

- In 1978, Public Act 78-183 of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) established Youth Service Bureaus (YSBs). A YSB is defined as an agency operated directly by one or more municipalities, or a private agency designated to act as an agent of one or more municipalities, for the purpose of evaluating, planning, coordinating and implementing services, including prevention and intervention programs for delinquent, pre-delinquent, pregnant, young parents and troubled youth .
- The statute further states that YSBs **shall** be the coordinating unit of community-based services to provide a comprehensive delivery of prevention and intervention, treatment and follow-up services. (See C.G.S. 10-19m)
- **102 YSBs** are funded by SDE and provide services in over **145 Connecticut communities**. YSBs reported having referred or diverted over **26,000** children and youth and in addition over **448,000** youth and parents participated in YSB Programs over the past 2 years.
- Sixty-five percent of the funds that support YSBs are from the local municipalities' both direct (57 %) and in-kind (8 %) contributions. The state-funded YSBs reported combined available funding of \$29,709,937, which includes municipal and in-kind contributions and a variety of other funds YSBs leveraged beyond the basic state grants.
- The state appropriation includes a base State Education Award of \$2,989,268 and \$620,000 enhancement state funding. Total approximately: 3.1 Million Dollars.

*As a senior citizen and taxpayer who has lived in Hartford, Norwich, Newington and Canton, I am concerned with the devastating effects, both long term and short term, which these proposed deep budget cuts for Youth Service Bureaus will have on our youth and families. I am also deeply concerned about the impact these cuts will have on the ability of YSBs to leverage additional funding.*

***YSBs are the most cost and service effective agencies that provides community coordination, prevention and positive development services in the State. I hope you will do the right thing and ensure that funding stays stable.***

***Thank you.***

***Ken Freidenberg  
Canton, CT***