

Funding For Hartford Youth Ages 14-24



Where Does it Come From?
What Does it Support?
What Problems Does it Address?

October 31, 2005

Supported with funding from the City of Hartford and Capital Workforce Partners, Inc.
Prepared by April Goff Brown, Goff Brown Associates, LLC.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In Spring 2005, Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez commissioned a resource map study of funding and programs for Hartford's children and youth between the ages of nine and twenty-four. The study was to identify: 1) Private funding for youth programs, 2) State funding that supports Hartford youth, 3) Key community based agencies that provide youth programming, and 4) Baseline data on the status of Hartford's youth.

A five-pronged strategy was used to gather the data:

1. Surveys were sent to 38 community-based youth program providers
2. Surveys were sent to 19 private funders
3. The CT state budget was reviewed with funding and data of interest
4. Individual state agency data requests were compiled to 10 state agencies
5. The City of Hartford single grant funds audit was reviewed.

This report focuses on the 14-24 year old population targeted by the Future Workforce Investment System.

Over \$83.2 million dollars in funding was identified that is used by Hartford young people between the ages of fourteen and twenty-four. This does not include funding for direct classroom education and the education cost sharing formula for Hartford Public Schools, nor does it include any funds for Hartford children who attend other than Hartford's public schools.

Funding from state agencies accounts for almost \$57.4 million dollars. Two-thirds or \$61.4 million of this funding is used for Intervention and Treatment level services.

Private funders accounted for over \$4.5 million dollars. Most of this was for youth development and summer youth employment.

Over \$17.3 million dollars supports Health and Safety programming, including school based health clinics and recreation. It does not include primary health care.

Over 84% of state funding comes from three state agencies:

- \$28.65 million for incarcerating Hartford young people in DOC
- \$13.6 million for food stamps for Hartford's 14-24 year olds from DSS.
- \$5.99 million for substance abuse and mental health treatment from DMHAS

- Over \$13.6 million of this amount (78.6%) is state/federal money that supports food stamps.

Over \$3.3 million dollars funds educational support programs. This includes the 21st Century Learning Centers, adult education, and other supports to strengthen children's academic achievement.

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Over \$9.4 million dollars supports Self-Sufficiency services, primarily summer youth employment and jobs skills training, as well as supported employment for people with disabilities.

Just over \$5.9 million dollars supports social and emotional development programming. This includes youth leadership, peer programs, enrichment and other alternatives for young people.

Over \$47.3 million supports intervention and treatment programs. This includes incarceration, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and mental health treatment and some case management services.

Ninety-two (92) agencies were identified as receiving grants for programs targeted to young people ages 14-24. Five community-based agencies emerge as “super agencies” for this age, each with over \$1 million dollars of reported funding. Two of these focus on intervention services funded by either the CT Department of Children and Families (Community Solutions, Inc) or Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Department (Community Partners in Action). The remaining “super agencies” provide a range of programs and services, including intervention.

Five “super agencies” provide youth program services:
Catholic Charities
Our Piece of the Pie/Southend Community Services
Community Partners in Action
Community Solutions, Inc.
Village for Families & Children

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are about 24,680 people in Hartford between the ages 14 and 24 years of age. They are almost evenly distributed among males and females; 36.4% are Black/African American, 46.2% are Hispanic, and 17.4% are White. About 9,000 of these youth (36.5%) are between the ages of 14 and 17. About 15,680 (63.5%) are older youth/emerging adults ages 18-24.

KEY FINDINGS ON 14 – 24 YEAR OLDS

Hartford’s children and youth are from stressed families:

- Almost 2,200 are receiving Temporary Aid for Needy Families benefits
- Over 6,000 youth and young adults receive food stamps
- Close to 9,000 youth ages 14-24 are on HUSKY A
- 393 young adults ages 18-24 stayed in homeless shelters last year
- 54 young adult ages 18-24 received SAGA benefits.

Hartford’s children and youth experience disproportionate levels of state intervention:

- 17.9% of referrals to CT’s juvenile courts are from Hartford
- 17.4% of incarcerations of 18-24 year olds in CT are from Hartford
- 22.8% of incarcerations of those under age 18 are from Hartford.

Hartford's children and youth experience a number of health problems:

- 3,602 Hartford youth ages 17-24 received publicly funded substance abuse outpatient services
- 2,830 Hartford youth ages 17-24 received publicly funded mental health outpatient services
- 262 young people in Hartford ages 10-24 contracted gonorrhea in 2004
- 942 young people in Hartford ages 10-24 contracted Chlamydia in 2004
- 694 Hartford youth ages 17-24 were on methadone maintenance
- An estimated 477 middle school students in Hartford smoke cigarettes
- 11 Hartford young people in their twenties were diagnosed with AIDS in 2004

For Hartford to continue the strides it has made as a rising star, attention must be placed on building a future workforce. This report identifies funding streams, how funds are used, key issues facing Hartford's youth and presents a series of recommendations to improve the future workforce of Hartford youth and emerging adults ages 14-24.

Recommendations for the Future Workforce Investment System

Define the universe of youth to be served by FWIS.

Identify linkage between skills taught by the MOU service partners and workplace skills for better alignment, and possibly, capacity for FWIS.

