



## Legislative Priorities January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026

The **Brooklyn Bridge Alliance for Youth (BBAY)** is a collective impact organization committed to positive youth development by ensuring young people have access to high-quality afterschool and summer programs. These programs:

- ✓ *Keep Youth Safe*
- ✓ *Inspire them to Learn & Grow*
- ✓ *Help working families*

BBAY believes that **stable public investment** and **youth-centered policy decisions** are **essential to building safe, thriving communities**. The following legislative priorities are critical to advancing these outcomes:

### 1. **Protect and Expand Investments in Youth Wellbeing**

- Protect and increase state investments across education, mental health, recreation, and community-based youth development systems.
- Prioritize policies that address **Black youth mental health** and ensure youth are safe from bullying, gun violence, and racism in schools and communities.

### 2. **Maintain Funding for Afterschool and Summer Learning**

- Maintain funding for the **Afterschool Community Learning Grant (ACLG)** to support high-quality out-of-school-time programs statewide.
- Ensure funding keeps pace with rising program costs, staffing needs, and transportation.

### 3. **Advance Youth Voice in Decision-Making**

- Support local and state policies that embed **youth voice in governance and decision-making**.
- Remove barriers to youth participation on city and county commissions.

### 4. **Expand Access to Extended Learning Time**

- Modernize and strengthen **Extended Time / Targeted Services funding** by:
  - Removing outdated funding caps & Re-linking to the student formula.
  - Increasing reimbursement rates to support staffing, transportation, and program quality.