February 15, 2013

38 Denver Ave, Bridgeport, CT

Appropriations Committee Testimony
Legislative Office Building, Room 2102
Hartford, Connecticut 06106-1559

To Whom It May Concern,

I am currently enrolled in STRIVE Bridgeport, Connecticut since the 28th of January and I find myself at a strong stand point against the cancelling of government funds for STRIVE, Connecticut. STRIVE is not just a program/work shop or however one might view it. STRIVE is an experience, an experience that not only prepares you for the workforce, but teaches you to confront whatever it may be that blocks your path of achieving the next plateau in your life. You don't have to be "troubled youth" or an middle aged adult to participate, no matter what walk of life, STRIVE has a way of "approaching" you ripping you out of your comfort zone. I, for one am neither "troubled youth" or a middle aged adult but STRIVE has impacted me in more ways than one. It has prepared me for the competition of todays workforce, taught me how to "weather" the job world, and installed a strong sense of confidence in myself & thats something you can't get in alot of places. So please keep funding the program.

Respectively Alejandro M. L. Mestre