Refine what the services are that will be needed for young people in FWIS and seek out additional partnerships accordingly.

Assess current adult services to identify the percentage of the clients who are young adults, ages 18-24 and convene them to develop age appropriate program services.

Identify and align funding supporting 18-24 year olds

BACKGROUND

In Spring 2005, Hartford Mayor Eddie A. Perez commissioned a resource map study of funding and programs for Hartford’s children and youth between the ages of nine and twenty-four. The study was to identify: 1) Private funding for youth programs, 2) State funding that supports Hartford youth, 3) Key community based agencies that provide youth programming, and 4) Baseline data on the status of Hartford’s youth. The data would also be used to formulate a comprehensive approach to improving conditions among Hartford’s young people.

Goff Brown Associates, LLC was secured to conduct the study. A framework for defining the funding categories was adopted from work funded by the Edna McConnell Clark Foundation carried out by Child Trends. The four domains identified were:

- 1) Educational Achievement and Cognitive Attainment,
- 2) Health & Safety,
- 3) Social and Emotional Development and
- 4) Self-Sufficiency.¹

A fifth category, Intervention and Treatment, was added to the mix.

Definitions and samples of programs in these categories are:

Educational Achievement	Programs that focus directly on literacy, numeracy and other general education during the school day as well as tutoring, arts education and field trips related designed to bolster education.
Health & Safety	Programs targeted to specific health behaviors, including primary care, healthy lifestyles and disease prevention efforts, physical education, camps, recreation, sports and risk reduction strategies.
Social & Emotional Development	More commonly understood as youth development programs, these focus on building positive relationships in the family (parent education), peers, community. Youth leadership and general enrichment activities are in this category.
Self Sufficiency	Programs that focus on building workplace skills, including summer youth employment, job skills training and internships.
Intervention and Treatment	Programs that work with the youth after the fact – youth are already exhibiting behaviors that require intervention or treatment. These can include juvenile court services, child protection services, substance abuse and mental health treatment and some case management programs after recovery.

¹ Child Trends. 2001, revised 2002. Youth Outcomes Grid. Can be found on the Child Trends website. October 31, 2005

A survey format was developed and sent to thirty-eight community-based youth program providers. Agencies were requested to complete a summary of their funding focused on federal, state, local, private and other sources of funds. Agencies also were asked to identify key age ranges for the services they provided: ages 9-13, ages 14-17, and ages 18-24. These categories roughly encompassed elementary/middle, high school, and post graduate. Twenty-five agencies (66%) responded to this request.

A second brief survey was sent to nineteen local private foundations, including corporate foundations. These funders were asked to identify by agency, who they funded for youth programs in the areas of education, youth development, employment and training, health, and intervention. Sixteen funders (84%) responded to the Mayor's request. Information on two others was found on their websites.

A more comprehensive approach was used with state agencies. Ten state departments were identified as supporting Hartford young people between the ages of nine and twenty-four: Children & Families, Correction, Education, Higher Education, Judicial Court Supported Services Division, Mental Health & Addiction Services, Mental Retardation, Public Health, Social Services and the Office of Policy and Management. Department of Labor funds were captured through the local workforce investment board, Capitol Workforce Partners, Inc.

A state budget document review was conducted to identify line items of interest. The budgets provided key data about the services that they provided. An individualized template was prepared for each department that requested numbers of Hartford individuals served, comparisons to statewide numbers, and costs for providing the identified services.

The final source documents were the City of Hartford's annual single audit of grant funds, Community Development Block Grant allocations for 2005, and other City departments, including Health and Human Services, Library, and Board of Education.

Data was gathered and analyzed between May and September 2005. Data was specific to the most recent funding year, either calendar year 2004 or fiscal year 2004-2005.

Every effort was made to not double-count any funding. Each funder and community agency report was cross-checked and when there was duplication, it was eliminated from the community agency document. In this way, the community agencies reports are of those funds not from the identified funders. It should be noted that where funding totals are identified by agency, these are not accurate budgets of those agencies. Rather, they are a total of reported and identified funding from the identified sources.

Funding from and for faith-based organizations is not included in this report.

THE HARTFORD FUNDING STORY

Over \$118.6 million dollars in funding was found for 9-24 year olds, of which, over \$82.7 million is used by Hartford young people between the ages of fourteen and twenty-four. This does not include funding for direct classroom education and the education cost sharing formula.

Funding from state agencies accounts for over \$57.4 million dollars. This includes state and federal pass-through funds. 84% of state funding is used for Intervention and Treatment level services.

The CT Department of Correction spends over \$28.6 million dollars annually to incarcerate 848 Hartford young people between the ages of seventeen and twenty-four.

The CT Department of Children and Families spends an estimated \$8.7 million in child welfare, child protection, behavioral health and juvenile justice programs for Hartford youth ages 14-17. Less than 1% is for positive youth development or prevention focused programs.

