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PROJECT SUMMARY

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TACOMA CENTER Y.M.C.A.

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LATE NIGHT YOUTH & COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROJECT

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seeks funding in support of a Late Night Youth Community Outreach Program. This Project targets youth ages 14-20 who participate in the Late Night Program as well as those youth who are unable to access the limited services available to young people in the city of Tacoma.

PROPOSAL

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1. Schedule an Education/Tutoring program which will be made available to youth 3 days per week.
2. Provide leadership training for youth participants throughout the week, not just Friday & Saturday nights, giving them an opportunity to develop projects based on youth ideas which will educate and bring forth an awareness to their peers and the community as a whole.
3. Create a community involvement & awareness project that is continuous, providing youth, parents & the community with information about Late Night & other programs and resources that they can access.
4. Create a committed volunteer Network to provide trainings and support for the project. Y.M.C.A. membership sponsoring will be one of our first approaches in connected positive adults with youth to provide mentorship and become advocates for youth.
5. Recruit youth in the Tacoma area into our program and begin providing resources for them and their families.

This project seeks to enhance social conduct and family values, provide a safe environment for youth to excel academically while providing them with the leadership skills necessary to achieve personal goals and make wise decisions in their lives now and in the future.

PROJECT SUMMARY

PURPOSE

This proposal seeks funding in support of a Late Night Youth/Community Outreach Program. This Project targets youth ages 14-20 who participate in the Late Night Program as well as those youth who are unable to access the limited services available to young people in the city of Tacoma.

By expanding the Late Night Program and its services we will be able to:

1. Schedule an Education/Tutoring program which will be made available to youth and parents 3 days per week.
2. Provide Leadership Development training for youth participants throughout the week, not just Friday & Saturday nights, giving them an opportunity to develop projects based on youth ideas which will educate and bring forth an awareness to their peers and the community as a whole.
3. Create a community involvement & awareness project that is continuous, providing youth, parents & the community with information about Late Night & other programs and resources that they can access.
4. Create a committed volunteer Network to provide trainings and support for the project. Y.M.C.A. membership sponsoring will be one of our first approaches in connected positive adults with youth to provide mentorship and become advocates for youth.
5. Recruit youth in the Tacoma area into our program and begin providing resources for them and their families.

This project seeks to enhance social conduct and family values, provide a safe environment for youth to excel academically while providing them with the leadership skills necessary to achieve personal goals and make wise decisions in their lives now and in the future.

to overcome negative peer pressures, gang involvement, drug/chemical abuse and other destructive forces which are threatening them.

GOALS PURPOSE

The purpose of the Late Night Youth/Community Outreach Program is to enhance self-respect and promote positive social conduct and family values by providing safe, positive alternatives on a consistent daily basis, giving youth the opportunity to excel academically while providing them with the leadership skills necessary to establish and achieve personal goals.

* Increase youth, parent and community participation in Y.M.C.A programs.

* Train and develop youth into leadership roles and provide them with trainings and skills necessary to achieve academic and personal goals.

STATEMENT OF NEED

There is an urgent need to expand program services right now.

The Late Night program now serves over 300 youth on a given weekend collectively between the Tacoma Center Branch, Lakewood Branch and the Pearl Street Family Y.M.C.A. The Tacoma Center Branch was the lead branch to initiate the first Late Night Program and we believe it is time to take a leadership role in expanding programs and services for youth and the parents who are participating as well as for those who may not have a chance to access such services.

Our programs serve youth from every walk of life. We have discovered that many of these youth come from single parent homes or are presently in foster placement. Often times drugs and other chemicals are being used and gang involvement is still a very constant threat. Violent behavior and what we have come to call the "HATE THE WORLD" attitude is openly present in many youth who participate. Even more noticeable is the lack of motivation & spirit in youth who participate. These youth lack positive, encouraging, supportive adults as well as inspirational, supportive structures and environments. Some kids cant read or write at advancement levels and have no real advocate in their lives to help them achieve goals either academically or personally.

It is our responsibility to provide youth with mentorship and guidance, motivating them and inspiring them to overcome negative peer pressures, gang involvement, drug/chemical abuse and other destructive forces which are threatening them.

This portion of the project is youth driven. Adults will only serve as Mentors in guiding youth in order to achieve ideas, goals & objectives that youth believe in as solutions to problems in our communities.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Networking plays a very major role in this endeavor. Community leaders and trainers will be accessed to train youth in the areas listed, providing them with the best possible services Tacoma has to offer.

