



Youth United for Survival
Helping Transform Youth Since 1989

Summer
2007
www.y-us.org



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Y-US Kids Take Their Place in the Community

One recent morning I went into a local Dunkin Donuts shop with a friend and a young Latina woman doing counter service looked at me with a smile and asked if I remembered her. She looked familiar when I did a quick study of her face. Thankfully she had on a nametag and a quick glance at the tag was the final confirmation of a face I hadn't seen in years. "Jocelyn" was about 12 years old when she was last in program. She looked well and I wished I had more time to catch up with her, but there was a line of other customers behind me.

Some other youth have worked in various roles within our agency as both teen and adult workers, some for several years of dedicated service. The lessons they have learned at a young age give them fonts of wisdom with which to impart on our young clients, often more than any college class can teach.

Life experience and college are a very powerful combination. One young man, "Jeffery," is a

freshman in college this year. He came to us as the eight year old younger brother of another boy. This eight year old grew up with us right through high school and considers our agency his "second home." With his intelligence and technological skills, he appears headed for an engineering-type career.

The children and youth we today prepare will be our future co-workers and neighbors. With your help we will continue to serve a population who have experienced traumatic childhoods, but who we expect to become productive members of our community....and they are doing just that.



Louis Gilbert

MISSION STATEMENT
Youth United for Survival is dedicated to helping youth who have experienced trauma develop into healthy and responsible people through positive youth development programs.

—INSIDE—

Y-US CELEBRATES MOMS



KIDS THRILL TO YEAR ROUND ACTIVITIES



FAMILIES NAME Y-US TO RECEIVE MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS



FIRST ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER SEPTEMBER 14



Thanks Mom!



Mother's Day Dinner Honors Y-US Mothers

On the Friday evening before Mother's Day, we celebrated with many of the Mothers of children we serve by hosting a special dinner thoughtfully planned by our staff, especially by our Program Coordinator, Santos Vazquez. Fifty-four Mothers attended, along with family members for about 120 guests total.



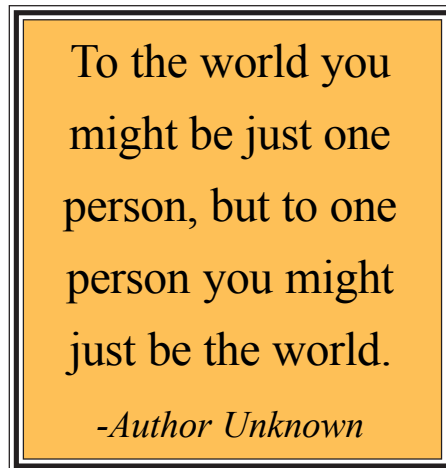
**KIDS JUST
LIKE TO
HAVE FUN**



Y-US Beneficiary of Memorial Contributions

We thank the families of Carl Holgerson, Michael Downey, and Andre Campbell for naming Y-US the beneficiary of their loved ones' memorial contributions after their recent passings. Carl was an early Board Member and gave generously of his wisdom and experience throughout much of the 1990's. Michael is the son of Eileen Hurst (Downey), the dedicated and faithful Assistant Director of Y-US in the late 1980's through 1994. Andre Campbell is the relative of Rich, Cindy, Paul and Michael Campbell, longtime friends of Y-US. We thank the following people for honoring Carl, Michael and Andre's legacy through memorial contributions:

Peter and Laverne Aivano
Thomas and Eileen Andreoli
Marjory Appel
Ann Bartolomeo
Mary Bavaro
Louis Bazzano
Laurel Bean
Richard and Betsey Blaisdell
James and Margie Blansfield
Henry Blansfield
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Patricia Bousquet
James and Myrna Bowen
Charles and Virginia Brown
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Donald and Leota White
Jason and Lauren Wiedrich
John and Lynda Wilson
Frank and Eleanor Zacchera
Robert and Lisa Zampaglione
Joseph and Lorri Zils





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Gina Gorman, *Vehicle Safety Instructor*



Save the Date!

Friday, September 14th, 2007
6 PM

First Annual Awards Dinner

Plan on joining us for an enjoyable evening of fun and help support the mission of Youth United for Survival!

Sheraton Hotel, East Hartford

More details coming this Summer!

If you would like to help sponsor the event, please contact Lou Gilbert at (860) 951-7268 ext 101
Or see our website at www.y-us.org