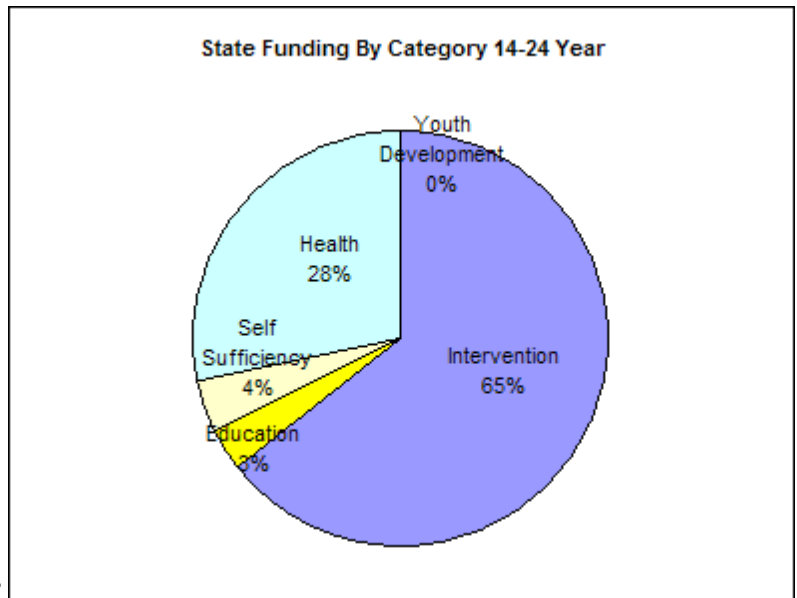
The CT Department of Social Services annually spends over \$13.6 million dollars on food stamps alone for 9,844 Hartford young people between ages fourteen and twenty-four.

The CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services spends almost \$6 million dollars in treatment of addiction and mental health among Hartford's 17 to 24 year olds.

By contrast, the CT Department of Higher Education provides \$100,000 in college scholarships for Hartford high school graduates.

Private funders accounted for over \$3.5 million dollars. Most of this was for youth development and summer youth employment.

- The United Way of the Capitol Area funds \$1.8 million dollars for services to youth ages 14-24 with funds raised from individual and corporate contributions. 77% of this is for youth development.



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- The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving provides \$380,872 in funding for youth ages 14-24, of which 83% is for summer youth employment.

Together these two private funders fund 63.6% of identified youth programming for 14-24 year olds in Hartford.

Other public funding accounted for \$9.6 million dollars. The City of Hartford, through Health & Human Services, the Library, and community block grant funds provides over \$4.7 million dollars in funding.

- Over 62.5% supports recreation programs, none specifically for 18-24 year olds.
- Only 16% supports youth development, half of that being pass through state funds for the youth service bureau.
- Another 21% supports Hartford Public Library programs.
- 19% supports summer youth employment.

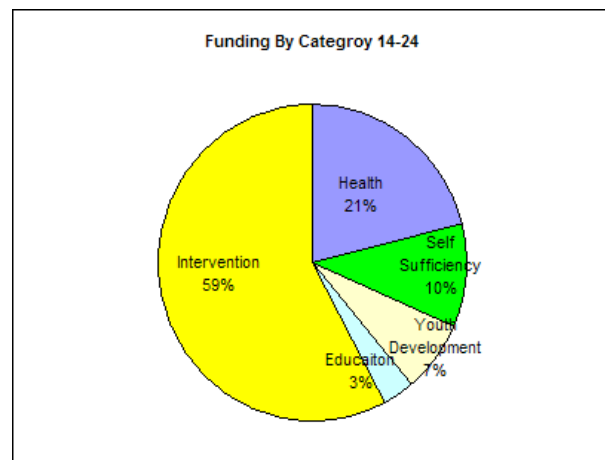
Capitol Workforce Partners funds over \$4.8 million in contracts using federal Workforce Investment Act and Youth Opportunity grant funds. It should be noted that the Youth Opportunity grant ended on June 30, 2005.

Funding By Category

Chart 1: Total Funding By Category

Of the identified \$82.7 million dollars in funding:

- 3% supports education
- 21% supports health
- 10% supports self-sufficiency
- 7% supports social & emotional development
- 58% supports intervention



But, when analyzed by the two sub-groups of 14-17 and 18-24, the picture is very different as charts 2 and 3 depict below.

Chart 2: Funding by Category 14-18

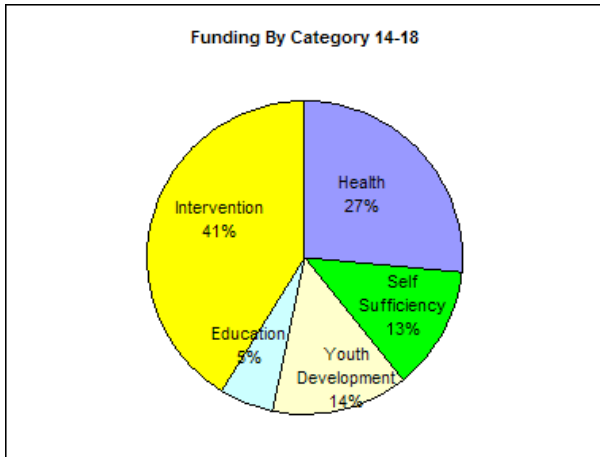
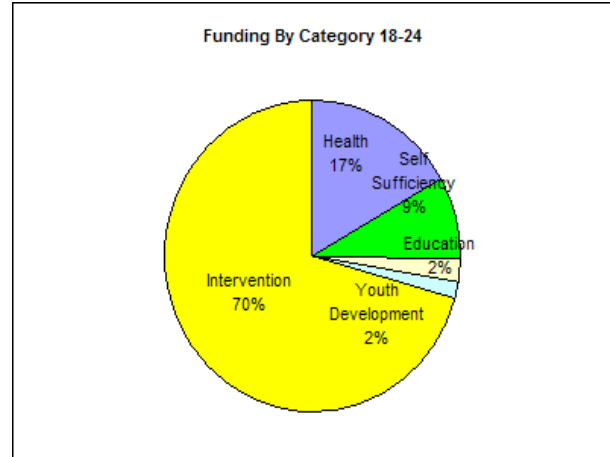


