

Y-US, INC.

SERVING COMMUNITY YOUTH SINCE 1989

YOUTH - UNITED FOR SURVIVAL

Board of Directors

MiChelle Pereira-Lopes

Don Goodman

Alan Dornan

Carol Glider

Cynthia Campbell

Barbara Bodnar Linden

Elba Cruz-Schulman

Milagros Gonzalez

**Y-US, Inc. Annual Report
Year Ending June 30, 2005**

Dear Friends,

This has been both an exciting and challenging year for us.

In August of 2004, Y-US began offering a fee-for-service program to DCF-involved youth in response to a growing need that we identified. The fee-for-service program is comprised of three activities - 1) therapeutic recreation, 2) short-term emergency respite care, and 3) transportation (taxi service). These services are contracted by DCF for youth on an individual case basis and range from one-time to long-term in duration. The demand for these services has been very strong: we provided fee-for-service activities to approximately 107 youth in this fiscal year. As a result, Y-US has been able to serve a larger number of at-risk youth through our combined programs (411 youth this year compared to 350 youth last year). We were also able to add several new Youth Worker positions to support this increased activity.

In September 2004 we closed the *Y-US Building the Future* capital campaign with a \$20,818 grant from the Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation. This grant was the final contribution towards our \$255,000 capital campaign goal. The successful campaign allowed Y-US to purchase its Bloomfield Retreat House in the spring of 2004. The Retreat House is a valuable asset to Y-US and its youth. It is an integral part of our services and is used 5-6 days a week for our after school programs and on weekends for special events and occasional overnight retreats. In May of 2005, we were fortunate to be chosen by St. Ann's Cares to be the recipient of a massive volunteer effort to upgrade the Retreat House. A group affiliated with St. Ann's Church of Avon performed interior and exterior painting, bathroom and kitchen upgrades, patio installation, landscaping and more. We will be forever grateful to the efforts of the many St. Ann's parishioners and other members for the time and effort they contributed to this enormous project! The result is an updated, cheerful, and more functional space for the youth we serve.

One of our major accomplishments this year was the continuation of our flagship program –Better Horizons- despite unexpected funding challenges. The start of the year began with uncertainty when we were notified that our state contract for Prevention Services (which is administered through the Department of Children & Families) would end September 30 due to state budget cuts (along with all other prevention providers in our category). Despite this, we were able to maintain the Better Horizons program, albeit at a reduced level of service. This was due to a historically high level of foundation funding which covered our costs to operate the program until a new (reduced) contract was bid, and subsequently awarded in April of 2005. The Better Horizons program served approximately 60 at-risk youth this past fiscal year between the ages of eight and fifteen. Given the new contract amount, we expect to serve approximately 40 youth annually through the Better Horizons program. Positive outcomes of this program are improved behavior, enhanced social and communication skills for youth as well as a reduction of stress in the home for families. Over 80% of youth and families reported improvements in these areas.

Y-US, INC. ♥ P.O. Box 261140 ♥ Hartford, CT 06126-1140

phone: (860) 951-7268 ♥ fax: (860) 951-7269 ♥ mail@y-us.org ♥ www.y-us.org

financially supported in part by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families

During the year we increased our transportation services by adding vehicles and driving more miles than in any previous year. This helped overcome a major barrier for our youth to receive services. We increased our fleet of vehicles to eight (7 vans and 1 car) and drove approximately 103K miles during the fiscal year. This compares to seven vehicles and 68K miles in the prior year. Y-US provides transportation to all program activities and special events such as family outings.

This year we continued our efforts to keep staff abreast of the current issues and development in the field of youth services. To that end, we were fortunate to have two staff attend a conference on **Opportunities for Older Youth in Care** sponsored by the US Department of Health & Human Services. The conference offered programs on independent living, transitions out of foster care, and connecting youth with employment and training opportunities. We also had a group attend a two day seminar sponsored by the National Youth Conference in which staff members were able to attend individual classes on trauma, supervision, multi-culturalism, and using the arts in healing. As always, staff attended periodic training and refresher courses at the UCONN School of Social Work and through the Connecticut Association of Nonprofits. We are proud of our dedicated and well trained staff who serve our youth well.

