



## Participatory Budgeting (PB) Cycle 7 Proposal Decision

### Background

PB was put on hold as of March 2020. The Cycle 7 PB vote did not occur as planned given the high reliance on in-person outreach efforts for community engagement.

As of January 2021, the PB Steering Committee is considering how to proceed with Cycle 7 voting. They will be reviewing the Cycle 7 proposals at the March Steering Committee meeting and deciding on the next steps, including which proposals to include in the Cycle 7 vote given the decrease in allocated program funds. A request was made to reach out to all budget delegates to ask if they would like to update their proposal, have it considered in Cycle 8, or withdraw it. The PBSC will use this information to inform their decision-making.

### Instructions

Please complete the form indicating your preference in moving forward with your proposal and submit it by February 8, 2021.

Please email [Felicia.Flores@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:Felicia.Flores@cityofvallejo.net) with any questions.

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Proposal Name: Vallejo Foster Youth – Striving for Success in our Community

Budget Delegates

Demetra Nash, Michelle Canepa ~ Mark Carter

Implementing Partner

First Place for Youth

Our team would like to:

- Update our proposal and submit it by March 5<sup>th</sup> for consideration in Cycle 7
- Have our proposal be considered for Cycle 8
- Withdraw our proposal

Comments

The implementing partner would like make some revisions as they discovered some lessons learned as well as having to pivot during the pandemic shelter in place.

**Project Title:**

Vallejo Foster Youth – Striving for Success in our Community

**Total Budget:**

\$75,000

**Name:**

Demetra Nash, Michelle Cane, Mark Carter

**E-mail:**

[REDACTED]

**Project Type:**

Service

**Description:**

The targeted population for this program is foster care youth and emancipated foster care youth aged 16-24, who reside in the City of Vallejo, or youth who currently work in Vallejo and/or are engaged in employment trainings in the City of Vallejo.

Our implementing partner, First Place for Youth also works with Vallejo Schools and other local agencies to connect with these youth. To help the youth prepare for long-term success. First Place for Youth offers various resources and supports designed to help them secure affordable housing, sustainable employment, support educational progress and develop healthy living life skills.

First Place for Youth currently has identified 45 eligible foster care youth in Vallejo and of these youth, 20 are actively participating in services. This proposal will fund youth who express a desire in pursuing paid internships offered through these established business partnerships as well as additional youth who may wish to participate at a later date. Specifically, this proposal will fund:

- Employment/Education Specialist (1) - This position will provide ongoing youth support, conduct workshops focused on job development/placement and sustainability, interview preparation, employer/internship partnership building, etc.
- Youth Transportation – Supply Clipper Cards and Uber/Lyft gift cards to youth commuting to/from internship locations, interview sites and pursuit of job opportunities.
- Program Supplies/Work Supports – Purchase of resume materials, cover background check and Live Scan fees, ID's, etc.
- Work Wardrobe – Professional interview attire, business clothing, uniforms, footwear, grooming items, etc.
- Youth Incentives/Workshop Snacks – Incentives offered to youth for achieving internship milestones, attending workshops, etc.
- Lesson Plans: See (1) “Resume Building - Steps To Success” and (2) “First Impressions – Steps To Success” attachments (work documents)

## **Why is this project Needed?**

For many young people who transition out of foster care into adulthood each year, the future can be perilous and uncertain. Having gone without the consistent support of family to guide them in developing life skills and building a foundation of success, foster youth often fall prey to homelessness, unemployment and poverty.

Here are some alarming facts about our foster care youth:

- I. 40% of former foster kids experience homelessness.
- II. 25% will be arrested or incarcerated.
- III. 54% will drop out of high school.
- IV. Fewer than 5% will earn a bachelor's degree.

## **Benefit:**

First Place for Youth recognizes that there is a need for our Vallejo youth to have an opportunity to develop career pathways within the community in which they live. Creating local, sustainable internships/jobs will mitigate homelessness and unemployment in Vallejo and develop a sense of connection and community within our youth.

This project will establish an ongoing partnership between First Place for Youth and Vallejo businesses that support our Vallejo Foster youth through paid internships/employment. These internships will allow our Foster youth to reside and work in Vallejo. First Place for Youth's designated Education and Employment Specialist will dedicate his/her time and resources to our Foster youth ensuring they have the necessary support and training required to obtain, maintain and thrive in their new work environment. Moreover, funding assistance with business wardrobe expenses and program/support fees will ease these financial burdens from our youth.

## **Challenges/Obstacles:**

First Place for Youth has solid reputation of establishing successful business partnerships, developing paid internships for foster youth in surrounding Bay Area communities where they reside. They are eager to duplicate this successful model of establishing local business partnership opportunities to our youth here in Vallejo. Developing these partnerships will require initial tie and resources to establish (similar to the processes outlined in this proposal) however previous models have proved successful and highly beneficial to the youth. Local partnering businesses and communities where these youth live and work.

## **Project Implemented:**

First Place for Youth

## **Itemized Budget:**

Total Budget = \$75,000

Employment & Education Specialist = \$34,200

- This budgeted salary amount represents 60% of Specialist's full-time salary of \$57K salary
- This position will support up to 10 youth for intensive educational and employment/job placement support. Specialist will conduct bi-weekly workshops, outreach, and engagement for our Foster youth in Vallejo, focusing on Vallejo job development and Vallejo employer partnership building. Specialist will actively seek job placement sites with Vallejo-based employers and building these relationships. This Specialist's time/funding (60%) would be allocated to work with, support, and meet with Vallejo Foster youth participants ONLY!

Benefits = \$7,866

Average rate @ 23%

Youth Transportation = \$10,200

Clipper cards or Uber/Lyft Gift Cards @ \$50/month for 10 youth enrolled in internship = \$6,000

Clipper cards or Uber/Lyft Gift Cards @ \$50/month for 7 youth (interviews, job searches, = \$4,200

Work Wardrobe = \$10,000

- \$500 for 10 interns = \$5,000 (work/interview wardrobe). \$500 for 6 interns = \$3,000 (work wardrobe incentives for youth who attend at least 5 workshops). \$2,000 for additional items for non-intern work wardrobe support (e.g. business clothing, uniforms, steel-toed shoes, business shoes, grooming items)

Various Youth Workshop Expenditures = \$8,880

- \$400/month for healthy snacks or light food to encourage workshop participation, milestone celebrations for internship placements, community building activities, and workshop field trips

Program Staff Mileage/Parking/Tolls = \$1,500

- Travel 2 days/week = \$125/month

Program Supplies/Work Supports = \$1,900

- For resume materials, Identification costs, Live Scan fees, and background check expenses

Describe the Project Timeline/Schedule:

30 days after funding:

- Hire Employment & Education Specialist
- Begin purchasing Clipper Cards, Uber/Lyft gift cards, work supports, and program/incentive supplies, and work apparel as required