A Guide on Funding Opportunities for At-Risk Youth Programming and Gang Prevention

How to Navigate the Funding Process

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand New York



2014

*Note: This document will be continuously updated as information becomes available.

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Introduction

Dear Fellow New Yorker,

I want to take this opportunity to provide you with some important information on funding opportunities to support at-risk youth and gang prevention in our communities throughout New York State. Children and teenagers face a number of factors that can influence their participation in gangs, linking them to crime, drugs and leading to a higher likelihood of dropping out of school. With as many as 50,000 gang members in New York, at-risk youth need the opportunity to counter this behavior and remain on a path to a successful and healthy life. In an effort to support our youth, the federal and state governments have multiple programs that fund important gang prevention and at-risk youth initiatives across the state.

Finding the resources that meet your needs in the complex web of agencies can be an impossible task. For this reason, I have created this guidebook to serve as a starting point in providing information about what resources are available to individuals, businesses, community organizations and local governments. The information in this guidebook details energy program grants, loans, and tax credits. Its contents are by no means comprehensive and as new programs and opportunities emerge, its contents will be updated to provide New Yorkers with the most up-todate information possible.

My Senate website (www.gillibrand.senate.gov) is continually updated with critical information about various funding opportunities that are available to you, how to access them, and where to apply. You can also request hard copies of this guidebook, and other thematic funding guidebooks, by filling out the guidebook order form at the end of this guidebook and mailing it back to my New York City office or by emailing an electronic copy to grants@gillibrand.senate.gov. Furthermore, if you need assistance from a federal agency or with an immigration case, please refer to the casework form at the end or visit

http://gillibrand.senate.gov/services/casework/form/.

As you move forward with any grant opportunities, please contact Andrew Usyk, my Grants Director, for letters of support when applicable. You can reach him in my Washington, D.C. office at grants@gillibrand.senate.gov, or (202)-224-4451.

Sincerely, Kirsten Gilliburd

Kirsten Gillibrand United States Senator

Federal Section I

United States Department of Justice

The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides innovative leadership to federal, state, local, and tribal justice systems, by disseminating state-of-the art knowledge and practices across America, and providing grants for the implementation of these crime fighting strategies. Because most of the responsibility for crime control and prevention falls to law enforcement officers in states, cities, and neighborhoods, the federal government can be effective in these areas only to the extent that it can enter into partnerships with these officers.

Therefore, OJP does not directly carry out law enforcement and justice activities. Instead, OJP works in partnership with the justice community to identify the most pressing crime-related challenges confronting the justice system and to provide information, training, coordination, and innovative strategies and approaches for addressing these challenges.

1) Community Prevention Program

The Community Prevention Grants Program is a Federal grants program to fund collaborative, community-based delinquency prevention efforts. It integrates six fundamental principles–comprehensive and multidisciplinary approaches, research foundation for planning, community control and decision-making, leveraging of resources and systems, evaluation to monitor program progress and effectiveness, and a long-term perspective–that combine to form a strategic approach to reducing juvenile delinquency.

Additional Information

- The program provides communities with funding and a guiding framework for developing and implementing comprehensive juvenile delinquency prevention plans.
- The 3-year prevention plans are designed to reduce risk factors associated with juvenile delinquency and decrease the incidence of juvenile problem behavior.

Eligibility

Units of local government (city, county, township, or other political subdivision) can apply to their states, which award Community Prevention Grants Program funds through a competitive process. Programs may be funded in 12-month increments for up to 3 years.

Contact Information:

Joe Lostritto

Criminal Justice Program Representative NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services 80 South Swan Street Albany, NY 12210 Telephone: 518-457-3670 Fax: 518-485-0909 Email: joe.lostritto@dcjs.ny.us

2) Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Program

This program has been created to provide States, units of local government, and Indian Tribes as defined by Section 102 of the Federally Recognized Indian Tribe List Act of 1994, with funds to develop programs to strengthen and promote greater accountability in the juvenile justice system.