As always, we would not be able to accomplish any of these things without the support of all of our various funders. We would like to thank our major funders who supported our programs and operations through grants and donations during the year. This list includes the following corporations, foundations, and organizations:

<i>Connecticut Dept. of Children & Families</i>	<i>Multiple programs</i>
<i>The Beatrice Fox Auerbach Foundation</i>	<i>Y-US Retreat House</i>
<i>United Way of the Capital Area</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>The Fisher Foundation</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>J. Walton Bissell Foundation</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>The Travelers Foundation</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>The Hartford Courant Foundation</i>	<i>Better Horizons, Holidays</i>
<i>Maximilian & Marian Hoffman Foundation</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>Ensworth Charitable Trust</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>Elizabeth Carse Foundation</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>The Junior League of Hartford</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>The Bishop's Fund for Children</i>	<i>Better Horizons</i>
<i>Camp Burt-Tetlow Foundation</i>	<i>Summer Recreation & Respite</i>
<i>Archbishops Annual Appeal</i>	<i>General Operations</i>
<i>St. John's Episcopal Church Outreach</i>	<i>General Operations</i>
<i>Aetna Foundation</i>	<i>Holiday parties</i>

We would also like to thank our individual donors who faithfully support Y-US and its programs, some for many years. *Please see the addendum to this report for a list of individual donors and organizations donating \$100 or more during the fiscal year.* We also recognize our essential in-kind donors on this page.

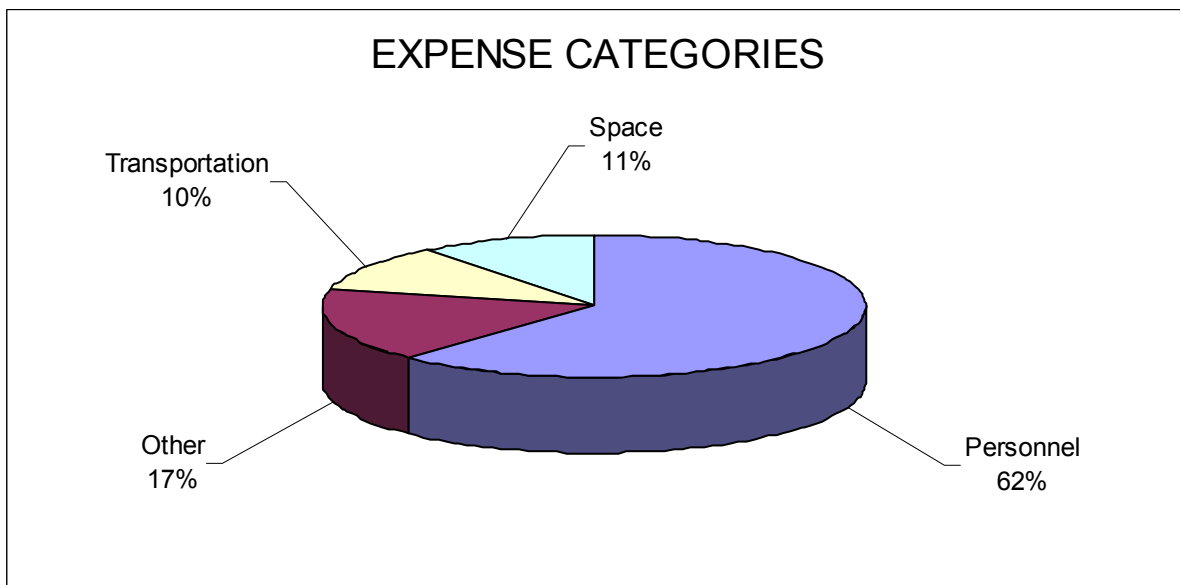
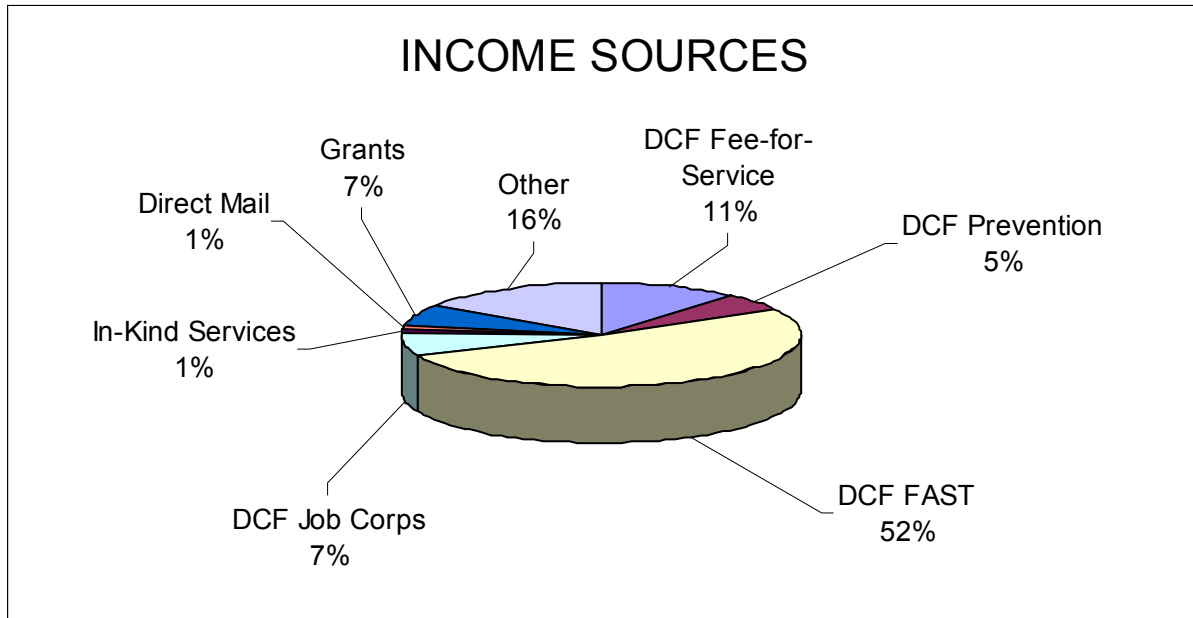
We are looking ahead to expanding our fee-for-service programming in this fiscal year and serving a larger number of Connecticut's at-risk youth.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Gilbert
Executive Director

