

APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

Children, Youth, and Families At Risk

Helping children, youth, and families meet basic needs and build the skills and competencies for career success and fulfilling and happy lives.

America is in the midst of an economic downturn not seen since the Great Depression. While all segments of society are affected, children and youth, are particularly “at risk” for not meeting basic needs or building the skills and competencies necessary for career success and fulfilling and happy lives.

Fortunately, there is a very successful program offered collaboratively by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and America’s land-grant universities’ Cooperative Extension. This program — Children, Youth, and Families at Risk (CYFAR) — is funded by appropriations made to the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) with a dollar-for-dollar match provided by the states.

The CYFAR program often operates through after-school programs such as:

- Cybertown in Somerset County, Maryland which is helping 8- to 12-year-old residents of the Crisfield Housing Authority build literacy and computer skills.
- The CITY (Community Improvement Through Youth) program in New York which draws on the 4-H resource, “Public Adventures,” and one of Cornell Extension’s Signature Programs, “Youth Community Action” to empower 14- to 18-year-olds to make positive changes in their lives.
- The Conroe Young Entrepreneurs Program of Montgomery County, Texas, which reaches more than 400 at-risk middle schoolers in after-school programs at three urban sites, and approximately 3,000 youth at community events.

These programs and dozens of others use proven techniques to reach children, youth, and their families with both tremendous potential and at great risk. In this period of economic turmoil, proven outreach efforts such as CYFAR need to receive enhanced funding to meet greater need. Therefore, A.P.L.U. urges Congress to fund the CYFAR program at no less than \$10 million in FY 2010.



A.P.L.U. PRIORITY REQUEST FOR FY 2010

Children, Youth, and Families at Risk.....\$10 M

The CYFAR Program at a Glance:

- In 2007, CYFAR projects in 40 states and territories supported community programs at 121 sites reaching 20,210 youth and 6,410 adults a total of 26,620 participants.
- Of the participants, 1,268 (5%) are pre-K; 11,125 (42%) are in grades K-6; and 7,817 (29%) are in grades 7-12.
- Fifty-three percent (53%) of all participants are from rural areas and small towns, 36% from towns and cities, 11% from central cities, and less than 1% from suburbs.
- Of the youth, 78% live in poverty with percentages ranging up to 100% for some race/ethnicity groups.
- Although there are 286 paid staff, much of the work is performed by the 2,270 volunteers who donated more than 111,000 volunteer-hours of service.

For additional information see page two or contact Hunt Shipman at (202) 448-9500 or hshipman@cgagroup.com

Children, Youth, and Families At Risk

Appropriations Bill	Agriculture				
Agency	National Institute of Food and Agriculture (formerly Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service)				
Account	Extension Activities				
Program Name	Children, Youth, and Families at Risk (CYFAR)				
Requested Amount	\$10,000,000				
Authorization	7 U.S.C. 343(d), (Sec. 3(d) of the Smith-Lever Act of 1914).				
Description	This program helps “at risk” children, youth, and families living in rural areas, towns, and cities meet basic needs and build the skills and competencies necessary for career success and fulfilling and happy lives.				
Benefits/Impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ A significant proportion of American children are at substantial risk for: infant mortality, undernourishment, abuse, neglect, poor health, substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, crime, violence, and academic underachievement, due to family, community, social, political, and economic conditions which they have not created. Poverty exacerbates most other risk factors, and it is the central reason that many children and families do not thrive. ■ The focus of the CYFAR program is children and youth who face the risk of not acquiring the basic skills they need to become responsible family members, participants in the work force or contributing citizens. ■ The program is based on research on effective programs for at-risk youth and families. It supports comprehensive, intensive, community-based programs developed with active citizen participation. ■ CYFAR promotes positive youth and family development by supporting healthy environments and providing opportunities for learning and leadership by youth and adults in their communities. 				
Funding History					
FY 2010 President’s Budget	FY 2009	FY 2008	FY 2007	FY 2006	FY 2005
\$8,182,000	\$8,182,000	\$7,968,000	\$7,651,000	\$7,651,000	\$7,478,000
Misc. Information					
Matching Funds	This program operates under the 3(d) authority of the Smith-Lever Act. No match is required.				
Final Recipients	1862 and 1890 Land-Grant Universities.				
Note for Senate Offices	Funding is not being requested for this program through another appropriations bill.				
Additional Information	www.land-grant.org/kb.htm				

The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities represents 217 U.S. universities and has members in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories.