



Bright Future Ahead Putting college on the radar screen

We live in a city where a majority of good jobs require at least an associate's degree. But for many teenage parents, high school dropouts, or kids with police records, even the *idea* of college is off their radar screens. To compound the obstacles facing these young people, trouble in school or a rap sheet can disqualify them from the City's many internship programs that provide valuable work experience. In addition, disadvantaged youth often live in communities with few role models and attend schools with inadequate college and career guidance services. For many of these kids, low self-esteem and limited expectations

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 2 **A Model of Restraint**
- 3 **Safety First**
Produce, Report, Edit
- 4 **Being There**
- 5 **Other Grants**

Lawn and landscape pesticides poison people along with creepy crawlers, and are especially harmful to children. Of the 30 most common pesticides used on American lawns, 19 cause cancer and 21 harm reproductive systems.

for their futures have taken their toll, and a high school degree is the most they hope for.

This summer, The Trust is funding three programs that help struggling teens deal with problems, remind them of their potential, introduce them to careers, give them internships, and encourage them to set their sights on college.

Programs that help young people imagine a brighter future are most effective when started early. Our three-year **\$150,000** grant to the **Girl Scout Council of Greater New York** will help girls who aren't attracted to the traditional after-school troop experience. Instead, the Council will work in low-performing middle schools in the Bronx, offering girls leadership development workshops, college tours, weekend retreats, and job shadowing experiences. The program will involve an anticipated 360 girls in the first year, and more than 1,000 by the last.

Good Shepherd Services runs 16 flexible academic programs to get high school dropouts back in school, or get their GEDs. Many of these youth have been involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems, are parents themselves, or have spent their lives in foster care. Good Shepherd Services' program, LifeLink, helps these young people prepare for college or helps them find work. With an **\$80,000** grant, Good Shepherd is expanding LifeLink to four more sites and to 500 students from the Bronx and Brooklyn. Those with college ambitions attend workshops that get them ready for collegiate life, teaching stress management, communication and study skills, and often providing individual counseling.

Growing up poor means growing up fast. Many kids ages 16 to 20 are too young to have much work experience, but old enough to have a police record or other problems that make it difficult for them to find their way. **Exalt Youth** specializes in helping high-risk youth get off to a better start. With our **\$45,000** grant, Exalt Youth will

expand opportunities to get valuable work experience. First, participants take a five-week work-readiness course in negotiation, critical thinking, conflict resolution, and communication skills. They then work in 12-week paid internships at small businesses or nonprofits. A part-time learning specialist will be hired to run weekly reading and writing classes for youth with academic skills below the sixth grade level. For six months after the internships, youth get individual tutoring, academic guidance, and help developing plans for the future.

A Model of Restraint:

Restricting dangerous pesticides in public spaces

The rampant use of toxic pesticides in the U.S. is a serious health threat. Neither federal nor state governments regulate the 4.5 billion pounds of more than 25,000 varieties of pesticides used in our homes, farms, lawns, and gardens each year. Some of the pesticides closest to home are the most dangerous. Lawn and landscape pesticides poison people along with creepy crawlers, and are especially harmful to children. Of the 30 most common pesticides used on American lawns, 19 cause cancer and 21 harm reproductive systems. There are many effective non-toxic ways to prevent pests, but most homeowners, institutional managers, and landscape companies are unaware of organic approaches to keeping bugs at bay.

Beyond Pesticides has fought the nation's toxic dependency on pesticides on many fronts, including ongoing public education campaigns about the dangers of and alternatives to pesticides. With our **\$80,000** grant, the organization will create a model policy for restricting pesticide use in public buildings and on their grounds. It will work with 10 jurisdictions (e.g., school or county) to get the policy adopted. It also will update its databases with new information and resources and continue to train municipal officials, landscapers, and consumers on how to find and use acceptable materials for pest management and lawn care, using DVDs, e-mail, conference calls, and its Web site. Finally, the organization will continue to actively seek media coverage on the dangers of pesticides.



The Historic House Trust's education director conducts a professional development workshop for New York City school teachers at Kingsland Homestead in Flushing, Queens.

