BronxWorks Gets $512K Pinkerton Grant
Monday, 29 July 2013

BronxWorks has received a three-year, $512,000 grant from the Pinkerton Foundation. The first installment of $212,000, received last month, is directed to BronxWorks' after school and summer camp programs for middle- and high-school youngsters, and to hire a director of adolescent services.

“We are very grateful for this funding, which will enable us to provide comprehensive services to young people from several South Bronx neighborhoods,” said Elisa Istueta, BronxWorks' children and youth director. “In addition, the grant allows BronxWorks to continue its college readiness and advisory services by funding needed retention work.”

The Pinkerton Foundation grant will also support the services of a college retention specialist who first joined BronxWorks in the autumn of 2012. Based at Bronx Community College, the retention specialist provides guidance and assistance for young adults in college through counseling and helping them to connect with campus resources so that they stay in college and ultimately graduate.

Istueta added that she has begun the search for a director of adolescent programs, a person who will supervise Community Center programs for adolescents at the BronxWorks Community Center and to provide individual and group counseling to youths, a new position also enabled by the Pinkerton Foundation.

“BronxWorks has just finished celebrating its 40th anniversary, ready to move into a new era of accomplishment with the help of partners such as the Pinkerton Foundation,” commented Eileen Torres, BronxWorks’ interim Executive Director. “We have had a strong relationship with the Pinkerton for several years.”

“We appreciate BronxWorks’ goal of helping young people reach their full potential, which includes providing consistent caring adults in these young people’s lives,” said Laurie Dien, a Senior Program Officer at the Pinkerton Foundation.