

Youth Bureau



Maria Georgiou
Director

Mission

- ❑ The Town of Huntington Youth Bureau is an agency of Town Government whose Mission is to represent and serve the needs, interests and welfare of youth and families. The work of the Youth Bureau is organized around the underlying commitment to helping youth and families develop to their highest potential, to involve them in all aspects of the process and to develop an integrated, comprehensive system of programs and services designed to meet their current and emerging needs. Huntington was the first town in New York State to form a Youth Bureau as an agency of the local municipal government.
- ❑ In 2019, the Town of Huntington Youth Bureau celebrated 50 years in providing programs and services to youth and families in the Town of Huntington

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Operational Responsibilities

- ❑ Youth Bureau and its Institute Town wide Projects along with the Regional Youth Agencies are intended to promote the growth, development and well-being of young people and their families through the following programs:
- ❑ Addressing and preventing problems like drug and alcohol abuse, juvenile delinquency, runaways, homelessness, high school dropouts, gang involvement,
- ❑ Develop healthy supportive programs to engage youth and families in constructive activities, i.e., mentoring, drug and alcohol treatment and prevention, career and academic advancement, employment and life skills, homework help, gang prevention, individual and group counseling, parenting programs, recreational and athletic programs and a Youth Court to name but a few.
- ❑ The Youth Bureau continues to identify and address new and emerging needs of the youth and families within the Town of Huntington in order to provide programs to meet these needs.

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2019-2020 Achievements

- ❑ Project EXCEL expanded its popular STEM programming to include coding and robotics; 45 youth participated in the programs.
- ❑ Huntington Youth Court processed 59 referrals from two local high schools and the Suffolk County Dept. of Probation.
- ❑ Tri-Community and Youth Agency introduced and sponsored an historically Black College Fair with 30 colleges represented and close to 200 youth and their parents in attendance.
- ❑ Youth Bureau's Community and Youth Agencies and Special Town wide Projects developed 89 new programs to meet the emerging needs of youth and families in the Huntington community.
- ❑ During the COVID-19 pandemic the Huntington Youth Bureau system of services continued to provide youth and families with recreational, youth development, educational counseling, runaway and homeless services, drug and alcohol treatment and prevention services as well as providing immediate and critical services to families in need. The Youth Bureau and its various components serviced over 4,000 youth and families through out the pandemic.
- ❑ Project Sanctuary was awarded \$40,000 through the Federal CARES Act to provide vouchers to families in need for food, clothing and medical needs. Huntington Drug and Alcohol Counseling Center was certified and licensed by New York State to offer Telepractice counseling services and awarded a \$15,000 grant to acquire the necessary equipment; Tri-Community and Youth Agency partnered with local restaurants, private foundations and community donors to provide meals and groceries to community members in need during the pandemic.

2021 Goals

- ❑ Provide educational enrichment programs to 1,900 youth.
- ❑ Develop new youth programs to meet the emerging needs of the community as per contractual agreement.
- ❑ Plan and implement youth development services and initiatives for youth as per contractual agreement.
- ❑ In light of the COVID-19 virus, we will continue to provide programs and services to youth and families through the following formats: Zoom, Microsoft Teams, YouTube, Instagram and Facebook and/or in-person programming whereby all COVID-19 protocols will be met.

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2021 Budget Highlights

- ❑ Staffing constant no increase
- ❑ Departmental spending down (.98%) due to contractual decreases

Staffing	2019	2020 Modified Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Budget
Youth Administration	6	6	6	6
Total	6	6	6	6

Expenses	2019 Actual	2020 Adopted Budget	2020 Projected	2021 Budget
Salaries and Wages	\$588,791	\$601,231	\$601,231	\$607,736
Benefits and Taxes	46,181	48,039	48,039	48,560
Contractual Costs, Materials & Supplies	3,549,752	3,971,079	3,931,079	3,808,105
Total	\$4,184,724	\$4,620,349	\$4,580,349	\$4,464,401