

D.C. DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES

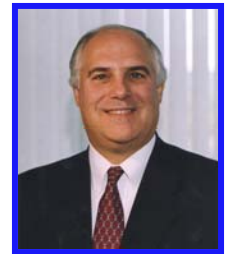
Annual Report to the Community—Summer 2011



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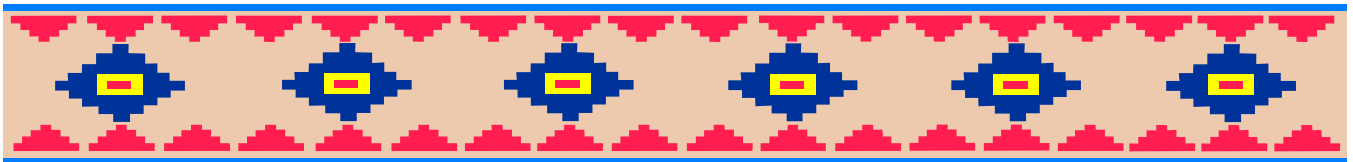
A Message from County Executive, William R. Steinhaus



It is always so inspiring to read through the Youth Services Annual Report to the Community and learn about all of the wonderful people who are working to provide our young people with new opportunities and challenges to point them towards bright, successful futures.

Our Youth Services team has created opportunities through collaborations with schools, community groups and other agencies to allow these young adults to actively participate in decision-making roles, volunteer throughout our community and develop into contributing adults in our community. It is truly impressive to see all the ways young people are engaged in our community.

Thank you to all of the members of our Youth Services team as well as the community volunteers who serve on our Youth Board whose dedication to the youth of our community help make Dutchess County a special place to live.



A Message from Division Director, June Ellen Notaro

Ahh, “Sweet Summertime”, two of my favorite words...a time to revel in the warmer temperatures and the delightful offerings of the season. There are many families that have opted to enjoy “staycations” this summer and we are very fortunate to live in a county that has plenty to offer...exhilarating bike rides on the Dutchess Rail Trail, breathtaking views of the Hudson River as you stroll on the Walkway Over the Hudson, exciting baseball games and events at Dutchess Stadium, swimming and fishing in the lakes at Wilcox Memorial Park, picnicking or hiking at Bowdoin Park, or relaxing at Quiet Cove Park while watching the boats go up and down the Hudson.

For other fun summer ideas, check out pages 7 through 9. Whether you are traveling near or far this summer, take some time to enjoy the wonderful opportunities and outdoor activities that Dutchess County has to offer. Have a safe and charming summer!

Division of Youth Services

DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES' MISSION:

To assure every youth a fair and equal opportunity to attain his/her full potential by providing and encouraging services which strengthen family life and by supporting families in their essential function of nurturing the youth's overall development. The Division of Youth Services will encourage and assist communities to carry out their responsibilities to provide the important physical and social conditions necessary for the well-being and development of our youth in a fiscally responsible manner.

DESCRIPTION OF DEPARTMENT:

The NYS Office of Children and Family Services allocates funds based on the county's youth population, which is 83,780 (ages 0-21). A Youth Board is appointed by the County Executive and is responsible for assisting the department with integrated county planning, allocation of NYS Office of Children and Family funds, monitoring and advocacy. Community based agencies and municipalities apply for funds through an annual grant process.

The Youth Services Unit provides short-term counseling, advocacy, referrals and educational workshops to youth, families, schools and agency personnel in Dutchess County.

STAFFING

There are 5 full time seasoned workers in the department:



Don Creighton, Jr.
Youth Worker
22 years



Mary Fields
Principal Program Assistant
12 years



June Ellen Notaro
Division Director
23 years



Laurie Leary
Youth Worker
11 years



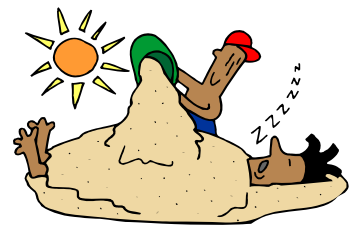
Jill Michele Sawick
Senior Youth Worker
25 years

2011 Funding Allocations by Mary Fields

The Dutchess County Division of Youth Services administers New York State Office of Children and Family Services funding in three categories. All Programs operate annually on a January through December calendar.