Additional Information:

- The program consists of 17 focus areas that focus on developing, implementing, and administering graduated sanctions for juvenile offenders as well as building, expanding, renovating or operating temporary or permanent juvenile correction, detention, or corrections facilities.
- The program also looks to hiring juvenile court judges, probation officers, and courtappointed defenders and special advocates, and funding pretrial services including mental health screening and assessment for juvenile offenders, to promote the effective and expeditious administration of the juvenile justice system.

Eligibility:

Each State and territory (except Palau) is eligible to receive an allocation and award of funds for State and units of local government if the Governor certifies, consistent with guidelines established by the Attorney General.

Contact Information:

- Joe Lostritto
- Criminal Justice Program Representative Division of Criminal Justice Services 80 South Swan Street Albany, NY 12210 Telephone: 518-457-3670 Fax: 518-485-0909 Email: joe.lostritto@dcjs.ny.us

 Courtney Ramirez Juvenile Justice Specialist
Office of Program Development and Funding Division of Criminal Justice Services
80 South Swan Street
Albany, NY 12210
Telephone: 518-485-9166
Fax: 518-485-0909
Email: courtney.ramirez@dcjs.ny.us

3) Enforcing Underage Drinking Laws Program

The EUDL Discretionary Program supports and enhances states' and local jurisdictions' efforts to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages to minors and the purchase and consumption of alcoholic beverages by minors. (For the purpose of this solicitation, "minors" are defined as individuals under the age of 21.)

Additional Information:

- Activities under the EUDL Program may include statewide task forces of state and local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies to target establishments suspected of a pattern of violations of state laws governing the sale and consumption of alcohol by minors.
- It will also include public advertising programs to educate establishments about statutory prohibitions and sanctions and innovative programs to prevent and combat underage drinking.

Eligibility:

> To receive a Block Grant, Governors and the Mayor of the District of Columbia designated an agency to serve as the point of contact to apply for, receive, and administer the targeted grant funds. The designated State agencies may apply to receive a Discretionary Grant.

Contact Information:

Sharon Cantelon/Scott Pestridge
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
Office of Justice Programs, Department of Justice
810 Seventh Street, N.W.
Weakington District of Colorabia 20521

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Washington, District of Columbia 20531 Telephone: (202) 616-3658; (202) 514-5655. Email: <u>sharie.cantelon@usdoj.gov</u>; <u>scott.pestridge@usdoj.gov</u>

4) Violent Gang and Gun Crime Reduction Program (Project Safe Neighborhoods)

Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) is designed to create safer neighborhoods through a sustained reduction in crime associated with gang and gun violence, and violent offenders. The program's effectiveness is based on the cooperation of local, state, and federal agencies engaged in a unified approach led by the U.S. Attorney (USA) in each district. The USA is responsible for establishing a collaborative PSN task force of federal, state, and local law enforcement and other community members to implement gang and gun crime enforcement, intervention and prevention initiatives within the district.

Additional Information:

Through the PSN task force, the USA will implement the five design features of PSN: partnerships, strategic planning, training, outreach, and accountability, to address specific gun and gang crime, and violent offenders, in the most violent neighborhoods

Eligibility:

- > PSN Task Force Agents established by the U.S. Attorney districts
- Federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments

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Contact Information:

Justice Information Center Telephone: (877) 927-5657 Email: jic@telesishg.com

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Federal Section II

<u>United States Department of Health and Human</u> <u>Services</u>

Administration for Children and Families

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF), within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is responsible for federal programs that promote the economic and social well-being of families, children, individuals, and communities. ACF programs aim to empower children and their families to increase their own economic independence and productivity.

Additionally, ACF works towards strong, healthy, supportive communities that have a positive impact on the quality of life and the development of children. Through the following funding opportunities, I am confident that their goals will be met.

1) Street Outreach Program

The purpose of the Street Outreach Program is to conduct outreach services designed to build relationships between grantee staff and runaway, homeless, and street youth.

Additional Information:

- Grantees must operate a program that will deliver street-based services to runaway, homeless, and street youth, as defined by the Runaway Homeless Youth Act (RHYA). Operations must include a process for finding street youth and a system for tracking where they congregate, including what times they gather in certain areas, and how many youth are contacted on any given day.
- Grantees must conduct outreach services that encourage runaway, homeless, and street youth to leave the streets and to make other healthy personal choices regarding where they live and how they behave.

