



Helping and Teaching Youth for Over 100 Years

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NEWS RELEASE

JUNIOR REPUBLIC OPENS OFFICE IN TORRINGTON AND EXPANDS DANBURY PROGRAM

John F. Boyd, Executive Director of the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR), announced today that the organization has been awarded contracts to provide two *Youth Equipped for Success (YES!)* programs in Danbury and Torrington by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch.

These programs will serve approximately 150 boys and girls referred by the Danbury and Torrington Juvenile Courts annually through a combination of site-based programming and intensive in-home services. The *YES!* Programs also provide services for youth referred from area school systems and by parents through Family With Service Needs (FWSN) petitions.

“The goal of the *YES!* Program is to meet the individual needs of referred boys and girls, and to increase positive behaviors, academic performance and structure within the family unit,” stated Mr. Boyd. He noted that the Junior Republic has been providing community-based services to young people and families in the Danbury and Torrington areas since 2003. “As a result of these new contracts, we are expanding our existing offices in Danbury and opening a new location in Torrington,” he explained.

CJR’s new *YES* programs will consist of in-home family services, office-based counseling, and supervised pro-social activities in the community. Counseling for youth at the Danbury and Torrington offices will occur after school, Monday – Friday. Community pro-social activities will be conducted after school and on weekends. Transportation for referred boys and girls will be provided by the Junior Republic from school and home, as necessary. According to Mr. Boyd, CJR’s *YES!* programs will be highly structured and staffed by four full-time professional staff. Two will have Masters in Social Work degrees (MSW) and two will be Case Managers with Bachelor’s degrees.

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The *Youth Equipped for Success* programs are examples of a growing number of evidence-based, family-focused services that the Connecticut Junior Republic provides for the Judicial Branch at its community-based locations in Danbury, Torrington and Waterbury. In addition to the *YES!* programs, CJR provides Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) as well as Family Centered Substance Abuse Treatment (F-SATS), for children and families residing from northern Fairfield County to communities in Northwest Connecticut. Evidence-based interventions are those for which systematic empirical research has provided statistically significant evidence of effectiveness in treating specific problems.

“The Connecticut Junior Republic has a long history of providing community-based and residential services for children, youth and families in partnership with the Judicial Branch, and has been providing a broad spectrum of programs for children and families in the Greater Danbury, Torrington and Waterbury areas in partnership with CSSD for many years,” stated Mr. Boyd. “The services we provide for the Judicial Branch range from early intervention and prevention services to intensive in-home therapy for youth and families, and residential care,” he continued. “In providing these programs, CJR has developed a very strong professional relationship with CSSD, and we look forward to working with them as we expand our community-based and residential programs for children in locations throughout Connecticut” he stated.

Founded in 1904, the Connecticut Junior Republic (CJR) has provided residential and community-based care, treatment and education for troubled and at-risk young people for more than 100 years. Today, the organization’s combined programs serve approximately 1,000 boys and girls from communities throughout Connecticut. CJR operates group homes for boys in East Hartford and Winchester, a short-term residential program for girls in Waterbury, and community-based programs serving boys and girls in the Danbury, Torrington/Northwest Connecticut and Greater Waterbury regions. Special, alternative and vocational education programs, as well as transition and related services, are provided for boys on CJR’s Litchfield campus.

A private charitable organization, the Connecticut Junior Republic is accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA). CJR is supported by contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations, and through services funded by the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Connecticut Judicial Branch, the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Connecticut Department of Social Services (DSS), and by Connecticut’s public schools. For further information, please contact Hedy Barton, Director of Development and Public Relations (860) 567-9423, extension 252; or by email: hbarton@cjryouth.org.

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