- * **INELI** To continue providing a safe environment for youth to excel both physically and academically.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/COMMUNITY AWARENESS

- * Increase youth, parent and community participation in Y.M.C.A programs. There is no single solution or any single person or organization that can solve our communities problems on their own. We believe in networking and we plan to involve whoever or whatever organizations it takes to fulfil the purpose of this project.
- * Train and develop youth into leadership roles and provide them with trainings and skills necessary to achieve academic and personal goals. The community must be made aware that such projects and programs exist and that the Y.M.C.A. is striving to include all persons willing to support youth and positive youth activities. Therefore we will initiate an awareness component which
- * Provide mentors and advocates through membership sponsoring.

Planning for promoting awareness includes:

- * Increase community awareness about youth programs
 - * a bi-weekly newsletter of events which will not only include Y.M.C.A activities but also activities which may be available city wide for youth, parents and families.
- * To remain real in what we do and to be a friend for youth in hopes to deter them from gang involvement, drug abuse and the violence that is killing our young people.
 - * We will serve as advocates, mentors, training providers and to volunteer tutoring time.
- * Develop contact with parents of youth involved to offer support and inform them of the positive progressions taking place with their child through Y.M.C.A. programs.
- * Contact all Boys & Girls Clubs and all existing youth organizations to inform them of this project and to develop a partnership.
- * Schedule Tacoma Public School site visits as a youth recruitment piece as well as an awareness approach for youth in the Tacoma community.

These are just some of the awareness steps which will be taken to get the project off the ground. Awareness is the key, and by involving youth, adults and organizations at the beginning stages, this project will have and achieve the impact and results we are looking for.

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Networking plays a very major role in this endeavor. Community leaders and trainers will be accessed to train youth in the areas listed, providing them with the best possible services Tacoma has to offer.

This service will be offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings of each week. The program will focus on reading, composition, computer competency and other common subjects will be available. If other subject items are requested we will access our volunteer network base to best accommodate.

TIMELINE: Project Operation August 94' (Based on Funding)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT/COMMUNITY AWARENESS

By networking with schools, businesses, community organizations and other community groups, there is no single solution or any single person or organization that can solve our communities problems on their own. We believe in networking and we plan to involve whoever or whatever organizations it takes to fulfil the purpose of this project and its goals and objectives.

We know that academics are a necessity for young any young person to achieve, yet the community must be made aware that such projects and programs exist and that the Y.M.C.A. is striving to include all persons willing to support youth and positive youth activities. Therefore we will initiate an awareness component which address this need.

Planning for promoting awareness includes:

- TIMELINE:** Project preparation and set-up - August 94'
- * a bi-weekly newsletter of events which will not only include Y.M.C.A activities but also activities which may be available city wide for youth, parents and families.
 - * Y.M.C.A membership recruitment & awareness, recruiting members to sponsor youth and serve as advocates, mentors, training providers and to volunteer tutoring time.
 - * Develop contact with parents of youth involved to offer support and inform them of the positive progressions taking place with their child through Y.M.C.A. programs.
 - * Contact all Boys & Girls Clubs and all existing youth organizations to inform them of this project and to develop a partnership.
 - * Schedule Tacoma Public School site visits as a youth recruitment piece as well as an awareness approach for youth in the Tacoma community.

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PROJECT/SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS

EDUCATION/TUTORING

This service will be offered on Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings of each week for youth and parents who wish to be involved. Math, Reading, Composition, Computer competency and other common subjects will be available. If other subject items are requested we will access our volunteer network base to best accommodate such a request.

By networking with schools, businesses, community organizations and other sources, we will develop a committed and consistent group of teachers and volunteers in order to provide a meaningful & productive learning experience for youth and parents who participate as well as for those conducting the sessions.

We know that academics are a necessity for young any young person to achieve, yet we realize the importance of experiential and real-life learning. There will be time during each session to discuss community issues, world issues, and to share feelings, emotions and solutions about these issues. Youth and parents will have a chance to communicate family issues and further develop family relations and family values.

TIMELINE: Project preparation and set-up - August 94'
Project Operation September 94" (Based on Funding Sources)

YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Young people need an opportunity to take leadership roles in their lives and among their peers as well as play an active role in creating solutions to positively effect those issues which are effecting them, their peers and their communities.

This will be their opportunity.

Youth will be trained through process how to recognize the importance of dealing with the issues effecting our communities and how they can take an active and powerful stance in the solution process. They will be given the opportunity to voice their opinions from a youth perspective on issues they feel are most important and become trained in group process, peer-to-peer mentoring, facilitation skills, conflict resolution while learning how to network the correct resources in order to make a positive impact in their neighborhoods and communities.

Through community outreach projects youth will have a chance to educate the public, share experiences with other youth and show the community that the youth of today can also be the leaders of today.