



**Rap Sheet Assistance**

**Quick Stats**

Agency	Program/Policy Start Date	Number Served Annually	Annual Budget
Department of Probation Department of Corrections	TBD	600 directly, others through trained DOP/DOC staff	\$255,000

<b>Problem Statement</b>	Young people with criminal justice histories involved in YMI programs and other efforts to avoid recidivism need to thoroughly understand their RAP sheets, know how to honestly discuss them and how to get assistance when their official Record of Arrest and Prosecution contains errors that may impede their positive efforts.
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<b>Research and Evidence</b>	It is estimated by the four major NYC service providers assisting with RAP sheet services in NYC that 40-55% of all RAP sheets contain errors that can impede efforts to obtain employment, housing, educational assistance and other necessary supports to prevent recidivism. Also, there are many individuals who may be eligible to apply for Certificate of Relief from Disabilities, but are not aware that this can be used as evidence of rehabilitation from the courts when applying for housing or employment.
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<b>Program Description</b>	The RAP Sheet Consortium*, working with DOP and DOC, will train staff of both agencies to provide basic information and assistance and to make referrals to the consortium as necessary. Consortium members, one taking the lead in each of the four largest boroughs, with Staten Island being served through the Brooklyn provider, will provide services to those referred by taking the measures necessary to correct errors, some of which will be relatively simple for a knowledgeable staff, and others that will require extensive assistance. DOP and DOC will keep track of the services provided directly, of referrals to the Consortium and of the impact of their direct services through client report. Consortium members will document their services through mechanisms to be developed in collaboration with DOP and DOC. In addition, a workgroup has been convened to address RAP Sheet source errors with criminal justice involved agencies.
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<b>Implementation Timeline</b>	TBD
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<b>Target Population</b>	YMI participants and other DOP/DOC clients involved in employment, educational, vocational and other pro-social programs
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<b>Expected Outcomes</b>	600 clients will receive services through the Consortium, approximately 160 staff will be trained, Consortium members will provide assistance to staff as necessary, additional services delivered by the staff will be documented. All clients served will be interviewed to determine the impact of the assistance on their rehabilitative efforts and to evaluate the impact.
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\*Consortium Members: Community Service Society of New York, Youth Represent, Legal Action Center, Bronx Defenders