



Justin Elicker | *Mayor*                      Gwendolyn B. Williams | *Director*  
**CITY OF NEW HAVEN YOUTH and RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024

HONORABLE TYISHA WALKER-MYERS  
President, Board of Aldermen  
City of New Haven  
165 Church Street  
New Haven, CT 06510

**Re:** *YARD Friday Night Lights Basketball Program during April Break (4/15-4/19)*

Dear Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers:

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to seek approval for the acceptance of a generous donation of \$10,000 from the Justice Education Center. This funding will be used to support the Friday Night Lights Basketball Program, scheduled to take place during the April break from April 14th to April 19th.

The Friday Night Lights Basketball Program is designed to engage students during prime crime time by providing a safe and enjoyable space for them to play basketball, enjoy music by a DJ, access free food and snacks, and participate in additional entertainment options such as a gaming truck. The program will run from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday, during April break.

The primary goal of the program is to keep students off the streets and away from negative behaviors by offering them a positive and safe alternative. By providing students with a fun and structured environment during the evening hours, we hope to promote positive social interactions and discourage participation in risky behaviors.

The \$10,000 donation from the Justice Education Center will greatly contribute to the success of this program. It will be used to cover expenses such as venue rental, equipment purchase, DJ services, and food and snacks for the participants.

We believe that the Friday Night Lights Basketball Program will have a positive impact on our community by providing students with a safe and enjoyable alternative during the April break. We are confident that with your support, we can make this program a success.

Thank you for considering our request. We look forward to your favorable response.

Sincerely,

Gwendolyn Williams, Director  
Youth and Recreation Department