioner without a degree, but working toward one, may be hired at this level.) Three Clinical Specialists will work on the program.

- **Meja Kaniho**, M.A., is a Clinical Specialist and has been with AFY for 3.5 years. She coordinates group and client records and data collection for the clinicians.
- **James "Kimo" Baker**, M.S.W., is a Clinical Specialist and has been with AFY for 1 year.
- **Clinical Specialist – to be hired.**

The In-House Consultant/Trainer is **Sidney Rosen**, M.S.W., Ph.D. Dr. Rosen is the Founder & President Emeritus of Adult Friends for Youth. Dr. Rosen's experience and knowledge are key in training staff in Redirectional Therapy and improving their skills in group counseling, individual counseling, and mediation work. Among the many courses that Dr. Rosen taught in 28 years at the University of Hawaii School of School Work were classes in community organization, group psychotherapy, and group theory. He is the co-author of the two books previously

mentioned, *Toward a Gang Solution: The Redirectional Method*, and *Turning It Around: Redirectional Therapy*.

Grant and Communications Coordinator, **Adrian Kwock**, M.A., is responsible for grant-writing and grant-related performance reports and invoices, as well as public relations/media communications of the program operation. Mr. Kwock retired from the State of Hawaii as Branch Chief of the Grants & Planning Branch, Crime Prevention & Justice Assistance Division, Department of the Attorney General. He was also Principal of a private high school in Honolulu. Minimum qualifications are a Bachelor's degree and/or a proven track record in grantwriting, communications, journalism, marketing, or related field. This position is supervised by the President and C.E.O.

Office Manager **Jane Tampon** oversees fiscal matter including making payments and reimbursements required for program activities.

Special Programs Assistant and Volunteer/Community Coordinator **Elizabeth Yonamine** oversees volunteers, community service workers, and youth stipend employees. She also order supplies needed for the growth sessions and provides logistical support for staff.

As noted in a previous section, working with the very high-risk youth population entails specialized skills that go beyond textbooks. Finding personnel with the required qualifications and character to defuse what could easily turn into dangerous or violent situations is a challenge. New staff will be trained in **Redirectional Therapy**. Training includes study of the method, beginning with the book, *Toward a Gang Solution: The Redirectional Method*, supervision by senior staff, "shadowing" veteran staff in the field, assisting in counseling sessions, and participating in staff seminars. When training has progressed sufficiently, as determined by the President and Chief Executive Officer, new staff will be assigned groups and clients of their own.

Training meetings are conducted bi-monthly when staff can discuss specific issues and cases. Case discussion includes comments from peers and supervisors regarding how a case was conducted and what improvements could be made. Trainings are also conducted in one-to-one meeting between the clinical staff and a supervisor. Finally, an annual retreat provides the opportunity for additional formal training.

This grant will allow AFY to provide much needed services to troubled and gang-related youth at schools in Kalihi and Leeward Oahu. AFY already has a strong working relationship with many of the schools in these areas, including Farrington, Waipahu, Campbell, and Kapolei High Schools, and Waianae Intermediate and Central Middle School.

Adult Friends for Youth has a 20-member Board of Directors. The annual audits are formally presented to the AFY Board of Directors by the accounting firm, Carr, Gouveia and Associates, CPAs, Inc. at a meeting called for that purpose.

B. Organization Chart

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organizational chart that illustrates the placement of this request.

Please see attached chart.