Eligibility:

State governments, County governments; City or township governments; special district governments; public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities; Native American Tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments); and nonprofit organizations.

Contact Information:

 Oluwatoyin Akintoye Telephone: (866) 796-1591 Email: <u>oluwatoyin.akintoya@acf.hhs.gov</u>

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2) Basic Center Program

The Basic Center Program works to establish or strengthen community-based programs that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth and their families. The programs provide youth up to age 18 with emergency shelter, food, clothing, counseling and referrals for health care. Basic centers seek to reunite young people with their families, whenever possible, or to locate appropriate alternative placements.

Additional Information:

- Most basic centers should be able to provide 21 days of shelter for up to 20 youth at a time. There are exceptions for jurisdictions that have different standards for licensing.
- > There is a 1:1 cost sharing requirement

Eligibility:

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- > Public and state controlled institutions of higher education
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American Tribal governments (federally recognized)
- Native American Tribal organizations (other than federally recognized tribal governments)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits without 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private nonprofit institutions of higher education.

Contact Information:

Gloria Watkins

Telephone: (202) 205-9564 Email: <u>gloria.watkins@acf.hhs.gov</u>

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3) Runaway and Homeless Youth Capacity Building for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and/or Questioning Youth Populations

The purpose of this grant is to build capacity of Transitional Living Programs (TLPs) to serve youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning (LGBTQ) who are experiencing homelessness and who are disproportionately affected by homelessness than their heterosexual counterparts. Through this demonstration grant, FYSB is solidifying its commitment to improving access to culturally and linguistically appropriate services for LGBTQ homeless youth. The intent of this targeted 3-year cooperative agreement is to support the development or strengthen efforts for addressing the needs of LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness.

Additional Information:

- The successful applicant will be expected to: Establish an Advisory Committee, Enhance the community building process, Attend the annual RHY training conference, Conduct a comprehensive literature review, Conduct a needs assessment, Identify experts and resources, and evidence-based or promising practices/interventions for LGBTQ homeless youth, Identify reliable and valid screening and assessment tools for this population, Identify research and critical issues, gaps in services, and training needs, Provide recommendations and develop strategies to address the unique needs of homeless LGBTQ youth, and Develop a dissemination plan and develop products (e.g., findings brief, resource manual, fact sheets) for disseminating key findings and lessons learned to various stakeholder audiences.
- > There is no cost-sharing requirement

Eligibility:

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- > For profit organizations other than small businesses
- Small businesses

Contact Information:

Marnay Cameron Telephone: (202) 205-8657 Email: <u>marnay.cameron@ACF.hhs.gov</u>

4) Planning Grants to Develop a Model Intervention for Youth/Young Adults With Child Welfare Involvement At-Risk of Homelessness

These 2-year planning grants are expected to build the capacity of child welfare systems to prevent long-term homelessness among the most at-risk youth/young adults with child welfare involvement. Using the Intervention Model developed by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

Additional Information:

- These grants will allow grantees during the planning grant to develop, refine, and test the core components of the intervention model, including:
 - Screening and assessment tools.
 - Using culturally-appropriate and effective intervention strategies that target assessed needs and strengths of young adults based on risk and protective factors.
 - Implementing trauma-informed care and positive youth development frameworks;
 - Implementing practices that impact positive changes in risk and protective factors in order to improve core outcome areas over time that help homeless youth make positive transitions.

The core activities developed are expected to produce outcomes in the area of: stable housing, permanent connections, education/employment, and social-emotional well-being. There are three engagement points for the intervention model:

- Youth in child welfare who are the most at-risk of homelessness
- Youth aging out of foster care
- Youth/young adults who are homeless and were involved with child welfare.