Chart 3: Funding by Category 18-24



Intervention grows from 41% to 70% of the funding, while education, youth development and self-sufficiency combined shrink from almost one-third (32%) to 13%.

Health and Safety.

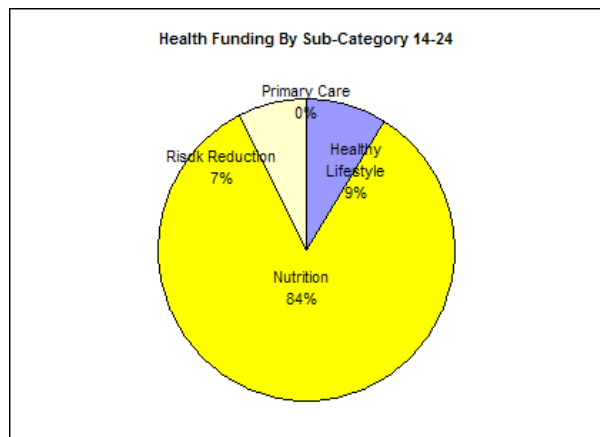
Over \$17.3 million dollars supports Health and Safety programming, including school based health clinics, recreation and camps. This does not include primary health care.

Within the Health Category, there are three sub-categories:

1. Primary Care
2. Healthy Lifestyle, including recreation and nutrition
3. Risk Reduction, including the various prevention programs to reduce substance abuse, HIV, pregnancy and other areas

Chart 4: Health Funding by Sub Category 14-24

Total identified funding for Health & Safety for Hartford young people ages 14-24 totals \$17,369,901. This amounts to 26.8% of the identified funding. This does not include funding to the City's hospitals or federally qualified health centers that provide primary care services. It does include funding to Hartford Public Schools and the school-based health centers, other community-based agencies and Hartford Health & Human Services. Because of the large amount spent on nutrition (food stamps), this is separated from other healthy lifestyle funding in Chart 4.



Primary care programs are operated through the Hartford Public Schools and the school-based health centers. Hartford Public Schools is the major children's health provider for

primary care. It should be noted that not all of the funding for school-based health centers has been captured. Less than one percent of the identified funding supports primary care for this age group.

The City of Hartford funds 81.3% of the recreation programming. There are no specific recreation funds for young adults ages 18-24.

Nutrition programs are funded through federal and state grants and include child nutrition, school breakfast and lunch and summer lunch programs. Over 65% of Hartford Public School students receive free and/or reduced lunch in the schools.

Risk Reduction funding comes from state and federal grants, including safe schools, teen pregnancy prevention, HIV/AIDS prevention, and other similar programs. The focus of these efforts is on reducing the identified problem, as opposed to generalized youth development that focuses on skills building and holistic development of young people.

Education.

Over \$3.3 million dollars funds educational support programs. This includes the 21st Century Learning Centers, adult education and other supports to strengthen a youth’s academic achievement.

Within the Education Category, there are five sub-categories:

- 4. Early Childhood (0-8 years, pre-K - grade 2))
- 5. Elementary (grades 3-6)
- 6. Middle (grades 7 & 8)
- 7. Secondary (grades 9-12, adult education)
- 8. Postsecondary (college, trade school, etc.)

Total identified funding for Education for Hartford young people ages 14-24 totals \$3,321,954. This does not include basic education grants for in-school, classroom education, special education and other entitlement programs for education, and the education cost sharing grant. Further analysis identified funding by sub-category:

Table 2: Analysis of Education Funding

Sub-Category	Amount	Percentage
Middle (Age 14 +)	501,864	15.11%
Secondary (Age 14-18)	1,997,646	60.13%
Adult education,18-24	822,444	24.76%
	\$3,321,954	112.41%

It should be noted that state funding for Hartford Public Schools from the CT Department of Education was identified through the City Federal and State Single Audit Report. State funding for education primarily supports Hartford Public Schools.

Self-Sufficiency.

Over \$9.4 million dollars supports Self-Sufficiency services, primarily summer youth employment and jobs skills training, as well as supported employment for people with disabilities.

The work place has rapidly changed in the last twenty years. Employers recognize a potential labor shortage with the aging of the baby boomer generation. In addition to solid academic skills, employers have identified a myriad of basic, soft and higher order thinking skills necessary for success in the workplace. To help young people make this transition, partnerships between school, community and employers are necessary that provide opportunities for part-time employment, internships, job skills training, and leading to eventual full-time gainful employment.

