

A Partnership of Excellence

"Excellence is the result of caring more than others think wise, risking more than others think safe, dreaming more than others think practical and expecting more than others think possible."

January 2, 2012

Pastors, Church and Community Leaders
Mission & Evangelism
Huntsville/Madison County

Dear Community Leaders:

Youth Development Association, Inc. (YDA) is a **501(c)(3) non-profit organization**. YDA conducts the *Extraordinary Lives* program that promotes the advancement of minorities, with a focus on growth opportunities for youth. YDA fosters quality education through intervention, diversity, life skill development including community and citizenship responsibility and health targeting obesity/fitness through tennis & golf. Since 1991, over two hundred students have completed or are currently in universities around the county. A fiftieth tennis student is currently on a full scholarship to the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Though open to all, YDA programs are especially aimed toward under-served youth and communities in Huntsville and Madison County.

YDA is seeking a \$12,122 grant. Funds support our initiative to train and hire part-time reading/writing and math tutors and tennis/golf instructors from Huntsville Housing Authority (HHA) residents. This will be for an eight week Tutoring/Life Skills through Tennis & Golf Summer Program. Hirees must be junior or senior high students or college/adults living in public housing. This is an eight week (16 days /64 hours) summer jobs program and tutoring, tennis and golf program for public housing youth.

YDA WELCOMES VOLUNTEERS!

For additional information, email y.d.a@knology.net or call (256) 603.0807. Please mail contributions to YDA, Inc., 145 Kyser Blvd, Suite A, Madison, AL 35758.

Join us in A Partnership of Excellence!

Rev. Alvin Garrett, Executive Director
Youth Development Association, Inc.
www.yda2gta.com

Program Description

YDA proposes to provide tutorial/intervention services and enrichment activities to students attending Huntsville's "persistently low-achieving" schools. Our target schools include Martin Luther King, Morris, and University Place Elementary Schools; Ed White and Westlawn Middle; and Lee and S.R. Butler High Schools. Our target neighborhoods are only Huntsville Housing Authority.

We propose employing public housing residents and education majors from The University of Alabama in Huntsville, Oakwood University, Alabama A&M University to tutor struggling students in reading and mathematics. We will target students who are not proficient as well as those who were proficient by marginal measures. Educational curriculum and activities (see attached) in reading, writing, and math are central to YDA's tennis and golf. In addition to tutoring, we will afford these students the opportunity to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) modules developed by UA Huntsville Minority Graduate Student Association. We will monitor the students' progress and collaborate with teachers, administration and parents. We'll hire an outside evaluator to hold YDA accountable as he/she documents academic and personal performance/growth from students test data, grades and other survey information. The evaluator will report findings to YDA, schools, and HHA.

We will integrate life skills through tennis and golf lessons. Students will develop the fundamentals of tennis and golf, while developing their character and leadership skills. YDA's summer jobs for high school students require attendance to the Youth Leadership Conference held at UAHuntsville. Tennis and golf coaches tie in lessons on good sportsmanship, honesty and integrity, self monitoring and self assessment, and teamwork. Lastly, but certainly not least in this component of the program, we plan to address childhood obesity, by providing this physical activity twice a week while educating students on nutrition and health. YDA is North Alabama's only National Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) Chapter of the United States Tennis Association (USTA). Together with the USTA and the White House initiative lead by Michelle Obama, YDA is the local chapter of "Lets Move".

The Impact:

All Huntsville Title One Schools will be impacted. The difference one child's test scores can make on a school can be significant. Successful schools give pride to students, parents, communities and businesses. Improved schools enhance the workforce for the future. This initiative will reduce discipline problems in homes, schools, and society. It will also reduce dropouts and increase college attendance.

Time Line:

The proposed schedule and sites are June 4, 2012 – July 25, 2012 (8 weeks), Mondays (elementary), Tuesdays (middle/high) – 9AM to 12PM at the Huntsville Tennis Center, Lee High School or Oakwood University

**PROPOSED BUDGET
YDA-HHA TUTORING THRU TENNIS & GOLF**

STAFFING

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| 2 Directors (Tutoring, Tennis & Golf) (\$30.00 x 64 hours x 2) | \$ 3,840.00 (1,920.00) |
| 6 Part-time Reading/Math Tutors (\$10.00 x 64 hours x 2) College/Adult (\$8.00 x 64 hours x 4) High School | 3,328.00 (1,280.00) (2,048.00) |
| 4 Tennis/Golf Instructors (\$10.00 x 64 hours x 2) College/Adult (\$8.00 x 64 hours x 2) High School | 2,304.00 (1,280.00) (1,024.00) |
| Tutoring and Tennis/Golf Materials | 1,000.00 |
| Water, Gatorade and Snacks | 750.00 |
| Youth Leadership & Diversity Conference at UAH (Mandatory for six High School Students) | <u>900.00</u> |
| SUBTOTAL | \$ 12,122.00 |

NOTE: Directors are responsible for preparation of on/off court and course curriculum, staff training and scheduling and overseeing daily activities.