



Love in action.

Career Youth Development, Inc.

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Office of Accounting

May 6, 2015

Mr. Steve Mahan
Director
CDBG - Administration
200 E. Wells Street
City Hall, Room 606
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Dear Steve,

RE: Career Youth Development Operations - 2015

Career Youth Development, Inc. (CYD) is operating its programs in alignment with Mother Kathryn Daniels Center, Inc. (MKDC). As we continue to work through the due diligence process and the intricacies involved in that effort, we believe that we will be closer to finalizing the structure of the organizations in the next 9 to 12 months. A summary of the activities that have taken place since January 1, 2015 include:

Operations Location

CYD and MKDC evaluated moving the physical location of CYD programming from MLK Drive to MKDC on W. Hampton Avenue. It was decided that the MLK location best served the CYD organization and provided the required space for programming.

1st Time Home Buying Program

- Shirley Lowery, Housing Manager, has held 1st Time Home Buying workshops three times each month since January 2015, alternating between evening and day time hours.
- Workshops are well attended averaging approximately 30 to 35 participants for each session.
- One-on-one Home Buying counseling sessions are robust as more families work towards homeownership. Ms. Lowery has approximately 65 active clients.
- The Home Buying Program is strong. Community lenders and HUD remain committed to CYD. Ms. Lowery is also on track to achieve established 2015 Home Buying goals.

CYD Founders

Claretta "Mother Freedom" Simpson
Founder

Ms. Jeannetta Simpson-Robinson
Founder

CYD Policy Board Members

Attorney Barbara Franks
Chairwoman

Morris Brazil, III
Board Director

Dr. Wilma N. Spann
Board Director

Cy White
Board Director

Rep. Leon Young
Board Director

Youth Programming ~ Warning Basketball League

- A Warning Basketball League Planning Committee was established in March and meets weekly each Friday at CYD. The Planning Committee consists of representatives from CYD, MKDC and coaches from the Warning League. The results from the planning efforts have been **AWESOME**.
- Programming this year will consist of three components:
 - Basketball skill-building, sportsmanship, and basketball games
 - Character Education Training, and
 - Health and Wellness Education
- The Warning League program will run from June 29 - August 21, 2015.
- Approximately 200 donation request letters will be sent to organizations, foundations, and churches (25% have been mailed) to help fund operating the program.
- Lastly, a Warning Basketball League Alumni Reunion fund-raiser is planned for October 24, 2015 and will be held at Milwaukee Math & Science Academy. Funds raised will benefit youth programming, operations, and the "Toys For Kids Santa Forgot" program.

Youth Programming ~ After-School Program

- CYD is requesting that funding for the After-School program be restored if at all possible. The Warning League Planning Committee believes participants in the Warning League would attend the After-School program for educational support, life skills training, to develop workforce readiness skills and to engage in basketball. An unscientific survey revealed that approximately 150 youth would attend programming, if offered.
- Warning League Planning Committee Members consists of:
 - Attorney Barbara Franks, CYD Board Chairwoman
 - Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, Holy Redeemer Institutional Church of God in Christ and CEO & Executive Director, MKDC, Inc.
 - Mr. Morris Brazil, CYD Board Member
 - Pastor Raymond Davis, Capitol City Sanctuary COGIC Family Worship Center
 - Pastor Walter Fields, St. Paul COGIC
 - Willie Mitchell, Warning League Coordinator
 - Dr. Annie Oliver, Retired MPS Educator; Executive Director, The Olive Branch Coalition, Inc.
 - Mr. Jermaine Reed, CEO & Executive Director, Fresh Start Counseling Center, Inc.
 - Linda Swift, CPA
 - State Representative Leon Young
- CYD is in-process of working with Milwaukee Math & Science Academy to solidify an agreement to use their gym for after school programming during the 2015/2016 school year.

CYD 45th Annual Image Awards - Fundraiser

- The 45th Annual CYD Image Awards will be held August 29, 2015 at Four Points Sheraton in Brown Deer, WI.
- The fundraiser is expected to generate approximately \$75K in unrestricted funds to be used for operational and program expenses for the agency.

CYD Group Home Space

- The agency will be applying for its license to operate a CBRF. A CBRF gives the organization more flexibility in the type of clients served in the group home space. For example, the space could be used as a residential in-patient treatment facility for AODA clients, housing for adults 18 - 25 being release from corrections and requiring structured programming as a condition of release or provide housing for the frail and elderly.

Excess Building Capacity

- CYD is evaluating the opportunity to lease excess building capacity to other non-profit organizations. As you know, many smaller non-profit organizations have difficulty finding space that meets there program needs and budget. Final decisions will be made once the organization completes its due diligence in the next month or two. Any funds from rental activity would be reinvested into building improvements, maintenance, and programming.

Building Infrastructure

- The CYD building is currently having an energy audit completed for gas and electric usage. Findings from the audit will be used as a planning tool for building improvements and maintenance.

Steve, this letter is intended to give you a snap-shot of the activities happening at CYD in alignment with MKDC. Every day we are busy doing quality work and serving the community. It may appear that we are a quiet agency, but you will hear our "roar" as all of the planning work turns into visible results. You are welcome to visit the agency or meet with us at any time. Thank you in advance for your continual support.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I have added you and Alderwoman Coggs to the distribution list to receive agency news releases, announcements and other information.

Sincerely,

Linda

Linda Swift, CPA
Program Administrator

Cc: Attorney Barbara Franks, CYD Chairwoman
Bishop Sedgwick Daniels, MKDC