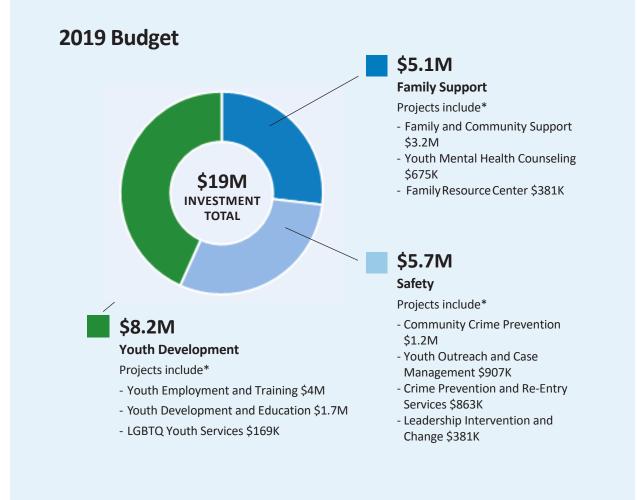
Preparing Youth for Success



HSD's Youth and Family Empowerment (YFE) Division supports positive youth and family development through strategic investments in employment opportunities, mentoring and educational support, food and nutrition, safety, and behavioral and mental health programs that help families and young people thrive. We are committed to ensuring all Seattle youth are prepared for the future regardless of race, income, immigration status, or neighborhood.



*Projects mentioned do not reflect all services funded for this impact area.

2019 YFE Safety RFP

Youth and Family Empowerment conducted a funding opportunity that invested \$4.4 million in 14 proposals from community organizations to provide support for youth and young adults harmed by the criminal legal system in Seattle in 2020. The funding will support activities such as healing and accountability circles for incarcerated men and trans women; training for community leaders directly impacted by systems of violence; training on nonviolent communication, mindfulness, and racial equity; peer support programs and family-integrated transitions; and felony diversion for a diverse range of communities in Seattle.

Family Support

2,454 families (unduplicated) were served by programs focusing on system navigation and child development.

Upward Bound Transitions to DEEL

Upward Bound, the long-standing program that helps young people prepare for and enter college, transitioned to the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) in 2019. In its final year with HSD, Upward Bound continued to increase access to information about college. When Garfield High School decided to form a Latinx Parent group, Spanish-speaking families were very interested. Upward Bound provided a Spanish-speaking counselor at events who worked directly with families, discussing educational opportunities for their children. As a result, enrollment of Latinx students and parent participation in school events such as curriculum nights increased.

Seattle Youth Employment Program Expands



The Seattle Youth Employment Program (SYEP) expanded dramatically in 2019 with the launch of a new school-year program to support youth and young adults in growing as community leaders and preparing for future work and career opportunities. The new model provides career navigation and exploration, skill building through job-readiness workshops, employer site visits, and networking opportunities. The skills and knowledge gained in the school-year program will better prepare participants for success in their summer internships.

The change comes as part of the Mayor's response to better meet the needs of youth and young adults within the regional economy, especially low-income youth who often lack access to meaningful career connections and opportunities. The goal of the expanded SYEP is to see young people employed in Seattle and increase their ability to pursue meaningful careers. In 2019, some of the participants who completed internships were hired into jobs in the healthcare, maritime, public health, restaurant, retail, and tourism industries. Learn more at www.seattle.gov/SYEP.