

Selected TFP Budgeting and Financial Health Resources

www.financeproject.org



Cutting Costs, Keeping Quality: Financing Strategies for Youth-Serving Organizations in a Difficult Economy, March 2010

This research brief highlights financing strategies that successful youth-serving organizations are using to maintain quality services despite difficult economic times. It illustrates how organizations have aggressively managed costs, creatively generated new revenues and support, and created partnerships to mitigate the effects of funding cuts. The full report is available at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/CuttingCostKeepingQuality.pdf>



Building Capacity for Better Results: Strategies for Financing and Sustaining the Organizational Capacity of Youth-Serving Programs, September 2010

This strategy brief discusses four approaches that leaders of youth-serving nonprofit organizations can pursue to help support and strengthen their organizational capacity: build accurate overhead rates into contracts and grants, access funding to directly support capacity building, access technical assistance to support or improve organizational capacity, and form partnerships to share administrative services. This publication is available at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/BuildingCapacity-Brief.pdf>



Beyond the Award Letter: Fund Management for Leaders of Small Youth-Serving Organizations, September 2009

This guide helps non-profit leaders develop the tools and knowledge they need to enhance the systems they use to manage grants and contracts. It explores strategies to strengthen fund management practices and provides guidance on building work plans for managing grants and contracts among other tips to support the management of a variety of funding streams. This publication is available at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/BeyondtheAwardLetter.pdf>



Beyond the Checkbook: A Financial Management Guide for Leaders of Small Youth-Serving Organizations, January 2009

This guide helps leaders of small nonprofit organizations to develop the tools and knowledge they need to create and use sound financial management practices. It identifies key components of financial management systems, discusses important considerations and trade-offs that organizations make in designing systems, and provides checklists, examples, and templates to help clarify ideas. This publication is available at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/BeyondtheCheckbook.pdf>

Tools from TFP's Center for Charter School Finance and Governance

Assessing Fiscal Health: A Financial Benchmarking Tool for Charter Schools

This toolkit is a resource for charter school leaders to build fiscally sound schools and establish financial systems that can sustain their programs and services for years to come.

A Cost Estimation Tool for Charter Schools

This tool helps start-up charter school operators estimate the range of cost and timing of expenditures they will be obligated to cover during start-up and the early years of operation. The tool provides worksheets to help operators identify basic cost assumptions (e.g., student enrollment and facilities needs) and use those assumptions to estimate their operating costs.

A Revenue Planning Tool for Charter School Operators

School leaders need to think strategically about building a reliable base of revenue to support their work. Worksheets walk leaders through the process of collecting and evaluating information about funding sources so they can make informed decisions about which ones will help them establish a strong revenue base for their schools.

Other Selected Resources from The Finance Project

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Using CDBG to Support Community-Based Youth Programs, January 2008

This brief aims to provide policymakers, stakeholders, community leaders, and program developers working in or with community-based youth programs with a basic understanding of how the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) is structured, how community-based youth programs fit into CDBG purposes and activities, and how communities nationwide are using CDBG to support youth initiatives. This publication is available at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/CDBGyouthprograms.pdf>



Financing and Sustaining Out-of-School Time Programs in Rural Communities, January 2008

Leaders of rural out-of-school time programs need to act strategically to ensure the long-term success of their initiatives. This brief describes the funding landscape and highlights the unique resource challenges confronting rural out-of-school time programs. It also describes various public and private resources that can support out-of-school time programming and identifies effective strategies that can be used by program leaders to create sustainable approaches to their work. This publication is available online at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/publications/OSTRuralYouth.pdf>



Snapshots of Sustainability: Profiles of Successful Strategies for Financing Out-of-School Time Programs, September 2007

This compendium includes 32 profiles of out-of-school time programs that have succeeded in sustaining their work by developing strategies to marshal a broad range of critical fiscal and non-fiscal resources. Each profile includes an overview of the program or initiative, and typically includes budget information; a summary of financing and sustainability strategies employed keys to success, lessons learned and anticipated challenges or next steps. This brief is available at:

<http://www.financeproject.org/Publications/SustainabilityProfilesOST.pdf>



A Guide to Successful Public-Private Partnerships for Youth Programs, January 2007

This guide provides practical information on creating and maintaining public-private partnerships to improve and expand youth programs and initiatives in communities and states. The full report is available online at: http://financeproject.org/publications/PublicPrivate_PM.pdf



Finding Funding: A Guide to Federal Sources for Youth Programs, January 2007

A guide for policy makers, program developers and others with critical information about federal funding sources to support and sustain youth programs and initiatives. This publication is available at: http://financeproject.org/publications/findingfunding_PM.pdf



Thinking Broadly: Financing Strategies for Youth Programs, January 2007

This guide is intended to assist policymakers, community leaders and program developers by outlining an array of approaches to finance youth programs and initiatives. It presents general principles to guide the selection of financing strategies and considerations to help state and local leaders develop financing plans that closely align with their program goals, available resources and the political and economic environments in which they work. This brief is available at:

http://financeproject.org/publications/Thinkingbroadly_PM.pdf