‍Youth Enrichment Services

Fiscal Year 2015 Accomplishments (July 1, 2014- June 30, 2015)

**PROGRAMS:**

* High School Graduation – Contributed to the successful completion of high school for **100% of YES high school seniors.** For the fifth year in a row, all YES high school seniors graduated and enrolled in college.
* College Preparation - Completed the second successful year of YES’s College Preparation program. Received award from Mass Promise Fellowship to staff the program for the second year in a row. This year’s highlights include **College Campus Tours** which took place over February and April school vacation weeks. Students from YES visited 12 colleges and universities across New England, New York, and beyond.
* Scholarships – Awarded financial support to six (6) college-bound YES high school seniors from the Richard Williams Memorial Scholarship, Abel Harris Memorial Scholarship, and the Trip Advisor Charitable Foundation Scholarship.
* Career Exploration - Expanded a classroom partnership with Boston Public Schools to include **Charlestown High**. Career Exploration was also offered at **Dorchester’s Jeremiah E. Burke High School** for the second year in a row. Both schools serve predominantly minority youth who live in YES’s targeted neighborhoods. Partnerships with both schools will be renewed for the 2015-16 School Year.
* Girls Outdoor Adventure Leaders – Established a **new Saturday session** to specifically serve girls ages 14-15. The separate session for older teens enables the girls to address more mature subject matters (such as healthy relationships, gender identity, and women’s rights) and there is a greater focus on developing the girls’ leadership abilities. Through workshops, outdoor activities, and small group and individual exercises, the GOAL program empowers girls to challenge gender stereotypes and develop into self-confident young women.
* Junior Volunteer Leaders - Established a **Leadership Intensive component** to offer teens without previous leadership experience an opportunity to develop skills to be effective, confident young leaders. The program was rolled out at YES’s headquarters and two Boston Public Schools: Joseph Lee Elementary School in Dorchester and Charlestown High School.
* Youth Ambassadors - Restructured the United Youth Advisory Council into a **peer-led monthly leadership program** focused on developing YES teens into youth ambassadors. The goal is to teach youth how to confidently share their personal story and talk about the positive impact of YES in their lives. Ten (10) teens were selected to be YES Ambassadors during the 2014-15 school year.
* Operation SnowSports – Successfully piloted a **Cross Country Ski Program** in partnership with Weston Ski Track. The program was underwritten by the National Winter Sports Education Foundation. YES also successfully developed the **Mattapan Ski Project** in partnership with the Blue Hills Ski Area to serve Mattapan youth.
* Operation Snowsports – Further expanded ski/snowboard programming to engage youth on a deeper level through the **Youth Excel through Tailored Instruction** (YETTI) Program. 178 youth participated – 4 times as many youth as compared to 2014.
* Track & Field – Served a **record-breaking number of youth** participated for YES’s Summer Track and Field Program. More than 300 children participated.

**OUTREACH:**

* Established the new staff position of **Community Outreach Coordinator** to actively engage and recruit youth from the underserved neighborhoods of Mattapan, Roxbury and Dorchester. In FY15, 40% of youth served by YES lived in these three targeted communities.

**FUNDRAISING & MARKETING:**

* Successfully held the **5th Annual Black Diamond Gala**. The event raised a record-breaking amount of more than $575,000 to benefit YES youth.
* Awarded two charity bibs through the **John Hancock Boston Marathon** Program. Runners fundraised over $20,000 to support YES.
* Chosen as a recipient for the **Cumming Foundation’s *$100k for 100* *Grant*** program. Funds will support YES’s Tier 2 and 3 youth programming.
* Featured in the **Boston Globe** for YES youth’s participation in the BAA Youth Relay Challenge. (April 2015)
* Selected as a nonprofit partner for the ***31 Nights of Lights* program at Boston’s Prudential Center**. As one of only 29 nonprofits selected for this honor, the iconic Prudential Tower was lit up orange to represent YES on December 30, 2015.