Category	Program Development
YDDP (Youth Development Delinquency Prevention) Amount Allocated in 2011: \$184,246	Program operated by a community based organization or local municipality. This is a 50% reimbursable funding for recreation and delinquency prevention programs. The agency or municipality must supply a local match.
SDPP (Special Delinquency Prevention Program) Amount Allocated in 2011: \$73,528	Program operated by a community based organization. This is a 100% reimbursable funding for delinquency prevention programs for targeted youth populations.
RHYA (Runaway & Homeless Youth Act) Amount Allocated: \$107,584	Programs operated by Hudson River Housing. The Agency supplies a 20% match for the Shelter and Independent Living Programs. The County provides a 20% match for the Shelter Program.

FUNDED BY NYS OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:



Town of Amenia: Dance Program
 City of Beacon: Juvenile/Community Relations Division
 Town of Beekman: Teen Leadership Council
 Child Abuse Prevention Center: Child Advocacy Center & Personal Safety Program
 Town of Clinton: Recreation Program
 Cornell Cooperative Extension: Green Teen Community Gardening
 Council on Addiction Prevention & Education: Marathon Project
 Town of East Fishkill: Drug Prevention/Character Development
 Family Services, Inc.: Domestic Violence Youth, Teen Parent Program & T.R.A.C.
 Town of Fishkill: Juvenile Aid Bureau
 Grace Smith House: Nonresidential Youth Program
 Hudson River Housing: River Haven Independent Living Program and Shelter Program
 Town of Hyde Park: Teen Center & Intern Program, School Resource Officer
 Mental Health America of D.C.: Youth Intervention Program
 Mid-Hudson Children's Museum: Youth Volunteer Program
 Mill Street Loft: Project ABLE+
 Northeast Community Council, Inc.: Community Partnership with Schools & Business, Teen Team Leadership
 City of Poughkeepsie: Police Juvenile Division, Recreation Program
 Town of Poughkeepsie: Summer Recreation Programs, Juvenile Aid Bureau
 Poughkeepsie United Methodist Church: Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Center-After School Connections
 Town of Red Hook: Recreation Commission, Conflict Resolution/Peer Mediation/Bias Awareness Training
 Voluntary Action Center of DC: Youthful Offender Community Service
 *The contact information and a description of the above listed programs can be found on the Dutchess County web-site <http://www.dutchessny.gov>

FUNDED BY DUTCHESS COUNTY:

Cornell Cooperative Extension: 4H Program
 Voluntary Action Center of DC: Youthful Offender Community Service
 Hudson River Housing Inc.: Shelter Program

Dutchess County Youth Council Report by June Ellen Notaro

The Youth Council had approximately 39 members representing ten high schools (nine public and one private) throughout the county for the academic year just completed. The President was Matt Shea, Arlington HS; Vice President was Linda Yu, John Jay HS and Secretary was Nicole Pagones, Our Lady of Lourdes HS. These youth, along with June Ellen Notaro, Youth Council Advisor, make up the Executive Committee whose responsibility is to develop the monthly meeting agendas, organize the community service projects, schedule and arrange training sessions and guest speakers.

Additionally, there are three Youth Council teens serving on the Youth Board this year: Monica Sobrin, John Jay HS, Tyler LaRoche, Rhinebeck HS, and Nicole Pagones, Lourdes HS. They attend monthly Youth Board meetings and share the teen perspective on a variety of issues with the adult Youth Board members.

Each year, Youth Council members engage in a variety of community service projects that interest them and hear speakers teach on topics they want to learn more about. A few of our activities are listed below:

- Attended the October 20th Youth Forum on “Youth Leadership & Empowerment” held at DC BOCES Salt Point Campus.
- Fall Retreat on Nov. 7th at Tymor Park, Unionvale with leadership training on public speaking by Jill Michele Sawick, Youth Services.
- Partnered with Semper Fi and created handmade Holiday cards which were mailed to troops in Iraq.
- A few members attended the Legislative Budget hearings regarding Youth Services.
- Collected donations for the Red Cross Japan Earthquake Relief Fund.
- Served dinner at the Lunch Box for over 75 people
- Collected personal hygiene items for River Haven programs.



We had a wide variety of wonderful guest speakers from whom we learned about the following topics:

- Social Networking and How to Use it For Jobs, College and Keeping up with World News – Scott Jarzombek, Adriance Library
- Teen Dating Violence and Date Rape – Kat Raynor, Battered Women’s Services
- Bullying in Schools and the Anti Bullying Pledge – Jill Michele Sawick, Youth Services
- Teens who Live on Their Own and River Haven Services - Jennifer Jones, River Haven Independent Living program
- Court Issues and Teens – Judge Heather Kitchen, Town of Wappinger

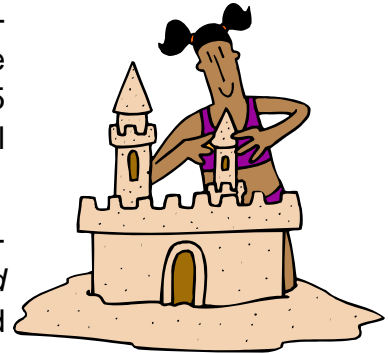
The 2010-11 Youth Council year was a successful one. We look forward to next year’s activities.

