



95 Central Avenue • Albany, NY 12206
Office 518-434-6135 • Fax 518-434-4502

*Counseling
Services*
518-434-6135

*Domestic
Violence Services*
518-434-6135
24 Hr. Hotline
432-7865

*Domestic
Violence Shelter*
518-432-8950
Fax 432-7885

*Independent
Living Services*
518-434-6135

*Thanksgiving Day
Community Dinner*
518-434-0131

Youth Shelter
518-465-9524
Fax 465-9507

Youth Outreach
518-434-6135
518-465-0683

May 17, 2010

Ms. Faye Andrews
Commissioner
City of Albany Department of Youth and Workforce Services
175 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

Re: OJJDP FY 2010 Youth Gang Prevention and Intervention Program

Dear Ms. Andrews,

On behalf of Equinox, Inc. I am pleased to support the application from the City of Albany, Department of Youth and Workforce Services to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Gang Prevention Coordination Assistance Program.

Equinox serves those who are among the most vulnerable in our community, including homeless youth and at-risk youth who are not connected to family or other traditional systems of support. Many have turned to street involvement for a sense of belonging and "community". The Youth Outreach Center offers a safe alternative to street involvement and provides the opportunity, space and resources to learn skills, support education, explore new interests, and talk through concerns, hopes and aspirations with caring and trustworthy adults.

We serve many of the same young people who participate in the Saturday Teen Night Program. We have seen the dedication, commitment and expertise of the City's Gang Prevention Program, and in particular the Gang Prevention Coordinator, Ron Barrett, whose program is a powerful tool in the prevention and intervention services needed by the at-risk population.

We look forward to working with the City in the future and hope that you will give favorable consideration to their application.

Sincerely,

Kathleen M. Tanner
Executive Director