Within the Self Sufficiency category, there are four sub-categories:

1. Part time subsidized employment/summer employment
2. Job skills training
3. Internships
4. Unsubsidized Employment

Total identified funding for Self-Sufficiency for Hartford young people ages 14-24 totals \$9,078,399. This amounts to 7.9% of the identified funding.

- This includes \$1.3 million in federal funds for Youth Opportunity (50% of the total YO funds) which has ended.
- It includes funding for summer employment, job skills training in both hard and soft skills, internships and subsidized employment opportunities.
- Much of the funding is passed through Capital Workforce Partners, Inc. (CWP), the region's workforce investment board.
- It includes \$544,207 that supported 18-24 year olds in the CT Works system.
- All funding from the CT Department of Mental Retardation falls under this category to assist people in employment opportunities.

Analysis of this category yielded the following:

Table 3: Analysis of Self Sufficiency Funding

Sub Category	Amount	Percentage
Part time subsidized employment	2,605,244	28.7%
Job skills training	6,428,155	70.8%
Internships	45,000	0.5%
	9,078,399	100.00%

Social and Emotional Development

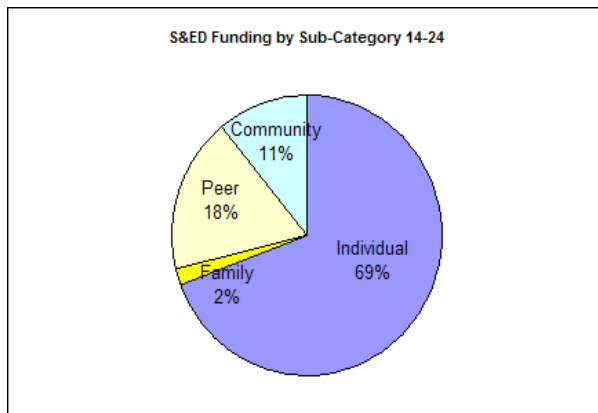
Just over \$5.9 million dollars supports social and emotional development

programming. This includes youth leadership, peer programs, enrichment and other alternatives for young people. Eighty-four (84%) percent supports youth ages 14-17.

Over the past ten to fifteen years, youth development work has focused on relationships – with parents, peers and other adults – as critical elements in a young person’s growth. Early programs begin with a family focus. As children become adolescents, the peer group becomes primary, thus programs begin to focus on positive peer relationships and appropriate social skills. Youth development programs also focus on helping young people attain those developmental assets that help him or her grow into healthy, responsible and caring adults. The community supports for its young through caring adult-child relationships found through mentors, tutors, coaches, teachers, youth workers, among others.

Analysis of the funding in this category is shown in Chart 5.

*Chart 5: Social & Emotional Development Funding
By Sub-Category, 14-24*



Many of the larger youth development programs do not only focus on one of these four sub-categories. In making decisions about the focus of the funding, in most instances the funding was split 50/50 between individual and peer focus for this age group.

Individual focus programs include self-esteem building, leadership development and other skills development.

Family focus programs were primarily family resource centers or parenting skills programs.

Peer focus programs were those that utilized peer groups, peer training, peer education.

Community focused programs were few but addressed community issues such as substance abuse, violence, and were designed to build an appreciation for the problem area and develop strategies to help reduce the problem.

Intervention.

Over 47.3 million supports intervention and treatment programs. This includes incarceration, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse and mental health treatment and some case management services.

When prevention efforts are lacking or unsuccessful, more intensive intervention and treatment level services are required. Intervention services are focused on identified youth who are exhibiting the risk behavior. Programs targeting sexually active teens, mediation programs, and probation are examples of intervention services.

Treatment programs are those who provide recovery focused services, that is their target are those individuals who require focused care as a result of their addiction, mental health or criminal behaviors. These types of programs include prison, residential or hospital care, outpatient counseling.

Total identified funding for Intervention for Hartford young people ages 14-24 totals \$47,354,082 for almost 60% of the overall identified funding. Further analysis identified funding by sub-category:

Table 5: Analysis of Intervention Funding

Sub-Category	Amount	Percentage
Incarceration	28,655,616	60.5%
Addiction Treatment	2,890,159	6.1%
Mental Health Treatment	10,421,075	22.0%
Justice/Diversion	4,653,442	9.8%
Legal	34,000	0.7%
	47,354,082	100%

There is an overwhelming amount of money spent to incarcerate Hartford young people to age 25. The bulk of the remaining funding supports mental health treatment services. Data on incarceration continues to indicate that many of the inmates have mental health problems. This data does not capture the amounts of funding spent specifically on mental health or substance abuse treatment services provided by the Department of Correction.

The Diversion programs that have been identified include the Hartford Juvenile Review Board, alternatives to incarceration, mediation, juvenile detention centers and other juvenile programs.

There are three funded legal service programs to help intervene for youth.

All the identified substance abuse funding is from the CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services.

Of the identified mental health funding,

- \$3,100,235 or 19.57% of the funding is from DMHAS for 17-24 year olds
- \$6,990,752 or 67.1% of the funding is from DCF for 9-17 year olds
- The primary Hartford-based providers of behavioral health services for young people ages 14-17 are the Village for Families and Children, Catholic Charities.
- Adult behavioral health services are provided through the Capitol Region Mental Health Center, Hartford Hospital, and St. Francis Hospital.