If you are a high school student interested in joining, please visit the Division of Youth Services website for the 2011-12 application packet at www.dutchessny.gov or contact June Ellen Notaro at 486-3662 or by email jnotaro@co.dutchess.ny.us

YOUTH SERVICES UNIT - OUTCOMES FOR 2010

The Youth Services Unit was busy in 2010. Youth and families were seen at school, at home and in our offices to help them deal with the school, family, personal and community issues that sometimes arise in life.

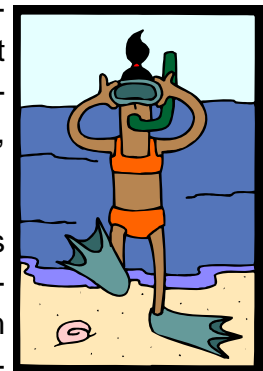
- During 2010, YSU served a total of 258 youth including: 171 for general counseling, 41 low risk juvenile delinquent diversion cases, 12 PINS diversion cases and 34 Project Return cases. Of the 177 general counseling, PINS and JD cases closed, 83% improved or were linked to other appropriate services. Staff advocated for 25 youth to receive appropriate services and were successful every time.



- YSU staff made 21 educational presentations to 2351 community residents (2079 youth and 272 adults) last year. “Let’s End Bullying Now!” a PowerPoint presentation that can be tailored to the needs of parents, school personnel or teens, was provided to parents and staff members of the Special Education Parent Advisory Committee for the Wappingers Central School District, students enrolled in the Intensive Day Treatment Program, the entire student body of Van Wyck Junior HS, the Circle of Courage, and the teachers at B.O.C.E.S. Career and Training Institute. Ninth graders from Red Hook HS and young people involved with River Haven Independent Living Support Program learned about bias awareness. Informational tables were staffed at Rhinebeck & Poughkeepsie High Schools. YSU also helped out at several activities held during Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week, including a film screening and discussion with youth and their caregivers.



- Project Return served 34 youth at high risk of out-of-home placement. Of the 34 cases closed, 74% were closed successfully. Project Return teens participated in several community service projects including making holiday cards for American military service personnel, and gathering donations for the SPCA.
- Staff served on the Children’s Providers Committee, the Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week Planning Committee, the Court Involved Youth Committee, the Workforce Investment Board Youth Council, the Northeast Coalition, and the Juvenile Justice Committee.

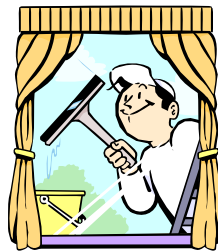


If you want to find out more information about counseling and other services available from the Youth Services Unit, or to arrange for an educational workshop at your school or community program, contact Jill Michele Sawick in Poughkeepsie at (845) 486-3664 or in Beacon (845) 838-4895.

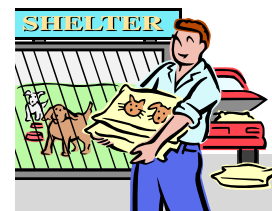
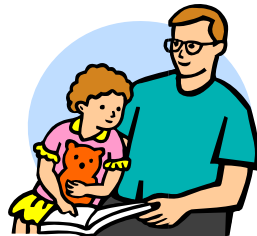
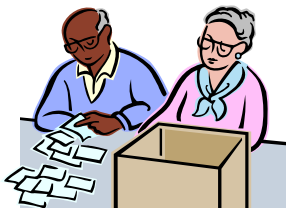
Keeping Them Busy This Summer by Don Creighton

“The more we do, the more we **can** do; the more busy we are, the more **leisure** we have.”
Dag Hammarskjold, Swedish UN Official

We’ve all heard that too much free time is not a good thing, especially if you’re young. But what if you’re a teenager on summer vacation? Well, get creative. Summer job! But what if they’re not hiring or you live way out in the country where there aren’t a lot of businesses? Be your own entrepreneur this summer! Make your own flyer and post it at the local super-market, laundromat, convenience store or even the town library! “Call Justin for yard work or odd jobs” or “Call Brittany for babysitting or dog walking.” You want to make it stand out. The more creative you are, the more likely someone will read it. Put a positive spin on your strengths. Use words like “reliable,” “dependable,” “prompt.” Of course, you have to make sure these words are also the truth about you as a worker! Don’t forget your contact information on convenient little tear-off strips at the bottom of the page.



