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Harlem Children's Zone gets record \$25M grant

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Harlem Children's Zone Inc. plans to expand the number of children it serves with the help of a record \$25 million grant from the Starr Foundation.

The Harlem nonprofit offers youth employment, conflict resolution, parenting and other programs to more than 9,500 children who live in an area bordered by 116th and 132nd streets and extending from Fifth to Eighth avenues.

The grant, which will be distributed over five years, will help the Harlem Children's Zone serve another 4,500 children by adding 37 blocks, extending north to 143th street.

HCZ also said it plans to launch a \$100 million capital campaign to fund future projects. The agency has already won pledges of \$25 million from the nonprofit's chairman, Stanley Druckenmiller, \$5 million from board trustee Mark Kingdon, \$1 million from trustees Ken Langone and Gary Cohn along with a \$1.5 million anonymous donation.

The Edna McConnell Clark Foundation, which previously gave the nonprofit \$7.5 million in 2004, is also donating \$5 million to help with the expansion.

The Harlem Children's Zone was first created in 1970 to prevent truancy. The agency has grown from serving 1,500 children with a \$2.5 million budget to serving 9,500 children with a \$46 million annual budget.