VI. Other

A. Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

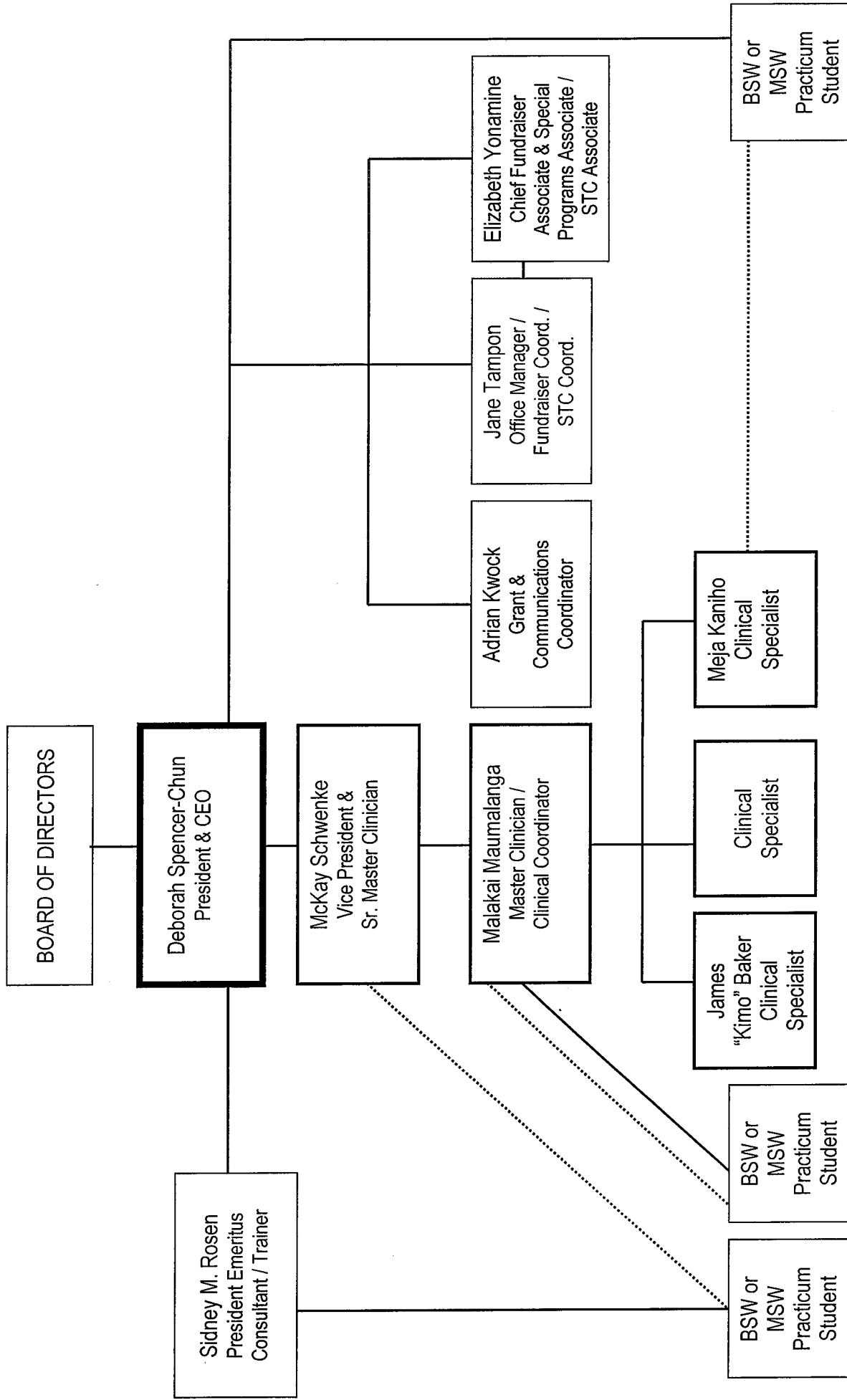
Adult Friends for Youth is not a party to any litigation.

B. Licensure or Accreditation

Specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that applicant possesses relevant to this request.

Adult Friends for Youth provides a one-of-a-kind service for which there is no licensing or accreditation body. However, the agency has received numerous awards and recognition from the State and community (please see pgs. 2, 3, 13) for its work.

Adult Friends for Youth
 Organization Chart
 2010 – 2011



PRACTICUM SUPERVISION

Academic Supervision

Clinical Supervision

.....

Staff designated for CDBG Grant are the highlighted boxes

Major William R. Chur
District 5 Commander
1865 Kamehameha IV Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819

May 12, 2009

To Whom This May Concern:

I am Major William Chur, commander of District 5 (Kalihi) of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu. I am writing in support of Adult Friends for Youth (AFY) and the long-term solutions they provide to deal with youth gang problems in Kalihi.

It should be noted that the majority of public housing units on the island of Oahu are located within the Kalihi police district. Youth gang activities are linked and common to the cultural and economic conditions in the public housing communities. These activities follow the participants outside of public housing; into business areas, other communities, and schools. As a result, the police department continues to receive numerous complaints of criminal activity and violence and much of our efforts are focused on these problems.

