



Report Highlights

Louisiana Youth for Excellence

Executive Department, Office of the Governor

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Why We Conducted This Audit

We performed procedures to determine if the Office of Louisiana Youth for Excellence is fulfilling its duties and achieving the goals required by Executive Order BJ 09-09. LYFE was created in July 2009, replacing the Office of Abstinence Education, to promote positive youth development and build awareness of consequences of at-risk behaviors for today's youth.

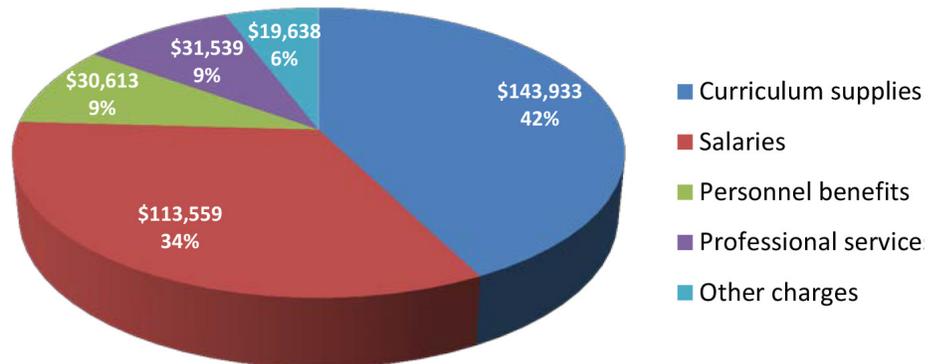
What We Found

We found that the LYFE is not adequately fulfilling its duties and needs to strengthen its oversight and administration of the program to ensure required goals are being met. We identified the following issues:

- LYFE does not adequately track and report the state match for its federal grants and therefore is not maximizing available federal funds. As a result, LYFE unnecessarily returned \$36,763 to the federal awarding agency for the 2012 grant. LYFE also has not made use of additional federal funding available.
- LYFE has not established criteria to measure the success of the program in meeting its goals.
- LYFE did not timely prepare and submit an annual comprehensive report to the governor. As a result, the governor and lawmakers are not receiving the information they need to determine whether LYFE is fulfilling its required duties and achieving its intended goals.
- LYFE has not established a methodology or tracking system to ensure it is identifying, contacting, and serving those parishes in greatest need of the program; has not participated in school assemblies and/or other youth venues to promote messages of youth development and the dangers of at-risk behaviors; and has not focused efforts on providing parents with family life education and skills.

Fiscal Year 2014 Actual Expenditures

The funds received for this program are used primarily for salaries and to purchase curriculum supplies to provide to schools to teach abstinence-centered sex education. Fiscal year 2014 expenditures totaled \$339,282. Curriculum supplies and salaries and related benefits comprised 85% of LYFE's fiscal year 2014 expenditures.



Source: The state's Integrated Statewide Information System (ISIS)

View the full report, including management's response, at www.la.gov.