Funding By Agencies

Ninety-two agencies were identified as receiving grants for youth programs for 14-24 year olds.

Five community-based agencies emerge as “super agencies” for youth, each with over \$1 million in identified youth-focused funding: The Village for Families and Children, Catholic Charities, Our Piece of the Pie (formerly Southend Community Services), Community Solutions, Inc. and Community Partners in Action. (Note: Our Piece of the Pie was recently awarded \$1 million annually from a major national private foundation to support youth development. This funding is not included in the amounts).

Capital Workforce Partners, is the sixth super agency. CWP functions differently in that it distributes its funding through contracts to community-based providers of over \$5.3 million dollars. This includes the sunsetting Youth Opportunity funds of \$2.6 million and \$544,207 within the Connecticut Works Hartford One-Stop Center.

Three agencies receive over a half million dollars each in funding: the Urban League of Greater Hartford, Co-Opportunity/Youthbuild and Hartford Behavioral Health.

Twelve agencies each are reported to receive over \$200,000 but under \$500,000 for youth specific programming: Capitol Region Education Council, Community Renewal Team, CT Forum, CT Puerto Rican Forum, Family Life Education, Hartford Communities That Care, Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, SAND, the YMCA, the Institute for Community Research, Hartford Hospital, and Wheeler Clinic.

Five agencies each are reported with funding of \$100,000 to \$199,000 for youth-focused programs: the Learning Corridor, Greater Hartford Arts Council, CT Pre-Engineering Program, Corrado Center, and the Wadsworth Atheneum.

Sixty-seven agencies each receive small grants under \$100,000, generally from multiple sources.

FWIS Service Partners

As of June 1, 2005, 17 agencies signed Memoranda of Understanding with Capital Workforce Partners for FWIS. Fourteen of these are community-based agencies. The remaining three – City of Hartford, Hartford Public Schools, and the United Way primarily provide funding for community programs. Their funding is allocated within the identified agency budget in the chart below. Nine service partners reported that they provide programming to 14-18 year olds for a reported \$4.42 million. Five agencies report they serve 18-24 year olds for a reported 1.67 million.

<i>MOU Service Partner</i>	<i>14-18 year olds</i>	<i>18-24 year olds</i>
AFCAMP*		
Blue Hills Civic Association	18,100	0
Catholic Charities**	447,321	0
Compass Youth Collaborative***	0	0
Community Renewal Team	192,560	0
HCTC	150,000	50,000
Mi Casa	142,444	0
OPMAD***	0	0
SAND	109,283	107,519
SCS/Our Piece of the Pie	1,459,412	833,138
Urban League	50,000	652,412
Village for Families	1,532,124	20,640
Wheeler Clinic	319,928	0
TOTALS	4,421,172	1,663,709

*No funding identified, agency did not supply information

**Does not include DCF funding for behavioral health and child welfare intervention.

***All funding is for younger than age 14

Capacity among the current MOU service partners is limited. Much of this is programmed for intervention, behavioral health, summer employment and specific job skills training programs. With the exception of Our Piece of the Pie which has aligned its agency to FWIS, relatively little funding has flexibility to be redirected to FWIS service priorities.

THE HARTFORD DATA STORY

The Hartford Public Schools reports a student population in October 2004 of 22,639 students from pre-school through grade twelve.

- 31.2% or 7,061 are between the ages of 14 and 18 (grades 8 through 12).
- There are 3,641 middle school students in Hartford (grades 7 & 8).
- There are 5,116 high school students in Hartford (grades 9 through 12).

According to the 2000 U.S. Census, there are about 24,680 people in Hartford between the ages 14 and 24 years of age. They are almost evenly distributed among males and females; 36.4% are Black/African American, 46.2% are Hispanic, and 17.4% are White. About 9,000 of these youth (36.5%) are between the ages of 14 and 17. About 15,680 (63.5%) are older youth/emerging adults ages 18-24.

Families

Twenty-eight percent of Hartford children live in two parent families. Over half (52.2%) live in single parent families. Almost one-fifth (17.4%) of children are in other living situations.

According to the *CT Department of Children and Families*, as of June 30, 2005 and for fiscal year 2004-05, there were:

- 486 Hartford youth ages 14-17 in protective services, including subsidized adoption and subsidized guardianship
- 162 Hartford youth 14-17 were placed in foster care
- 63 Hartford youth ages 14-17 were living with relative caregivers
- 404 Hartford families with at least one child ages 14-17 received in-home care

Poverty

The child poverty rate in Hartford stands at 41%. Sixty-nine percent of children under the age of eighteen in Hartford live under 200% of the federal poverty rate.

1,157 Hartford young adults ages 18-24 receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). Another 1,030 recipients are ages 14-17.

3,377 Hartford young adults ages 18-24 receive food stamps. Another 2,681 young people ages 14-17 receive food stamps.

A total of 66.5% of Hartford students are enrolled in the federal free and reduced meals at school.

There are 8,946 Hartford residents between the ages of 14 and 24 receiving HUSKY A medical benefits.

- 54 Hartford young adults ages 18-24 receive State General Assistance (SAGA).
- 561 Hartford young adult ages 18-24 receive SAGA medical benefits.
- 393 Hartford young adults ages 18-24 received emergency shelter services.