Eligibility:

- State governments
- County governments
- City or township governments
- Special district governments
- Public and State controlled institutions of higher education
- Native American tribal governments (Federally recognized)
- Public housing authorities/Indian housing authorities
- Native American tribal organizations (other than Federally recognized tribal governments)
- Nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS, other than institutions of higher education
- Private institutions of higher education
- For profit organizations other than small businesses
- Small businesses

Contact Information:

 Catherine Heath Telephone: (202) 690-7888
Email: <u>catherine.heath@acf.hhs.gov</u>

State Section I

New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services

The Division of Criminal Justice Services is a multi-function criminal justice support agency with a variety of responsibilities, including collection and analysis of statewide crime data; operation of the DNA databank and criminal fingerprint files; administration of federal and state criminal justice funds; support of criminal justice-related agencies across the state; and administration of the state's Sex Offender Registry that allows anyone to research the status of an offender.

At DCJS, the core agency functions include criminal history checks, fingerprint operations, coordination of grant funds, providing timely information, public safety, law enforcement training, breathalyzer and speed enforcement equipment repair, accreditation of police departments and forensic laboratories, Uniform Crime Reporting, research, hosting criminal justice boards and commissions, providing information to criminal justice agencies and institutions, and hosting other criminal justice agencies.

1) Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Program

New York's Delinquency Prevention Program focuses on the risk and protective factors shown to be related to juvenile delinquency. Using this approach, communities first identify the risk factors that contribute to their delinquency problems. Risk factors include: drug use in the home and the community; long-term unemployment in their areas; and poor academic achievement.

Additional Information:

- The program also focuses on truancy; lack of positive peer influence; lack of school or community involvement; and high levels of community or family violence. In assessing risk, communities consider a range of family, peer, school, and community factors that foster delinquency.
- Prevention strategies succeed when they are positive in orientation and comprehensive in scope. Successful community strategies create opportunities for healthy physical, social, and mental development of juveniles. Programs consider the influence of family, peer group, school, and the community on a child's development.

Eligibility:

New York State counties and municipalities are eligible to apply.

Contact Information:

 Division of Criminal Justice Services Office of Program Development and Funding Telephone: (518) 457-3670
Email: dcjsfunding@dcjs.ny.gov

State Section II

<u>New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance</u> <u>Abuse Services</u>

The Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services plans develops and regulates the state's system of chemical dependence and gambling treatment agencies.

The Office monitors gambling and substance use and abuse trends in the state; provides a comprehensive education and prevention program through more than 1,550 programs based in schools and communities; establishes linkages of services for clients in other human service agencies and criminal justice system; provides education and training for persons dealing with clients; and administers the credentialing of alcoholism and substance abuse counselors as well as prevention practitioners and prevention specialists.

1) Multi Component Youth/Young Adult Alcohol Prevention Trials

Through the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the program was created to advance the science of alcohol prevention and treatment through evaluations of multicomponent community programs, with a specific focus on adolescents and young adults.

Additional Information

- The program is meant to test the relative effectiveness and cost of community based programs comprised of environmental interventions to reduce underage and binge drinking among young adults and related harmful behaviors.
- Moreover, the program would test the relative effectiveness and cost of community-based programs that increase alcohol screening, brief intervention, and access to formal treatment for adolescents and young adults in multiple community settings.

Eligibility

Public, state and private institutions of higher education; Historically Black and Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities; Hispanic-serving Institutions; independent school districts; nonprofit and for profit organizations; small businesses; state and local governments; public housing authorities; faith- and community-based organizations; Indian/Native American Tribal Governments (both federally and other than federally recognized); and Indian/Native American Tribally Designated Organizations.

Contact Information

➤ Judy Fox

Chief, Grants Management Branch National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism 5635 Fishers Lane, Room3023 Rockville, MD 20852 Telephone: (301) 443-4707 Fax: (301) 443-6077 Email: jfox@mail.nih.gov

City Section I

New York City Center for Economic Development

The Center for Economic Opportunity (CEO) was established by Mayor Bloomberg on December 18, 2006 to implement innovative ways to reduce poverty in New York City. The CEO works with City agencies to design and implement evidence-based initiatives aimed at poverty reduction and manages an Innovation Fund through which it provides City agencies annual funding to implement such initiatives.

1) Opportunity NY

Opportunity NYC is the first conditional cash transfer (CCT) initiative to be implemented in the United States. CCT programs provide monetary incentives to households living in poverty when they complete activities aimed at increasing human capital development and breaking the cycle of poverty. As an initiative, Opportunity NY consists of three programs that apply specifically to middle to low income families and students.