Photo: Historic House Trust

Safety First:

Helping young women out of hazardous relationships

Physical and emotional abuse in the home and in relationships continues to be a serious problem in New York—in fact, 123,000 calls were received by the City's domestic violence hotline in 2007. Poor women, immigrants, and young mothers feel especially trapped in abusive relationships because they rely on their batterers for money, housing, or both. Immigrant women are also intimidated because of their uncertain legal status. The younger the victim, the more assistance they need. For instance, young mothers who have dropped out of school to raise their kids, and have no work history, are particularly likely to stay with an abuser.

Unfortunately, teens and younger women are increasingly subject to dating violence and abusive relationships: in 2007, the City's hotline received nearly 17,000 calls from teens, almost twice as many as in the previous year. Although there are resources and laws to protect these battered women, many survivors need free legal help not only to safeguard them from abusers, but also to get spousal and child support, public benefits, and protection from eviction.

With **\$60,000** grants to each, **Brooklyn Legal Services Corporation A** and **Legal Services NYC's** Staten Island

office will expand two projects that help young women and girls leave abusive relationships. The first grant will expand Brooklyn Legal Service's Victim's Support Unit, which helped 51 families led by poor and immigrant women last year. The Unit also conducted workshops on family law, safety and confidentiality, and public benefits for the staff and clients of the North Brooklyn Coalition and other community and support groups.

On Staten Island, our grant will help expand the Young Women's Empowerment Project, which provided legal help to 80 young and immigrant survivors of abuse last year. The program also reached out to 150 young women and girls on Staten Island, particularly immigrants, to inform them about freeing themselves from their abusers. It held workshops at St. John's University, Wagner College, the Latin American Integration Center, and El Centro de Hospitalidad. In addition, materials in English and Spanish were created and distributed to social service agencies, health and mental health providers, local libraries, and YWCA branches.

Produce, Report, Edit:

Broadcasting from the Bronx for the Bronx

Cable access isn't what it used to be. From its start during the bad old days of VHS, **Bronx Community Cable Programming Corporation (BRONXNET)** now offers a goldmine of award-winning original and courageous programs that are watched and downloaded by thousands every day. As one of the City's five cable access networks, BRONXNET is broadcast to 270,000 households, providing an outlet that catalyzes independent media making. It gives stipends for production, graphic design, and reporting, along with instruction on using all the station's equipment, giving media makers everything they need to produce shows for BRONXNET.



BRONXNET interns shoot, produce, and edit original content that is broadcast to 270,000 households on one of BRONXNET's four channels.

With a **\$60,000** grant, three young media artists—a producer, a new media specialist, and a graphic designer—will each produce a television show, helping to launch their careers and provide true community media for the people and by the people.

Being There:

Parents helping parents raise mentally ill kids

Raising a child who is mentally ill is very challenging, and for those with children who were recently diagnosed, the world can feel like a very lonely place. Practical advice and emotional support from other parents who have raised mentally ill children can be extremely helpful for struggling parents. Unfortunately, there are fewer than 50 support programs in the City, and only a handful of them involve peer-to-peer counseling.

The **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of New York City (NAMI)** has been running the Parent Matching Program since 2003, a peer support group for parents of recently diagnosed mentally ill children under the age of 18. Over the past two years, The Trust

has helped NAMI formalize this program, adding a written application, in-person interview, and a half-day training workshop for parent volunteers. The parents learn about State mandates on abuse reporting and confidentiality; are taught to solve problems with parents who call in a crisis; and trained to improve their listening and counseling skills.

Over the next two years, NAMI will continue this much-needed program with our **\$100,000** grant, and add services for parents of youth between the ages of 18 and 21, an age when many serious psychiatric conditions, such as schizophrenia, first occur and when young adults can fall between the cracks of the youth and adult mental health systems. Volunteer parent workshops will cover the mental health services available for this age group and the differences between youth and adult treatment programs; and provide referrals for schools, jobs, and housing to help youth become independent. Volunteers will also encourage parents to refer their newly diagnosed kids to NAMI's peer support groups.