The Kalihi police district welcomes the partnership and work of the AFY in helping to deter harmful gang activity and diffuse problems before violence erupts. AFY has a commendable record of providing long-term mental health approaches to the highest at-risk youth population in our district. Its efforts keep many young people out of trouble. AFY's program of redirectional therapy offers an important long-term preventive strategy, as well as intervention toward the proliferating young gang problems before they grow into a criminal/law enforcement issue.

In conclusion, the efforts of AFY are appreciated and I would acknowledge that expanding AFY's reach to more youth would provide significant benefits and prevent a rise in youth crimes. I would urge favorable consideration to be given to any request by AFY for the resources it needs to continue its effective work.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM R. CHUR, Major
District 5

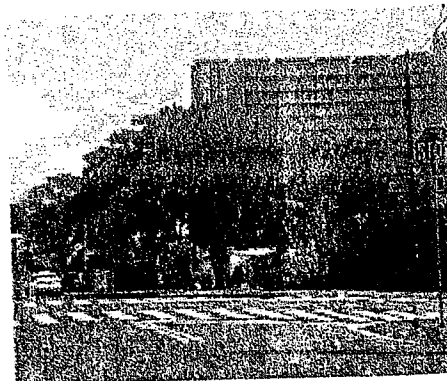
KITV.com

Curfew Imposed Soon For Kalihi Housing

***Shooting Allegedly Between Feuding Gangs
Prompts Tighter Rules***

POSTED: 4:53 pm HST March 30, 2010
UPDATED: 8:50 pm HST March 30, 2010

Related To Story



**Video: Authorities Place Curfew
For Kalihi Housing Projects**

HONOLULU -- The exact date of when a curfew would begin is still being discussed while the head of the Hawaii Public Housing Authority said she is meeting with the tenant association, property management and on-site security. But Denise Wise said she hopes to establish stronger rules at the housing projects before things get worse.

Wise said a 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. curfew for Kuhio Park Terrace and Kalihi Valley Homes is a measure Wise says is NOT punishment for residents, but protection.

"It may very well seem drastic, however I just want to make sure that we get a handle on it before I get a phone call at 2 or 3 in the morning saying now we have a fatality," said Wise.

But the idea of a curfew isn't sitting well with some residents.

"I can't tell no 50-year-old to go in the house. I don't think so," said June Talia, Kuhio Park Terrace Association, Board vice president.

"We need more policemen up here instead of security to help us," said Maria Pato, a Kalihi Valley Home resident of 34 years.

Three weeks of violence came to a head with a shooting Monday night at Kalihi Valley Homes that left a 19-year-old man in serious condition and a 21-year-old man injured. Police are still looking for two suspects.

Before Monday's incident, there was a beating, followed by a stabbing, allegedly in an on going feud between rival gangs from the two housing projects.

"It doesn't come as a surprise to us only because we've seen the upsurge coming," said Deborah Spencer-Chun, Adult Friends for Youth, President and Chief Executive Officer.

Those who work with Hawaii youth involved in gangs say Kalihi has been a hotbed for gang violence for years and say more than a curfew needs to be created to address the situation.

"This is a long term, on going issue that we really need to deal with and we've been asking for support on this problem for a long time now," said Spencer-Chun.

But frustrated residents say the problem does not lie just with the kids from the housing.

"It's not always KPT kids. It's those that come and hang with the KPT kids or once upon a time used to live at KPT. But regardless, we're so stereotyped. We're always going to get the blame for everything and I just think that's downright unfair," said Talia.

Honolulu police have not officially said the recent violence is gang related, but the cases are still under investigation.

Gang Activity On The Rise



Reported by: [Olena Heu](#)
 Email: ohou@khon2.com
 Last Update: 3/25 6:44 pm

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Community groups say gang activity is on the rise and recent acts of violence are an indicator something needs to be done.

Lawmakers, school officials and several organizations who mentor and counsel teens met today to discuss how to stop gang activity in their communities.

"We are looking for consensus builders and solution seekers and that involves our gang members and our former gang members," said Rep. John Mizuno.

"I was introduced to weed started drinking I learned how to break in to cars and I even stole cars," said former gang member, Lerrick Beate.

"I knew what was right from wrong but when you grow up in the ghetto violence is the way of life it becomes the norm for these kids," said former gang member, Malakai Maumalang.

