



YOUTH SERVICES

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:

Nicole Garroutte

ngarroutte@larkinstreetyouth.org

(415) 673.0911 ext. 305

Larkin Street Youth Services Partners with 3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic in Bayview Hunters Point

Union Proves How Non-profits Are Coming Together to Help an Underserved Population

SAN FRANCISCO—Nov. 12, 2009—[Larkin Street Youth Services](#) announced today that it's a new fiscal sponsor of the [3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic](#) in San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood. With this partnership, Larkin Street will be responsible for managing 3rd Street's funds and providing operational oversight of its programs. The sponsorship is an excellent example of two community-based organizations coming together to share resources, achieve greater efficiencies, and greatly enhance complementary services.

The 3rd Street organization was founded in 2005 as a true community collaboration to fill a critical gap in the Bayview Hunters Point neighborhood, where approximately 4,000 youth, ages 12 to 24, reside with only limited access to critical health and support services. The center and clinic acts as a multiservice center for youth with a focus on providing urgently needed and ongoing health, mental health and support services that are free to young people living in the southeast corridor of San Francisco. In addition to providing health programs such as primary care and prenatal services, 3rd Street offers youth development programming. This includes The Youth Outreach Squad which provides outreach and education to their peers about healthy decision making. Every year, 3rd Street reaches about 800 youth, ages 12 – 24.

As acting fiscal sponsor, the long-term collaboration that already exists between a number of Larkin Street and 3rd Street programs will be enhanced, improving the opportunities for the marginalized youth of Bayview Hunters Point to receive comprehensive health services, have a safe place to interact with their peers and be empowered to become successful, contributing adults.

"We are excited about the opportunity to work more closely with the 3rd Street to meet the needs of youth in Bayview Hunters Point," said Sherilyn Adams, executive director of Larkin Street, San Francisco's leading provider of housing and support services for homeless and at-risk youth ages 12 to 24.

The population served by 3rd Street is among the city's poorest and most marginalized, with more than 50 percent of the area's adolescents living in poverty. Only half the neighborhood's children live in a home with two parents, and 30 percent of teens live in out-of-home placements. The long-term cumulative health effects on this small community are startlingly clear: the area has the largest number of teen cases of sexually transmitted diseases in the city; the teen pregnancy rate is three times that of the rest of San Francisco; and the infant mortality rate is among the highest of any zip code in California.

With this fiscal partnership, 3rd Street will continue to serve this population, providing vital services to the area.

About Larkin Street Youth Services

Founded in 1984, San Francisco's Larkin Street Youth Services is a globally recognized leader providing innovative, effective housing, medical, social and educational services to at-risk homeless and runaway youth ages 12-24 across 25 programs and 13 sites. Eighty percent of youth who complete Larkin Street's comprehensive programs exit street life. For more information, please visit www.larkinstreetyouth.org.

About 3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic

The mission of 3rd Street Youth Center and Clinic is to help youth from Bayview Hunters Point make healthy and safe decisions that improve their physical, emotional, and social health, empowering them to become successful, contributing adults. www.3rdstyouth.org

###