Other Grants

Children, Youth & Families

Citizens Advice Bureau, \$80,000 to expand and improve Safe Passage, a program that offers SAT prep classes, arts programs, and internships for South Bronx teens.

Edwin Gould Services for Children and Families, \$200,000 to improve the operations of eight minority-led foster care agencies.

Fordham University Graduate School of Social Service, \$146,000 to make social workers more responsive to the needs of families from different cultures.

Global Kids, \$80,000 to expand workshops for immigrant teens in Queens that focus on human rights, understanding Islam, and diffusing ethnic and racial tensions.

Henry Street Settlement, \$80,000 to expand a leadership program for youth living in housing projects on the Lower East Side. The program offers paid internships, summer jobs, work-readiness training, and academic tutoring.

Outreach Project, \$75,000 to work with the families of 70 teens who have been treated in its drug and alcohol abuse programs, and for a family therapist to make follow-up home visits.

Safe Horizon, \$100,000 for a public campaign to make New Yorkers aware of the signs of child abuse and what they can do to help.

Vocational Instruction Project Community Services, \$75,000 to start a mental health and substance abuse treatment program in the South Bronx for women that will include art, poetry, and writing workshops along with counseling, therapeutic groups, mental health referrals, and follow-up services.

Hunger and Homelessness

The Trust has made the following grants for emergency feeding and benefit assistance programs throughout the five boroughs. They include:

BROOKLYN

- Bay Ridge Center for Older Adults, \$25,000
- Bridge Street AWME Church, \$11,000
- Faith Center for Human Services, \$25,000
- Reaching-Out Community Service, \$20,000
- Transfiguration Church, \$25,000
- Unity Temple Church of God in Christ, \$24,000

MANHATTAN

- Food Bank for New York City, Food for Survival, \$25,000
- Franciscan Community Center at Holy Name, \$20,000
- Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty, \$38,000
- Washington Heights Inwood Preservation and Restoration Corporation, \$19,000

THE BRONX

- Alianza Dominicana, \$25,000
- Catholic Charities Community Services, Archdiocese of New York, \$50,000
- Montefiore Medical Center, \$22,000

QUEENS

- Atonement Lutheran Church, \$13,000
- Hour Children, \$26,000
- Polonians Organized to Minister to Our Community, \$20,000
- R.C. Church of St. Margaret Mary, \$30,000

STATEN ISLAND

- Community Health Action of Staten Island, \$30,000
- New Direction Services, \$21,000
- Project Hospitality, \$60,000
- Richmond Senior Services, \$20,000

Youth Development, Girls and Young Women

Harlem Children Society, \$100,000 to expand a science education and research program that will pair 300 gifted, poor, minority high school and college students with scientists from at least 75 City research institutions. They will conduct research, participate in lectures and discussions, and present their findings at the American Chemical Society's annual conference.

Nature Conservancy of New York, \$65,000 to expand a field program for high school students of color that provides a hands-on introduction to careers in conservation, marine restoration, and other environmental fields.

New York Academy of Medicine, \$150,000 to expand a program that introduces minority, middle school girls to science and health careers through visits to laboratories, sessions with female scientists and health care professionals, and tutoring in math and science.

Community Development

Community Voices Heard, \$60,000 to encourage poor people to vote through old-fashioned door-knocking and a sophisticated database.

Human Services Council of New York City, \$50,000 to improve the City's social service contracting system through advocacy, and to work with government to standardize and streamline social service contracts.

Make the Road New York, \$35,000 to remove health hazards in low-income housing by involving residents in monitoring buildings for asthma triggers, and by advocating for stricter enforcement of housing code violations.

Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City, \$50,000 to create a regional clearinghouse of data on illegal guns.

New York State Tenants & Neighbors Information Service, \$50,000 to protect affordable housing by preserving rent-regulated Mitchell-Lama buildings.

Parodneck Foundation for Self-Help Housing & Community Development, \$50,000 to support mutual housing associations in Brooklyn, the Bronx, and Manhattan.

