

A POSITIVE STEP OF MONROE COUNTY

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April 28, 2015

Donald J. Lee, Jr. Chief of Police Key West Police Department 1604 N. Roosevelt Boulevard Key West, FL 33040

Dear Chief Lee:

A Positive Step of Monroe County Inc. is respectfully requesting a financial donation from the Police Forfeiture Fund for our Idle Hands Summer Youth Jobs Program.

Background

In 2010 APSMC became involved with the Summer Youth Jobs Program. A part of our mission is to address the gaps in services for the highest risk youth and their families living in the Florida Keys. In 2010 the South Florida Workforce was no longer able to fund the Summer Youth Jobs Program in Monroe County. That year APSMC was able to raise a small amount of money to help a few kids go to work. Commissioner Jimmy Weekly was the first to sponsor our request for financial help to employ twenty-five Key West High School students before the other commissioners. That year and every year to date the City of Key West has given APSMC \$30,000 to \$35,000 toward our Idle Hands program.

Other Donors

The Key West Sunrise Rotary Club has donated \$2,500 each year; private donations from the community; the Sheriff's Asset Fund has donated \$5,100 this year and APSMC has a 5K run in December that generates money; PAL has donated in the past; and Winn Dixie has provided lunch each year for the first two weeks of the job readiness portion of the jobs program.

How Does The Program Work?

APSMC starts recruiting and interviewing KWHS students during May. The job readiness classes begin the third week of June and run for two weeks from 10:00 a.m. till 2 p.m. each day. During these two weeks we cover: what the employer expects of you; how to complete your W-4; the jobs at the City; and even drug and alcohol prevention.

The students report for work the first week of July and work until Friday, the second week in August. Our job coach stays in contact with the students and the employer while they are at work.

Conclusion

Chief, we feel our Idle Hands Summer Youth Employment Program is a win for all; the city, the parents, and most of all the students. We also feel strongly that our employment program addresses both crime and drug and alcohol prevention.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me. Thanking you in advance.

Sincerely,

Billy Davis

Executive Director