Program Information:

1) The Family Rewards Program

The program offers monetary incentives to low-income families for successfully completing targeted activities in education, health, and employment and training domains. The payments are significant and together have the potential to raise family income by an estimated 25-30 percent. As such, the payments function as an income supplement to immediately reduce economic hardship. Moreover, this initiative aims to promote access to, and utilization of, existing family support resources.

Additional Information:

- Monetary rewards are awarded bi-monthly to participating households that meet specific targets for children's education, family preventive healthcare practices, and parents' workforce efforts.
- Incentive payments range from \$25 for attending parent-teacher conferences and \$600 to high school students for passing a regents exam to \$100 for a preventive health screening and \$150 a month for maintaining fulltime employment.
- Funding is awarded through a coupon booked that allows for teachers to sign each coupon to be sent into Opportunity NYC for a direct deposit into the families safe account.

2) Work Rewards Program

The program offers incentives to adults living in subsidized housing. The program will target Section 8 voucher recipients. Additionally, the program relies heavily on the paring of CBOs with the Federal Family Self-Sufficiency program, which increases work participation among residents in subsidized housing by providing them with savings escrow accounts.

Additional Information:

- > The program tests two different strategies:
 - 1) The impact of an enriched FSS model;

2) Immediate monetary incentives for workforce and training activities on Section 8 voucher holders.

3) SPARK Program

The SPARK program is the most educationally driven program offered through Opportunity NYC. The program works to improve the academic achievement of participating students and create a lasting connection between them and their own academic success. The success of this program is gauged on Predictive Assessments, which are low stake exams.

Additional Information:

- > This is a two-year program that 59 schools participate in across New York City.
- Students can earn up to \$dollar in fourth grade and \$500 in seventh grade based on the incentives they complete.

Eligibility:

Most, if not all, families become involved with the program through recognition of the community based organization (CBO) that is closest to them. Each of these have been listed below for the families to reach out to.

 Bronx Workforce1 Career Center Fordham Place
400 East Fordham Road (entrance on Webster)
Bronx, NY 10458
Tel: (718) 960-2458
Brooklyn Workforce1 Career Center
9 Bond Street, 5th Floor

Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201 Tel: (718) 246-5219 CUNY – LaGuardia Workforce1

CUNY – LaGuardia Workforce Career Center 29-10 Thomson Avenue, Rm. C-400, 4th Floor Long Island City, N.Y. 11101 Tel: 718-609-2126

Hunts Point Workforce1 Career Center 1029 E 163rd Street, 3rd Floor Bronx, N.Y. 10459 Tel: 718-542-6777 x111

- Queens Workforce1 Career Center 168-25 Jamaica Avenue, 2nd Floor Jamaica, N.Y. 11432 Telephone: 718-577-2172
- Staten Island Workforce1 Career Center

120 Stuyvesant Place, 3rd Floor Staten Island, NY 10301 Between Wall and Hyatt Streets Tel: (718) 285-8388

Upper Manhattan Workforce1 Career Center 215 West 125th Street, 6th Floor New York, N.Y. 10027 Tel: (917) 493-7054

Letters of Support from Senator Gillibrand

While Senator Gillibrand does NOT decide which organizations are awarded grants or other federal funding, there are instances in which it is appropriate for the Senator to write a letter of support for an application. If you wish to request a letter of support for your application, you must supply Senator Gillibrand with the following:

- 1. A description of your organization,
- 2. Summary of the application,
- 3. a description of what the money will be used for, and
- 4. a draft letter of support

Please forward this information by email to **grants@gillibrand.senate.gov** or by mail to the nearest regional office:

Capitol District

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand Leo W. O'Brien Federal Office Building 1 Clinton Square Room 821 Albany, NY 12207 Tel: (518) 431-0120 Fax: (518) 431-0128

Buffalo/Western New York

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand Larkin at Exchange 726 Exchange Street, Suite 511 Buffalo, NY 14210 Tel: (716) 854-9725 Fax: (716) 854-9731