Or what about volunteering...maybe at a local senior center? You could check out your local library and see about running a weekly story time for the little kids. Or how about checking in with a local veterinarian’s office or animal rescue shelter to see if they need someone to help out a few hours a week? If you’re interested in the medical field, check and see if the hospital near you has a candy striper program. It might actually be fun and it always feels good to help others who need it! On the practical side, you can always use the experience on your resume when you’re looking for a job next summer, too!



Contact Don Creighton at the YSU Millbrook Office at (845) 677-5102

Tips & Reminders for a Safe Summer by Laurie Leary

Here are some safety tips and reminders everyone should know in order to make sure they stay healthy while having fun this summer.

Wear sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor whenever you are outside and even on cloudy days.

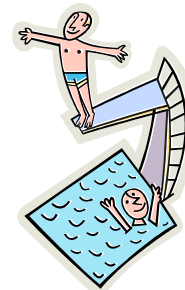


Gardening is fun, but be sure to wear long sleeves and long pants to avoid contact with poisonous weeds or ticks. Check yourself and animals at the end of each day for ticks.

Do not touch barbecue grills or coals even if they do not look hot.



Avoid food poisoning. Keep salads made with mayonnaise chilled. Don't eat hot food that has become cold or cold food that has become warm.

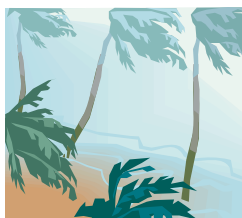


Look out for other swimmers before jumping into a lake or pool.

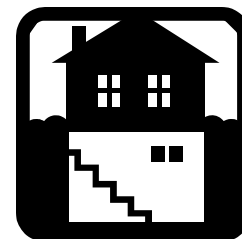


Do not swim in water with strong current or big waves.

Stay away from docks or piers if there are boats around.

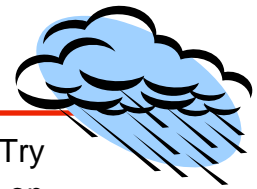


In a hurricane, tornado, or severe thunderstorm seek shelter immediately. Stay away from windows, doors and electrical outlets. In a tornado, go to the basement or a room without windows.



There's lots of fun stuff to do in the Hudson Valley this summer. So let's all make sure it's a safe one!

Contact Laurie Leary in Poughkeepsie by calling (845) 486-3668



Summer vacation fun doesn't have to be spoiled just because of a little rain. Try one or two of these fun activities and we **guarantee** the good times will keep on rolling, no matter what the weather!

Yummy Peanut Butter Balls

- 1 cup peanut butter
- 1 cup chocolate mini-morsels
- 1/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 cup sweetened condensed milk



Mix ingredients in big bowl until one large ball forms. Use a spoon to scoop out a little bit and roll into a quarter-sized ball. Roll in extra powdered sugar on small plate. Cool in fridge for best taste and texture. Makes 3-4 dozen. Recipe can be enlarged by adding more of the same ingredients to texture.

Make A Sand-Free Sandbox

Use a large plastic bin, dishpan, or aluminum foil roasting pan as your box. Fill it with rice or oatmeal and stock it full of scoops, funnels, spoons, toy cars or animals, fancy jewels, a plastic tea set—whatever suits your child's interests. They'll keep digging for hours!



Uno Championship of the Universe

Invite all the kids in the neighborhood over to your house and have them bring their Uno cards. Then hold a tournament and crown the winner. Works great with checkers, Parcheesi, or just about any other card game or board game that comes to mind.



Play Treasure Hunt



This one requires a little advance parental prep, but is always a big hit with kids of all ages whether it's actually raining or not!

Hide clues around the house. Adjust difficulty based on the ages of your kids; use picture cues for little ones, tricky puns for older children, directing kids to hunt for a hidden prize.

Build a Construction Site

Use the couch cushions, old blankets, hula hoops, and cardboard boxes and have the kids build a fort or an obstacle course. Hold story time inside their fortress or maybe even have the kids take their afternoon nap all snuggled up inside their new digs!



Have an Indoor Picnic

Spread a blanket on the floor and plop down with your picnic basket full of peanut butter and jelly sandwiches, juice boxes and watermelon or whatever your kids' favorite lunch is. All of the fun and none of the ants, bees, or sunburn!