YOUTH - UNITED FOR SURVIVAL

JULY 1, 2004 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2005



Y-US DONORS of \$100 or greater *

*Ms. Jan Adams
Ms. Marie Bastarache
Mr. & Mrs. William Bitterli
Mr. John Bordonaro
Ms. Marjorie Carlson
Mr. & Mrs. Epifanio Carrasquillo
Mr. & Mrs. Sten Caspersson
Central CT Sales & Manufacturing
Dr. & Mrs. David Cherry
CIGNA employees
Mrs. Bernice Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. Donald Cone
Corpus Christi Church, Wethersfield
DeAngelis family
Mr. Rob Densen/Tiller LLC
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Dornan
Ms. Jeanne Edmonds
Emanuel Synagogue, West Hartford
Ms. Kate Emery
Mr. James English
First Church of Christ, Simsbury
First Congregational Church, Blmfd
Mrs. Irene Galvin
Br. Paul Gauvin
Mr. & Mrs. Jean-Louis Gilbert
Mr. Louis Gilbert
Mr. & Mrs. Halbert Glidden
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Goldberger
Ms. Meg Hagerty
Ms. Claudia Hart*

*Mr. & Mrs. Paul Henzler
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Holgerson
Mr. Clayton Kilbourn
Mr. & Mrs. John Klein
Mr. & Mrs. John McGarry
Ms. Catherine McKinnon
Ms. Ernestine McKinnon
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Milham
Dr. Julio Morales
Mr. George Moser
Mr. & Mrs. John Mulcahy
Mr. Ed Pepin
Ms. Helen-Marie Phelan
Rocky Hill Elks Lodge #2308
Rotary Club of Bloomfield
Mr. & Mrs. Edmund See
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Shadford
Sisters of Notre Dame
Spencer Turbine Co. employees
St. Bridget Church, Manchester
St. Elizabeth Seton Church, Rocky Hill
St. Helena Church, West Hartford
St. Timothy Church, West Hartford
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Stone
Universalist Church, West Hartford
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Walters
Ms. Margaret Watson
West Hartford Exchange Club Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Zenobi*

Y-US DONORS of In-Kind Services

*Shipman & Goodwin, LLP
A.J. Bafundo and Co, LLC
Organizational Planning Solutions
St. Francis Care
New Leaf Landscaping*

* Cumulative contributions during fiscal year beginning 7/1/04 and ending 6/30/05