Anti-gang advocates say activity has recently started to increase.

"Is going to put the community and a lot of these kids in jeopardy," said Sid Rosen from Adult Friends for Youth.

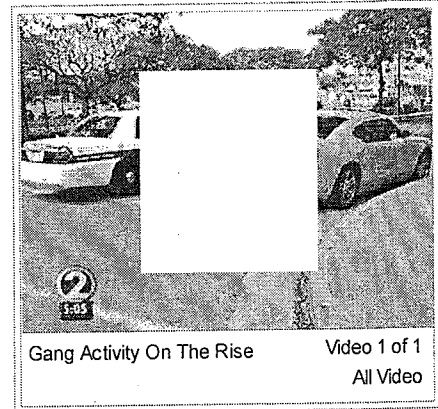
According to police officials in Kalihi, there have been numerous gang related fights, most recently last week.

"One of the boys got very seriously injured in fact was knocked unconscious, and I don't think he woke up for a couple of days," said Maj. William Chur of the Honolulu Police Department.

Several non-profit organizations say they are concerned the gang activity will continue to rise because they are facing major budget cuts.

Lawmakers say they are doing everything they can to help, meanwhile HPD says their officers are trained to take action.

"They have a heightened awareness of the gang problem and they are directed to watch for it and take fast action if something occurs," said Maj. Chur.



honoluluadvertiser.com

January 11, 2010

Trial begins in freeway shooting that left Hawaii teen paralyzed

By Jim Dooley
Advertiser Staff Writer

The trial of a 20-year-old man charged with attempted murder began in Circuit Court today with a prosecutor telling jurors that Joshua Gonda is guilty of an unprovoked freeway shooting that left a 16-year-old youth paralyzed for life.

The July 2008 shooting, on Moanalua Freeway near Kaiser Hospital, occurred after earlier violence between youth gangs called BTK (Born to Kill) and INR (Insane Notorious Realists), according to Deputy Prosecutor Scott Bell.

Gonda's defense lawyer, David Bettencourt, said his client was innocent of the crime but was blamed for it because he was cooperating with police in the investigation of another shooting that also left a teenager crippled for life.

Bell said in his opening statement that Gonda, while riding in a Honda sedan, opened fire on a yellow Mitsubishi Lancer in which victim Roger Curioso was a passenger.

Gonda "emptied" a handgun during the shooting, with multiple rounds striking the Lancer, Bell said. One bullet passed through a hat worn by the driver and another struck Curioso in the shoulder and traveled through his body to his spinal cord, the prosecutor said.

Curioso "will never walk again," Bell told the jury.

Bettencourt said another passenger in the Honda was guilty of the shooting.

"This is a horrible case. There's no doubt about that," Bettencourt said.

The shooting involved a cast of teenagers and young adults with "too little guidance and too much time on their hands," he said.

But he said that that main prosecution witness, the owner of the Honda, gave a series of conflicting statements to police, only naming Gonda as the shooter after it became known that Gonda was giving police information about a May 2008 Aiea home invasion robbery committed by Nicholas Nichols. Nichols last year pleaded guilty to robbery, kidnapping and assault in that case, which left a then-16-year-old victim paralyzed.

Nichols was the driver of the Honda the night Gonda was shot.

He is now serving a 30-year prison sentence for the Aiea case.

According to Bettencourt, Gonda was awaiting sentencing in a federal drug case when the freeway shooting occurred.

He was in the process of turning his life around, had no history of violence and had no motive to shoot Curioso, according to Bettencourt.

Circuit Judge Michael Town is presiding over the trial.

Students trade ties to gangs for diplomas

By Mary Vorsino

POSTED: 01:30 a.m. HST, Oct 01, 2010



JAMM AQUINO / JAQUINO@STARADVERTISER.COM
Graduates watched a slide show of their experiences in class during the commencement ceremony yesterday for the Adult Friends for Youth class of 2010 at the University of Hawaii-Manoa Campus Center Ballroom.

More Photos



Colors that used to mean everything to them -- red for Bloods, blue for Crips -- were nowhere in sight yesterday as 14 students, many with ties to rival gangs, donned black robes and walked across a stage to get their high school diplomas.

The students, ages 16 to 19, were part of the eighth graduating class of the Adult Friends for Youth competency-based diploma program, a unique

initiative aimed at helping teens linked to gangs get a chance at going to college, joining the military or getting a better-paying job.