Criminal Justice/Delinquency

According to the ***CT Department of Correction***, on August 29, 2005, there were:

- 848 Hartford residents under the age of 25 who were incarcerated
- 765 Hartford residents ages 18-24 incarcerated for 17.4% of total incarcerations of that age group
- 83 Hartford youth under age 18 incarcerated for 22.9% of that age group

According to the ***CT Judicial Department, Court Support Services Division***, in state fiscal year 2004-05:

- 229 children were admitted to detention for 12% of the total statewide
 - The average length of stay in detention is 8.5 – 16.6 days
- 1,403 risk assessments were conducted on Hartford young people through age 24
 - 47.8% of these were for young people under age 18
- 3,688 referrals were made to juvenile court from Hartford for 17.9% of all referrals statewide
 - This accounted for 2,529 Hartford children or 17.4% of all children statewide
- Of the 2,529 Hartford children referred to Juvenile Court:
 - 79.8% (2019) were referred for delinquency
 - 20.2% (510) were referred for Family With Service Needs
 - 62% were over 14 years of age

Compared to statewide rates:

- Hartford over 14 year olds referred to Juvenile Court accounted for 16.68% of all referrals statewide
- Hartford delinquency referrals accounted for 18.74% of all delinquency referrals statewide
- Hartford FWSN referrals accounted for 13.66% of all FWSN referrals statewide

According to Community Partners in Action:

- 185 young adults ages 18-24 were seen by Hartford Community Court
- 140 young adults ages 18-24 were participants in alternative incarceration centers
- 59 youth ages 14-17 were in alternative incarceration centers

According to the Hartford Connects database among YO! Hartford participants, 722 or 26% of the population indicated that they had involvement with the law.

Health and Behavioral Health

According to the *CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services*, young people ages 17-24 who received state funded services in fiscal year 2004-05 were as follows:

- 3,602 received substance abuse outpatient services
- 2,830 received mental health outpatient services
- 1,622 received mental health crisis services
- 1,229 received medically monitored detoxification services
- 845 received intensive substance abuse outpatient services
- 823 received mental health case management services
- 790 received substance abuse residential services
- 694 were on methadone maintenance
- 580 attended DWI and pre-trial services for substance abuse
- 554 were in long term care for substance abuse
- 183 received treatment services through State Administered General Assistance funding

According to the *CT Department of Public Health*, in the State of Connecticut,

- 13.1% of middle school students currently use tobacco; 9.8% of them use cigarettes
- 32.4% of high school students currently use tobacco, 25.6% use cigarettes
- 2.5% of middle school students are current frequent cigarette smokers (20 of last 30 days)
- 12.35 of high school students are current frequent cigarette smokers

What does this mean in Hartford?

- 477 middle school students currently use tobacco of which 357 smoke cigarettes
- 1658 high school students use tobacco of which 1310 smoke cigarettes
- 91 middle school students smoke cigarettes on a frequent basis
- 629 high school students smoke cigarettes on a frequent basis

According to the *CT Department of Public Health*, in the last three years, there were 905 reported cases of gonorrhea in Hartford among Hartford youth and young adults for 56.5% of all reported cases.

	15-19	#	20-24	#	Totals
2002	25.9%	181	29.7%	208	389
2003	23.1%	113	30.0%	147	260
2004	26%	118	30.3%	138	256
TOTALS		412		493	905

According to the *CT Department of Public Health*, in the last three years, in the last three years, there were 3,027 cases of Chlamydia reported in Hartford. Among youth and young adults for 70.7% of all cases.

	15-19	#	20-24	#	Totals
2002	33.7%	565	34.3%	575	1,140
2003	34.3%	478	35.0%	488	966
2004	34.2%	467	34.8%	454	921
TOTALS		1,510		1,517	3,027

According to the *CT Department of Public Health*, in the last three years, there were 9 cases of syphilis in Hartford. 20% of these are ages 15-24 for 2 young people.

According to the *CT Department of Public Health*, in last five years, there have been 52 young people in their 20's who were diagnosed with AIDS in Hartford (2004 = 11, in 2003 = 12, in 2002 = 7, in 2001 = 6, in 2000 = 16)

In the last five years, approximately 15 Hartford young people between the ages of 13 and 24 were diagnosed with AIDS.

	# AIDS cases reported in Hartford EMA	% of AIDS cases ages 13-24	# AIDS cases ages 13-24	% of AIDS cases that are Hartford	# AIDS cases ages 13-24 in Hartford
2000	281	1.4%	4	66.1%	3
2001	183	1.1%	2	63.4%	1
2002	200	1.5%	3	54.4%	2
2003	284	2.1%	6	63.7%	4
2004	254	3.5%	9	54.7%	5

Teen Pregnancy and Births

Between 1999 and 2001, the birthrate to teens girls ages 15 to 17 was 61.7 per 1000. This totaled 523 births.

According to the *CT Department of Public Health*, in 2001, there were 628 births to young women under twenty years of age. Of these, 2% were to mothers under age 15, 27% to mothers between 15 and 17, and 444 to women who were 18 and 19.