Hudson Valley Office

PO Box 893 Mahopac, NY 10541 Tel. (845) 875-4585 Fax (845) 875-9099

Long Island

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand 155 Pinelawn Road Suite 250 North Melville, NY 11747 Tel: (631) 249-2825 Fax: (631) 249-2847 New York City Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand 780 Third Avenue Suite 2601 New York, New York 10017 Tel. (212) 688-6262 Fax (212) 688-7444

North Country Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand PO Box 273 Lowville, NY 13367 Tel. (315) 376-6118 Fax (315) 376-6118

Rochester Region

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand Kenneth B. Keating Federal Office Building 100 State Street Room 4195 Rochester, NY 14614 Tel. (585) 263-6250 Fax (585) 263-6247

Westchester County (For address, please call) Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand Tel. (914) 725-9294 Fax (914) 472-5073

Syracuse/Central New York

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand James M. Hanley Federal Building 100 South Clinton Street Room 1470 PO Box 7378 Syracuse, NY 13261 Tel. (315) 448-0470 Fax (315) 448-0476

Washington D.C.

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand United States Senate 478 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Tel. (202) 224-4451 Fax (202) 228-0282

Grant Guide Order Form

If you would like to order additional grant guides from our office, please indicate what guides you would like to have and complete the below address information. If you have any questions, please contact us at 212.688.6262.

<u>Guide</u>

Affordable Housing	
Ag/ Rural Development	Home Heating and Weatherization
	Homeland Security
At Risk Youth / Anti Gang Broadband	Innovation and Cluster Based Economic Development
Brownfields/Superfund Site Cleanup	K-12 Education and Libraries
City Infrastructure	Lead Paint Remediation
Faith-Based / Community Initiatives	Minority and Women Owned Business
Fire and Emergency Services	Obesity Prevention / Nutritious Foods
General Grants	Senior Services
Green Energy and Clean Technology	Small Business
Green Schools	Social Services /Community Groups
Higher Education	Veterans Services
Historic Preservation/Arts/Culture/Tourism	Water and Wastewater Funding
Mail to: Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, 780 Third A	we, 26 th Floor, New York New York 10017
Name:	
Title:	A
Organization:	
Address:	
City, State, ZIP:	

Casework Form

If you have encountered a problem involving a federal government agency or federally subsidized benefit that you have not been able to successfully resolve, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand's staff of constituent liaisons may be able to assist you in the following areas:

Employment Issues: including assistance with disability benefits, employer-provided health care plans and COBRA, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) benefits, pensions, unemployment benefits, Federal and State Workers Compensation claims, and retirement-related issues.

Consumer Affairs: including assistance obtaining a home loan modification under the Making Home Affordable Program, insurance claims, dissatisfaction with consumer products or services, environmental regulations, and concerns regarding air quality, water or land contamination.

Immigration Issues: including issues with visitor visas, family and employment based visas, lawful permanent resident status, naturalization, international adoptions, detention, passports, customs and border issues, and assistance to American Citizens in crisis abroad.

Veteran Issues: including issues with VA pension and disability benefits, education benefits, veteran burial or funeral issues, and issues regarding the VA medical centers.

IRS Issues: including connecting constituents with the Taxpayer Advocate Service to address federal tax issues including lost or delayed tax refunds, penalty abatements, payment installation plans, tax credits, referrals to IRS Low Income Tax Clinics and paper tax forms.

Military Issues: including issues pertaining to the Department of Defense, Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Reserves and New York State National Guard, as well as obtaining military records, medals and academy nominations.

Health Care Issues: including issues with Medicare and Medicaid, health insurance, insurance providers, nursing homes, hospitals, prescription drugs, and 9/11 health matters.

Social Security: including issues with Supplemental Security Income, Social Security Disability, survivors' benefits, and retirement benefits.

Social Services: including issues with food stamps, HEAP (low-income heating program), FEMA and disaster relief, and issues related to federally subsidized housing.

Please visit the "Services" section of <u>www.gillibrand.senate.gov</u> or call (212) 688-6262 for further information. Please note that if you are seeking assistance with a case that involves a lawsuit or litigation, Senate Rules prohibit the Office of Senator Gillibrand from giving legal advice or intervening in the proceeding