

## Hartford Opportunity Youth Collaborative

### Policy Issues Related to Recent State, Federal Budget Issues

#### State Budget: Short Term

<b>Second Chance BEST CHANCE Program</b>	<u>State Budget:</u> \$1.2 million Governor & Republican Budgets; Cut Back to \$440,000 in Latest Dem. Appropriations Budget. <u>Impact:</u> 50-75 Opportunity Youth; Hundreds of Adults
<b>State Youth Employment</b>	<u>State Budget:</u> Original: \$5.5 million; Reduced to \$2.5 in Governor's Budget; Dem. Approps: \$1-million (FY18) <u>Impact:</u> 200-400 Hartford Youth

#### State Budget: Middle-Long Term Issues

<b>STEP UP</b>	Reauthorization of Bond Funds Needed
<b>Apprenticeship (DOL)</b>	Eligibility Update Needed
<b>JFES Subsidized Employment (DOL/DSS)</b>	Next State Budget Needs Actions
<b>CRDA</b>	Needs Immediate Action (CRDA Neighborhood Council)
<b>Vocational Training Bond Funds (SDE)</b>	Needs Immediate Action (Bond Commission, SDE)
<b>CETC Industry Partnership Training Pool (DOL)</b>	Next State Budget Needs Action
<b>Care4Kids (DSS, OEC)</b>	Needs Immediate Waiver for Individuals in Training Activity
<b>Homeless (DOH)</b>	Next State Budget Needs Action
<b>Mental &amp; Behavioral Health (DMHAS)</b>	Next State Budget Needs Action
<b>Jobs Funnel</b>	State Funding Eliminated in Present Budget, Next State Budget Action
<b>Sustained Commitment to BEST CHANCE, Youth Employment, Other</b>	Next State Budget Needs Action

#### Federal

<b>WIOA Youth &amp; Adult</b>	40% cuts with Upcoming Federal Budget
<b>USDOL ETA Competitive Grant Eliminations</b>	Career Pathway Youth; Social Innovation Funds
<b>Pell</b>	Significant cuts; Eligibility Changes
<b>SNAP ET</b>	Continuation of Program Uncertain
<b>Federal Student Loans</b>	Significant cuts; Eligibility Changes

#### Other

<b>Education: PA-12 &amp; Remedial/Development Funds</b>	Discussion with State SDE, BOR, SDE, DOL & City, CWP
<b>Contextualized (IBEST) Training for With &amp; Without High School Diplomas (Adult Ed/Community College)</b>	
<b>Aligning Education-Workforce-Post Secondary-Economic development</b>	
<b>CETC Industry Partnership Training Pool</b>	Discussion with State (Governor's Office, DOL, DECD) & City, CWP
<b>DOC Dramatic Reduction in Adult Education Programs</b>	Discussion with DOC & City, CWP
<b>Public/Private (Philanthropic) Opportunities</b>	CT Council for Philanthropy; Youth Affinity Funders Group; (i.e.: JP Morgan, Dalio, etc.) & City, CWP

### Key Preliminary Findings of the Report

- **Background:** The research was undertaken by Capital Workforce Partners, Hartford Opportunity Youth Collaborative Members, City of Hartford, Hartford Foundation for Public Giving, United Way of Connecticut, Partner Organizations of the State of Connecticut, Connecticut Association of Human Services, Voices for Children, Center for Law and Social Policy and other contributors.
- Trends to reduce Opportunity Youth from 6,000 to under 4,000 in past several years will be reversed with budget changes, and inaction on long-term policy considerations. **Opportunity Youth will increase as a result.**
- We estimate that proposed state budget cuts will reduce funding to members of the Hartford Opportunity Youth Collaborative by more than 10 percent, a reduction of over 3-million dollars.
- A year ago, the Parthenon-EY 2016 report, warned that “in a state where some estimate a structural deficit of around \$1 billion per year, there is about that much lost from the budget each year due to the collective failure to meet the needs of disengaged and disconnected youth.’ The present state and federal budgets inaction fails to heed this warning.
  - **Each opportunity youth imposes – an immediate tax burden of \$13,900 per year and an immediate social burden of \$37,450 per year**
- Immediate action needs to occur to support the positive results for youth, families, communities and business and industry that occur when Opportunity Youth get reconnected to career pathways and achieve success. This is a critical turning point for the Hartford Opportunity Youth Collaborative to respond.

### **Proposed Actions**

- Update to State Legislative Leadership on priority of sustaining key resources & updates to addressing oy services
- Targeted dissemination should occur to State & Federal Policy Leaders through Mayor & CWP & HOYC Leaders
- Discussion at HOYC Monthly meeting in late September as an agenda item
- Broader dissemination might occur to
  - Federal Congressional Offices
  - Philanthropic stakeholders (Aspen, HFPG, UW, Hartford Youth Affinity Funders group, CCP, Dalio, other)
  - Human & Youth Service Coalitions, organizations who focus on OY Policy (Voices for Children, CAHS, CWEALF, CWCT, MOVE UP!, CETC, OEC, YSB, etc.)
  - Employer community: CBIA, MHA, Sector-Industry groups, etc.
- Social Media & Wider Media Outlets (CT Mirror, etc.)
  - Including websites of the City, CWP, HOYC, etc.