"I made it!" said Frances Manuma-Faamu, 19, who gave birth in March to her first child. She stuck with the diploma program, though, and now plans to join the Navy.

The graduation yesterday, held at the University of Hawaii's Campus Center Ballroom, comes as Adult Friends for Youth is seeing an increase in kids at risk for gang involvement.

The nonprofit is counseling more than 465 teens a week in group therapy sessions. The teens were referred to the group because they are at "high risk for some kind of violent behavior," said Debbie Spencer-Chun, president and chief executive officer of Adult Friends for Youth.

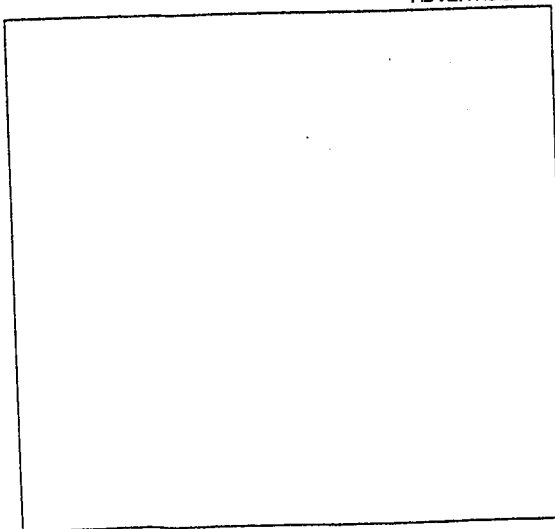
Last year the organization worked with about 400 kids a week. That number was at 380 in 2008.

Spencer-Chun said the economic downturn, and all the social strife it has triggered (from increases in crime to poverty), is taking a toll on youth. The Internet, she added, is also spreading gang messages to susceptible teens.

"Kids are having a harder time," she said.

Scores of family members gathered yesterday at the UH-Manoa ballroom for the ceremony, holding signs and bearing lei. The ceremony started with "The Star-Spangled Banner" and ended with the students singing Whitney Houston's "Greatest Love of All."

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Star Advertiser

"I believe the children are our future," the class sang, slightly off-key.

Adult Friends for Youth hopes success stories -- like those of the 14 graduates yesterday -- will convince other at-risk youth thinking about joining gangs to reconsider.

Harold Ababa, 18, is a member of the graduating class after dropping out of the program last year.

"You just gotta put your mind to it," he said.

Ababa said he is still active in the West Side Islanders gang. He is optimistic, though, about his future and plans to join the National Guard.

Junior Faatili, 21, came with other family members to watch his 16-year-old brother graduate.

He wants one day to see his brother walk across another stage -- to get his college diploma.

"I'm excited," Faatili said before the ceremony started.

The competency-based diploma is a last resort for kids referred to Adult Friends for Youth. First, counselors try to keep kids in traditional schools.

And every student admitted to the diploma program is interviewed to make sure they will be able to sit in the same classroom with peers, some of whom might be from rival gangs.

Annually, there is a waiting list of 60 teens for a class with about 20 seats.

This year's class kicked off in January, with 22 students from around Oahu. Along the way, several students gave up and dropped out. One was incarcerated. A few left to get jobs.

James "Kimo" Baker, a former state Child Protective Services worker, taught the class for the first time this year.

The former bouncer said teaching kids who are set off by the simplest things can be disconcerting at times.

"The fact that our binder comes in red upset one student," he said.

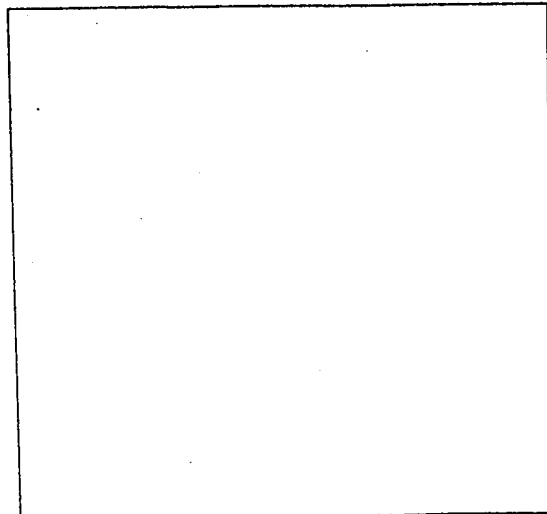
That volatility in the classroom "was the most difficult thing" -- and came on top of the daunting task of taking students who in many cases test below grade level to a point where they can do 12th-grade math

and reading.

Baker got through it and stuck by students who he was not always convinced were ready to put away gang violence. In some cases he knocked on doors at students' homes to cajole them to stick with the program.

"I was born and raised in Nanakuli. I've seen what it's like to grow up in a rough neighborhood," Baker said, adding that though his job is tough, it is also rewarding. "I honestly believe it's some type of calling."

ADVERTISEMENT



BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS
(Period: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012)

Applicant: Adult Friends for Youth

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	119,170			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	14,205			
3. Fringe Benefits	20,979			
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	154,354			
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island				
2. Insurance	5,173			
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	2,511			
4. Lease/Rental of Space	36,272			
5. Staff Training				
6. Supplies	6,083			
7. Telecommunication	2,980			
8. Utilities (included in space rental)				
9. Cleaning/Maintenance	1,535			
10 Postage	582			
11 Conference/Meetings	576			
12 Accounting Fees	6,153			
13 Professional Fees	410			
14 Payroll Fees	473			
15 Vehicle Maitenance/Repairs	576			
16 Youth Stipends	329			
17 Printing/Publications	206			
18 Local Travel (mileage)	3,290			
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	67,149			
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	221,503			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	200,000	Deborah Spencer-Chun 808-833-8775		
(b) Fundraiser/Donations	21,503	[Redacted] Phone		
(c)		[Redacted] 1/20/11		
(d)		Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	221,503	Deborah Spencer-Chun , President and CEO Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION PERSONNEL - SALARIES AND WAGES

Applicant: Adult Friends for Youth

Period: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
President and C.E.O.	1	\$73,000.00	25.00%	\$ 18,250.00
Vice President and Sr. Master Clinician	1	\$60,000.00	25.00%	\$ 15,000.00
Master Clinician	1	\$47,000.00	35.00%	\$ 16,450.00
Clinical Specialist	1	\$40,000.00	35.00%	\$ 14,000.00
Clinical Specialist	1	\$40,000.00	35.00%	\$ 14,000.00
Clinical Specialist	1	\$36,000.00	35.00%	\$ 12,600.00
In House Consultant/Trainer	0.6	\$60,000.00	20.00%	\$ 12,000.00
Grant & Communications Coordinator	0.7	\$37,000.00	25.00%	\$ 9,250.00
Office Manager	1	\$43,000.00	10.00%	\$ 4,300.00
Special Programs Assistant	1	\$33,200.00	10.00%	\$ 3,320.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				\$ 119,170.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Applicant: Adult Friends for Youth

Period: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Not Applicable			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:			\$ -	

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

Not Applicable

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Not Applicable			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:			\$ -	

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

Not Applicable

**BUDGET JUSTIFICATION
CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS**

Applicant: Adult Friends for Youth

Period: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED										
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS	STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS						
				FY: 2009-2010	FY: 2010-2011	FY: 2011-2012	FY: 2012-2013	FY: 2013-2014		
PLANS	Not Applicable									
LAND ACQUISITION	Not Applicable									
DESIGN	Not Applicable									
CONSTRUCTION	Not Applicable									
EQUIPMENT	Not Applicable									
	TOTAL:									
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:										
Not Applicable										

**DECLARATION STATEMENT
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS AND SUBSIDIES
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant acknowledges that said applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants and subsidies pursuant to section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:

- (1) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant or subsidy is awarded;
- (2) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
- (3) Agree not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
- (4) Allow the state agency to which funds for the grant or subsidy were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant or subsidy.

In addition, a grant or subsidy may be made to an organization only if the organization:

- (1) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
- (2) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant or subsidy is awarded shall be conducted or provided.

Further, a grant or subsidy may be awarded to a non-profit organization only if the organization:

- (1) Has been determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
- (2) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

For a grant or subsidy used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant or subsidy was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant or subsidy used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Adult Friends for Youth

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



(Signature)

1/20/11

(Date)

Deborah L. K. Spencer-Chun

(Typed Name)

President & CEO

(Title)