Project Enterprise, \$35,000 for leadership development training for 40 to 50 minority micro-entrepreneurs.

Wildcat Service Corporation, \$50,000 for a project that will draw down unused federal money to provide employment services for food stamp recipients.

Workshop in Business Opportunities, \$35,000 to train inmates and people released from prison to start their own businesses.

The Environment

American Farmland Trust, \$100,000 to make farms more environmentally sustainable by helping farmers combat climate change and clean up the Chesapeake Bay, Ohio River, and Upper Mississippi River regions.

American Wildlands, \$100,000 to decrease the number of animal deaths caused by collision with automobiles along important wildlife corridors in the Northern Rockies.

Campaign for New York's Future, \$100,000 to build public support for PlaNYC 2030, an ambitious and wide-reaching effort to make the City more livable and sustainable.

Clean New York, \$50,000 to eliminate toxic chemicals, such as heavy metals and phthalates, from children's products throughout the State.

Conservation Law Foundation, \$200,000 to create protected marine areas in the Gulf of Maine through an extensive public campaign to expand its base of activists and supporters, and by working with large conservation organizations in New England.

Defenders of Wildlife, \$100,000 to build public support for reauthorization of a strong Endangered Species Act and promote climate policy legislation that helps wildlife survive the effects of global warming.

Environmental Law and Policy Center, \$100,000 for work in Illinois, Iowa, and South Dakota to implement policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Greater Yellowstone Coalition, \$100,000 to research and implement global warming adaptation strategies to protect wildlife habitat in the Greater Yellowstone region.

Regional Plan Association, \$50,000 to complete engineering and long-term maintenance plans for the Greenpoint-Williamsburg section of the 14-mile greenway and bicycle path along the Brooklyn waterfront.

Sonoran Institute, \$75,000 to conserve hundreds of thousands of acres of wildlife habitat and the natural treasures of the Northern Rockies by training the area's residents and officials on growth management techniques and creating model land-use ordinances.

State Alliance for Federal Reform of Chemicals Policy, \$75,000 to advocate for adoption of safe chemicals laws in selected states.

TEDX, \$75,000 to study and publish reports on endocrine-disrupting chemicals and to create an interactive feature on its Web site illustrating how chemicals can interfere with human development during fetal development.

Youth Ministries for Peace & Justice, \$50,000 to reduce sewer overflow in the Bronx River by preventing storm water floods and runoff from nine high-rise public housing buildings along the River.

Arts & Culture

Brooklyn Arts Council, \$50,000 to offer Brooklyn's ethnic dancers and dance groups a series of professional seminars on topics including marketing, affordable health care, grant opportunities, taxes, and incorporation. It will also expand the number of performance venues available to these dance groups.

Juilliard School, \$41,000 for an emergency loan fund that helps young vocalists continue advanced musical education.

Metropolitan Opera Association, \$41,000 towards stipends for gifted young vocalists in its Young Artists Development program.

Staten Island Museum, \$60,000 for a curator to assess and organize the Staten Island Museum's art collection in preparation for a move to a larger facility.

The Edward and Sally Van Lier Fund helps gifted young people with limited financial means who aspire to careers in the arts. Grants made from this fund will provide fellowships for young artists in the following programs:

- **Dancewave, \$50,000** for two-year dance fellowships for five high school students.
- **Dance Theater Workshop, \$50,000** for one-year fellowships to four dancers.
- **Elaine Kaufman Cultural Center/Lucy Moses School for Music and Dance, \$40,000** for two-year, pre-college fellowships to four musicians.
- **Ghetto Film School, \$50,000** for two-year filmmaking fellowships for seven high school students.
- **Meet the Composer, \$50,000** for one-year fellowships to four composers.
- **New York Theatre Ballet/The Dance Ring, \$50,000** for two-year dance fellowships to four youngsters ages 9 through 13.
- **Roulette Intermedium, \$54,000** for one-year fellowships to four experimental composers.
- **Queens College Foundation, \$60,000** for three-year instrumental music fellowships for three high school students.

