

Public Comment/Question at the end of Item IV

This is a time of crisis, what message are you sending to communities by delaying funding awarded grants?

Due to social distancing we pivoted and still serve our young people. 2 examples:

* **food is still an issue** and youth cannot travel to places where food banks and others are providing food. We started fun online cooking classes where our case managers drove the ingredients to our youth homes. Simple menus taught by our counselors turned out to be fun, engaging and youth fed their whole family.

*started an **artist experience lecture series with artists that young people want to hear from:**

~ Vince Mata who turned his life around from addiction and prison to become an accomplished cinematographer (Batman & Robin, Mission Impossible II, etc.)

~Mister Cartoon (LA Originals), world renown tattoo artist (worked on Eminem, Kobe Bryant, etc.)

~future guests will be similar in interest and caliber (Lauren London, Estevez Oriol,

Our series have become healing spaces for our young people, and they engage and see that they can be successful in spite of their record. To keep our youth engaged, **we provided refurbished computers and internet for those who wanted to participate but couldn't.**

Because we were awarded the Ready to Rise grant this year, we just hired a much-needed case manager. She was brought to counsel our young girls to focus on values, such as self-worth, respect and how to say no.

But we are still waiting for funds. We've asked the Ready to Rise partners and they can't tell us when funds will be given. Why is there a delay? We're working without funding.

What message are you sending to communities?

When can we expect to receive our Ready to Rise grant money?

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