Go Outside Anyway!

Nothing beats some good old fashioned puddle jumping on a hot summer afternoon!



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

The staff of the Dutchess County Department of Services For Aging, Veterans and Youth (SAVY) are discovering various connections between the three divisions. At the Division of Youth Services, we are aware there are more and more



grandparents raising their grandchildren. The Division of Youth Services offers free, short-term counseling to kids as young as age 4 up to age 21. We also offer family meetings to help with household transitions. As a



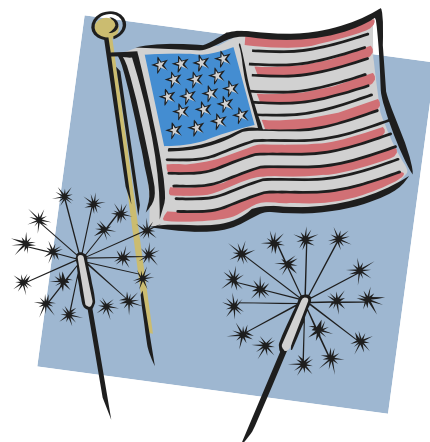
referral source, we recommend you contact the Division of Aging Services for grandparents who are raising grandchildren. They offer support groups, workshops, case assistance and respite. So why not give them a call today? Their number is 845-486-2555 or toll free at 866-486-2555.

Veterans Raising Families

The primary objective of the Division of Veterans Services is to ensure that our county veterans and their families receive the maximum benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs and other agencies at all levels of government. They can help with filing claims, referrals, burial benefits, employments resources, educational benefits and so much more.

The benefits our veterans and families may be entitled to are not automatic; you must apply for them. A professional analysis on a personalized basis is the best assurance they will receive each benefit earned from the veteran's Honorable Service to our country.

Hours are by appointment, so call 845-486-2060 to find out if you are missing out on important benefits for which you or your family may be entitled!



Youth Services Financial Information by Mary K. Fields

Upcoming fiscal deadlines for our funded agencies and municipalities:

Not-for-Profit Agencies Receiving 2011 NYS OCFS Funding

2nd quarter claims were due to the Division of Youth Services by July 15, 2011. 3rd quarter claims will be due on October 17, 2011. Claims may also be submitted on a monthly basis if you prefer.

2011 County Funded Agencies

County funded agencies may submit claims either monthly or quarterly to the Division of Youth Services. 2nd quarter claims were due by July 15th and 3rd quarter claims will be due on October 17, 2011.

2010 NYS OCFS PROGRAM OUTCOME RESULTS

During the program year 2010, NYS OCFS funded 36 programs and served 23,708 youth in Dutchess County.

SDPP – Five programs achieved 100% of their program outcomes.

RHYA – Both programs achieved 100% of their program outcomes.

YDDP Initiatives – Two programs achieved 100% of their outcomes and one program achieved 80% of its outcomes.

YDDP Service – Thirteen programs achieved 100% of their outcomes.

YDDP Private – Three programs achieved 100% of their outcomes. One program met 50% of its outcomes.

YDDP Recreation – All nine municipal recreation programs achieved 100% of their program outcomes.

2010 COUNTY FUNDED PROGRAM OUTCOME RESULTS

The County funded three programs and served 1,688 youth.

Cornell Cooperative Extension – The programs achieved 92% of their outcomes.

Voluntary Action Center – The program achieved 100% of its outcomes.

For information or questions, contact Mary Fields at (845) 486-3661.

Youth Services Financial Information (continued from page 11)

DIVISION OF YOUTH SERVICES 2010 FISCAL REPORT (UNAUDITED)

Revenue \$ 887,065
Expenditures \$1,536,685
Cost to County \$ 649,620

2011 Grant Funds - Current OCFS contract programs and descriptions can be found at www.dutchessny.gov

2011 County Funded Contracts

Cornell Cooperative Ext. \$150,000
Voluntary Action Center \$ 10,003
Matching funds for RHYA
Part I \$ 21,844



Department's 2011 Administration/Program Revenue

YDDP \$58,846 (Division of Youth Services OCFS Admin)
SDPP \$ 7,464 (Division of Youth Services OCFS Admin)
DSS \$308,437 (Youth Services Unit PINS Program)



2010 Youth Excellence Awards Luncheon



2010 Scholarship Winners

Jean Apolo
Samantha Brittain
Tiffany Brooks
Michael Lynch
Armando Vera-Quintana

Contact Information:

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