Independent Living and Self Sufficiency

According to the *CT Department of Children and Families*, as of June 30, 2005 and for fiscal year 2004-05, there were:

- 25 young people ages 18-24 received Independent Living Services. These are young adults who have been in the DCF system and are being prepared to live on their own.

According to the *CT Department of Mental Retardation*, 161 children through young adults ages 9-24 received services in SFY 2004-05. Most of this is supported employment type services.

Education

The cumulative graduation rate at Hartford's three major high schools from 1999-2003 was only 35%.

The 2004 annual drop out rate was 4.0%. It was 12.1% in 1999.

The 2004 cumulative drop out rate in Hartford was 21.3%. It has show a steady decline since the 21st century began.

According to the Greater Hartford Literacy Council, Hartford experiences the highest level of illiteracy in the state with over 70% of Hartford adults defined as illiterate (defined by ability to read and write at a 6th grade level (National Institute for Literacy)). The Institute also estimates that 41% of Hartford's population reads at Level 1, the lowest level of reading competencies. Level 1 readers cannot complete a job application, read a food label or read a story to a child.

Within the YO! Hartford program 42% of the enrolled youth did so as out of school youth. This accounted for 1,178 young people. Of these, 27.5% had completed school.

- 22.24% said the last grade they completed was below ninth grade
- 21.9% said they last completed ninth grade
- 15.79% said they completed tenth grade
- 12.31% said they completed 11th grade.

44.14% of the out of school youth did not complete the ninth grade. The most often cited reasons given for dropping out of school included moved, no focus, pregnancy, bad relationships, personal reasons, family problems, fights, didn't feel like going and didn't like the environment.

Un/Employment

In 2004-05, the Hartford Jobs First Employment Services caseload was 3,505, of which 1,658 or 47.3% were 18-24 at the time of their enrollment.

MOVING FORWARD

While there appears to be a lot of funding for youth and emerging adults in Hartford, it is uncoordinated, with funders determining the priorities and services for Hartford. Hartford, as a community, must take the reins in determining its priorities and system of care for all children.

There must be a unifying philosophy for youth development that emphasizes the proactive, prevention side instead of the remedial intervention and treatment side. The current funding imbalance of half the funding supporting intervention and treatment must be shifted to under thirty percent with more focused on the education, health and safety, social and emotional development and self-sufficiency quadrants.

There must be accountability for meeting desired youth outcomes. A common database for management and tracking of youth should be used by all program providers. Discussions with funders need to occur to make this a requirement for all program providers that are full-time youth services agencies. Data from Hartford Public Schools must be easily accessible in this data system to help program providers monitor youth achievement in order to support their educational achievement.

Recommendations for the Future Workforce Investment System

Define the universe of youth to be served by FWIS. The reality is *it cannot be all 14-24 year olds*. Define FWIS services for age groupings, such as 14-15, 16-18, 18-24 – what will the interim benchmarks be for these groupings to successfully attain goals? Is FWIS for job ready or almost job ready? Define measurements at various points (interim benchmarks) to determine on track vs. intervention needed and build intervention services to keep/return kids to on-track status.

Identify linkage between skills taught by the MOU service partners and workplace skills for better alignment, and possibly, capacity for FWIS. Work with the MOU service providers and other community-based youth development programs to define youth development outcomes that are linked to workplace skills (i.e., soft skills) and develop agreements in how these will be measured. Utilize Hartford Connects to report and track these skills to help determine employability and document a systems approach to skills development.

Refine what the services are that will be needed for young people in FWIS and seek out additional partnerships accordingly. Develop “tracks” – on track youth for example might not need case management

Assess current adult services to identify the percentage of the clients who are young adults, ages 18-24 and convene them to develop age appropriate program services. This includes the CT Works One-Stop employment and training system which serves a high number of young adults to age 24.

Identify and align funding supporting 18-24 year olds contained within adult service delivery systems. FWIS needs to identify additional adult program providers that can be linked to the system to increase capacity for services for 18-24 year olds. For example, as of March 2005, there were over 950 young adults ages 18-24 in Hartford receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF). These young people are served through the CT Works One Stop system, funded by federal Workforce Investment Funds (WIA) through CWP. The One Stop also reports that 45% of the JFES clients served are between the ages of 18 and 24. How could services provided at the One Stop for this age group be better aligned to FWIS?

Begin the dialogue with Hartford youth program providers to come to consensus as to the adult outcomes they are all striving towards and agree to common indicators towards meeting those outcomes. Research on emerging adulthood, the period of 18-25, identifies outcomes that generally indicate attainment of adulthood. These include completion of post-secondary education, entry into a career-focused labor force, living independently, managing a household budget, marriage, starting a family among others.

Ensure the FWIS blueprint self-sufficiency services, indicators and outcomes links to educational achievement, health and safety, and social and emotional development into a coordinated effort that leads to positive youth outcomes. No one system is a panacea of solutions. Rather, Hartford must address youth and young adults in a holistic manner, recognizing that young people grow across systems and services, in communities.

Engage state agencies and the state delegation in dialogues to support shifts in funding from intervention services to prevention services and to develop budget line items for prevention and youth development funding for Hartford. These include the CT Departments of Children and Families, Education, Judicial, Mental Health & Addiction Services, Public Health, and Social Services.