

Panel Summary Report

Agency: American Red Cross

Date: May 12, 2005

Program: Youth Services

Panel #: 10

Allocation recommendation: \$15,000

Previous Allocation (2003/2004): \$17,592

1. Was allocation recommendation: (please check one)

Increased? Decreased? Kept Level?

2. Describe primary reasons for decision

The Youth Services Program, though very important to youth, did not appear to have a focused or active approach to reaching out to populations of color and to at-risk youth, but rather, focused its services on mainstream youth. They did not demonstrate an understanding of diversity for the panel. They also seemed confused about which community resources were focused on at-risk youth.

There was a lack of effort to reach out to more schools, largely because the program appeared to rely on only one Red Cross volunteer who works at one of the schools. Their reliance and ability to broaden their program to other schools was contingent on this one individual. They achieved only 52% of their goal to provide safety and prevention education to elementary school children.

The program did not appear to be measuring outcomes. When asked about measuring outcomes, there was confusion between outcomes and outputs. They were also unable to articulate their ability to measure the impact of their youth volunteerism.

3. Describe specific concerns of panel relating to funding request, operation of agency or use of funds expended by agency:

Outreach to diverse populations was a concern of the previous two panels. This panel feels that diversity training - what it is, how to be inclusive, and how to apply it to their program goals, will help the Youth Services Program take an active role in addressing the needs of Latino's and other diverse populations. An infusion of new volunteers will also help with outreach, especially to the other schools.

Some technical assistance from United Way or other sources of help regarding outcomes measures would also be highly recommended.

4. Describe any limitations or conditions on funds imposed by panel: None.

5. Panel members present at deliberation: Andrea Miles, Hannah Lakehomer, Miranda Byrd, Lyn Shepard, Dodie Weyhe (United Way Staff).

6. Agency representatives present at site visit: Susan Simmons, Ryan Freeman

Panel Chair: Pearl Wolfe