



Cheryl Davila
Councilmember
District 2

CONSENT CALENDAR
November 13, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmembers Cheryl Davila and Kate Harrison
Subject: Budget Referral: RFP to address gaps for marginalized youth in Berkeley

RECOMMENDATION

Budget Referral to the FY19 (2018/2019) November 2018 AAO Budget Process to set aside \$50,000 to create a plan and pilot program to address the needs of marginalized youth and young adults in Berkeley.

The RFP will solicit bids for a community youth partner to leverage the Youth Listening Campaign results to engage youth, young adults, youth providers, educators, City and Berkeley Unified School District (BUSD) staff, parents and other caretakers in a problem-solving process. The process will identify concrete immediate and longer-term programs, policies and actions that can be taken to address the gaps in services for marginalized youth and young adults including those who are Black, Brown, immigrant, Muslim, LGBTQQ, formerly incarcerated, homeless, involved in or experiencing violence, sexually exploited or abused, and struggling with depression, anxiety, trauma and suicide.

Both the Youth Listening Campaign and problem-solving process will support, be informed by and partner with the 2020 Vision, BUSD and City of Berkeley youth programs.

FISCAL IMPACTS OF RECOMMENDATION

\$50,000 for a contract with a community youth provider. Staff time creating and reviewing RFP applications, and creating and monitoring the contract.

BACKGROUND

As outlined in the 2020 Vision report, there are on-going racial inequities in educational outcomes, kindergarten readiness, college readiness and attendance. These inequities reflect inequities in other health and social outcomes such as access to high-quality educational and afterschool programs, future employment and vulnerability to incarceration. In addition, young people of color in Berkeley, as well as adults, experience a higher number of interactions with police and high rates of incarceration.

In addition, Berkeley Unified School District has the second highest percentage of homeless students in Alameda County. Currently, about 480 homeless youth are in the Berkeley Unified School District.ⁱ As documented by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty,ⁱⁱ 43% of homeless youth were beaten by a foster parent or caretaker, 25% were sexually propositioned by a caretaker, and 20% left home over a conflict with their parents about their LGBT status.” (Halpern and Della-Piana, Berkeleyside).ⁱⁱⁱ “An estimated 25 to 40 percent of LGBTQ homeless youth report leaving home due to conflicts with family members around their sexual orientation or gender expression.”

Furthermore, the reports of escalating racial tension, experience of racial bias and evidence of racial inequalities in Berkeley schools, youth contact with police, long-term outcomes and future prospects suggest the need to listen carefully with open minds and a commitment to equity, care and justice for our young people is urgent. In Richmond, RYSE Center completed a listening campaign with over 500 young people as well as their families, educators and youth providers.^{iv} The results pointed to many things that young people are experiencing and not getting the support they need or want in response to as well as barriers to their reaching out for support.

Following from this model, Councilmember Davila is leading a Youth Listening Campaign initiative that can be the basis for this problem-solving process to identify the immediate and longer-term needs of marginalized youth in Berkeley.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

These changes will create a safer environment and future for youth and young adults most marginalized in Berkeley which in-turn can increase the overall well-being and safety as well as a positive future for all of Berkeley.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Cheryl Davila 510.981.7120

ⁱ[https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2018/01_Jan/Documents/2018-01-](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2018/01_Jan/Documents/2018-01-23_Item_44_Update_On_Homeless_Task_Force.aspx&sa=U&ved=0ahUKEwjRibD_7JreAhXFIDQIHQLiD4UQFggbMAk&client=internal-uds-cse&cx=017385055954264103894:kn5xiwd8ubm&usg=AOvVaw1tRhYLx1rm_-4Yk8ybdW)

[23_Item_44_Update_On_Homeless_Task_Force.aspx&sa=U&ved=0ahUKEwjRibD_7JreAhXFIDQIHQLiD4UQFggbMAk&client=internal-uds-](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2018/01_Jan/Documents/2018-01-23_Item_44_Update_On_Homeless_Task_Force.aspx&sa=U&ved=0ahUKEwjRibD_7JreAhXFIDQIHQLiD4UQFggbMAk&client=internal-uds-cse&cx=017385055954264103894:kn5xiwd8ubm&usg=AOvVaw1tRhYLx1rm_-4Yk8ybdW)

[cse&cx=017385055954264103894:kn5xiwd8ubm&usg=AOvVaw1tRhYLx1rm_-4Yk8ybdW](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://www.cityofberkeley.info/Clerk/City_Council/2018/01_Jan/Documents/2018-01-23_Item_44_Update_On_Homeless_Task_Force.aspx&sa=U&ved=0ahUKEwjRibD_7JreAhXFIDQIHQLiD4UQFggbMAk&client=internal-uds-cse&cx=017385055954264103894:kn5xiwd8ubm&usg=AOvVaw1tRhYLx1rm_-4Yk8ybdW)

ⁱⁱ <https://truecolorsfund.org/portfolio/state-index-on-youth-homelessness/>

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://www.berkeleyside.com/2013/05/30/op-ed-berkeley-needs-a-year-round-youth-shelter>

^{iv} <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/58ece61644024383be911a95/t/593e57012e69cf4a3e12ec6d/1497257742081/RYSE+Listening+Report+2016.pdf>