The following four grants were made through our Lila Acheson Wallace Theater Fund:

- **Aaron Davis Hall, \$90,000** (three years) for dance, theater, and multi-disciplinary performances in Harlem.
- **Brooklyn Arts Exchange, \$45,000** (three years) to support public presentations of dance, theater, and performance art.
- **City Parks Foundation, \$90,000** (three years) to support free dance and theater presentations in public parks throughout the City.
- **Dance Theater Workshop, \$90,000** (three years) to support dance, theater, and performance presentations.

Education

Coalition for Asian American Children and Families, \$35,000 to increase the involvement of Asian families in their children's education.

Metropolitan Russian American Parents Association, \$25,000 to increase the involvement of Russian immigrant parents in their children's education.

Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility, \$50,000 to help schools identify problems that impede learning, such as fighting and bullying, and develop a plan to create safer and more comfortable environments.

Teachers Network, \$60,000 for fellowships for teachers who aspire to become principals.

Historic Preservation

Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, \$60,000 to develop architectural plans for an arts center at the Cathedral.

Historic House Trust of New York City, \$50,000 to develop a better database, which is central to providing services to the 22 historic houses located in City public parks. These services include curatorial and exhibition consultation, education, and public programming and marketing support.

Human Justice

LawHelp/NY, \$75,000 to expand on-line legal information on family and juvenile law, housing, immigration, and naturalization in several languages.

Legal Services NYC, \$85,000 for a coordinator to work with the agency's field offices to provide legal help for non-English-speaking clients.

Health & People with Special Needs

Community Service Society of New York, \$75,000 to develop a financing and implementation plan for universal health insurance in the State within the next five to ten years.

Eviction Intervention Services Homelessness Prevention, \$40,000 to help elders on the Upper East Side maintain their housing.

Lighthouse International, \$250,000 to expand a diabetic retinopathy treatment program and a home visiting program for frail elders with vision problems.

Long Island Jewish Medical Center, \$80,000 to train physicians to provide better care to dying elders.

New York City AIDS Fund, \$50,000 for continued support of an AIDS funding collaborative.

Northside Center for Child Development, \$150,000 to strengthen a mental health treatment program for teens that combines clinical care with social and educational activities.

Older Adults Technology Services, \$40,000 for a program that trains high school students to teach elders to use computers.

Queens Community House, \$40,000 to hire bilingual case management assistants to improve services for immigrant elders in Queens.

Safe Space, \$85,000 to treat traumatized young children and their families who have experienced or witnessed violence in their homes or communities.

Services and Advocacy for GLBT Elders, \$60,000 to train elder-serving agency staff about the needs of gay and lesbian elders.

UJA-Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, \$50,000 to help small nonprofits apply for new senior center contracts.

United Hospital Fund of New York, \$100,000 to train family caregivers to improve their communication with health care providers.

United Neighborhood Houses of New York, \$125,000 to develop a health education program in settlement houses for middle school students.

Special Projects and Philanthropy

Bridgespan Group, \$200,000 to increase the flow of senior management talent from the private sector into the City's nonprofit sector.

New York Regional Association of Grantmakers, \$35,000 to map the racial and ethnic composition of the local philanthropic and nonprofit sectors.

July 2008 GRANTS Newsletter

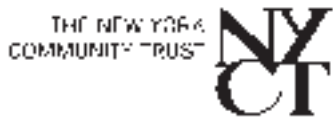
The grants described in this issue were approved by The New York Community Trust's governing body at its June 2008 meeting.

For address, phone number, and contact person for each grantee listed, or for more information, please call The Trust's receptionist at 212-686-0010, Extension 0.

This issue and past Grants Newsletters can be found on our Web site:
www.nycommunitytrust.org

If you'd prefer to receive this newsletter by e-mail, please send an e-mail with your name, e-mail address, and "Grants Newsletter" in the subject to newsletter@nyct-cfi.org.

Most of the grants described in our newsletter are made possible through the generosity of past donors who established permanent, charitable funds with us during their lifetimes or through their wills. If you would like to learn more about how to do this, please contact our general counsel, Jane Wilton, at 212.686.2563.



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