



TESTIMONY

**Before the Council of the City of New York
Committees on Youth Services and Finance
Hearing on
Executive Fiscal 2023 Budget**

Presented by

Chief Operating Officer, Alan Cheng

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Good morning, Chairs Stevens and Brannan, and members of the Youth Services and Finance Committee. My name is Alan Cheng, DYCD's Chief Operating Officer. I am joined by Deputy Commissioners Susan Haskell and Valerie Mulligan, Associate Commissioners Darryl Rattray, Daphne Montanez, and Jagdeen Phanor. We are pleased to be here to discuss the Fiscal 2023 Executive Budget.

The budget stands at \$1.046 billion, which is the highest amount of funding in the Executive Budget in DYCD's history. \$708.9 million or 67.7 % is city tax levy, \$74.5 million is federal, and \$6.3 million or less than 1% is state funding.

This budget recognizes that young people have been significantly impacted by COVID-19 and that young people need the opportunities that help them thrive.

As we discussed at the March 9th Preliminary hearing, Mayor Adams and Council Speaker Adams announced 100,000 summer job and work-based learning opportunities for young people ages 14 through 24. This summer, the city will be making an investment of \$236 million, a record investment in the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP). 90,000 of these experiences will be available through SYEP, making it the largest number of opportunities in the program's 60-year history. To ensure that all young people have a chance to participate, last month, DYCD extended the deadline to apply to SYEP to May 6th. To date, 160,000 youth have applied. Thank you, Chair Stevens, for asking your colleagues to sign up to be workplaces and there is still time to sign up for any Council Members interested. We are working with other city agencies, which have committed to accepting more youth than ever before.

The Executive Budget includes \$101 million to support Summer Rising. As you know, in March, Mayor Adams, School Chancellor Banks, and Chair Stevens announced the launch of the largest New York City summer program ever. Summer Rising will connect 110,000 elementary and middle school students to fun, culturally-relevant, hands-on enrichment experiences to strengthen skills, develop interests and cultivate curiosity.

Summer Rising enrollment launched on April 25, and we are pleased that the response was tremendous. As of last week, we have received more than 83,000 applications. Following this initial phase of enrollment, DOE will identify students for summer school and in D75/Extended School Year (ESY) for seats in the program.

Combined, Summer Rising, SYEP and other center-based programs will serve 214,203 young people this summer with record investment of \$396 million in the future of younger New Yorkers. This is an amazing accomplishment, and the city is truly investing in our future.



**Department of
Youth & Community
Development**

On the administrative side, we are pleased that the Executive Budget adds forty-three positions to DYCD's headcount. This adjustment reflects the agency's need for additional staff as we ramped up services such as SYEP and Summer Rising. We have already begun recruiting for these important positions, and postings are available on the Department of Citywide Administrative Services jobs portal.

While it's not in the Executive Budget, we also want to share with you some encouraging news for Runaway and Homeless Youth. For the first time, the City has been awarded a \$15 million Youth Housing Demonstration Project. This funding, from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), will support a wide range of new housing and service interventions to prevent and end youth homelessness. Deputy Mayor Anne Williams-Isom's office and DYCD have been leading the Planning Committee, which was charged with making the decisions on which programs will be funded. We look forward to briefing you in the time ahead.

Thank you once again for the opportunity to highlight the Executive Budget. We are pleased to answer your questions.
