



Director's Corner

City of Manchester, New Hampshire

"Friends Forever"

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Friends Forever, the Portsmouth-based, international program, "promotes peace through cross-community youth work" with ten teenagers at a time. Friends Forever has been in operation since 1986, when the first group of Protestant and Catholic youngsters from Northern Ireland arrived at the invitation of Robert Raiche, Rotarian and YMCA Director, the founder of Friends Forever.

In the twenty-four years of its existence, Friends Forever has grown to include Israeli and Palestinian teens. More than one thousand youngsters have graduated from Friends Forever and gone on to be youth leaders for peace. Each group of teens begins their Friends Forever experience with the intensive, two-week "Life Raft Retreat" in New Hampshire. Brought to the USA, five teens and one adult chaperone from each group meet here to become acquainted and grow into friendship through team building exercises, joint projects, and local school, family, and community visits while living together. After two weeks in the US, they return to their homeland, where they spend a year in the "perpetuation" phase. In both parts of the program, Friends Forever emphasizes "mutual respect, positive self-expression and peaceful conflict resolution" as qualities and skills that can create and maintain friendships between people who have been taught hostility. A full description of the program, its history, present status and future plans can be found at www.friendsforeverusa.org.

In July, this high stakes peace program will come to Manchester with a band of five Palestinian teens and five Israeli teens and their advisors, to spend a day with Manchester youth. Manchester youth participants from the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council and the Weed & Seed Youth Council will join the Friends Forever teens for a community service project and getting-to-know-you social/recreational activities. The Manchester teens will have before them an example of peers who have overcome decades of animosity because of a sincere desire for peace and a proven structure of how to build it, friendship by friendship. As our American teens return to their schools, sports and neighborhoods, they will know how to reach across barriers of race, language, creed, and ethnicity to tap into each other's good will.

Weed & Seed and OYS hope that this summer's Friends Forever visit will be the start of an ongoing relationship that will bring foreign teens to Manchester and send Manchester teens into the world as harbingers of peace.

-Marty Boldin mboldin@manchesternh.gov

Spotlight on Staff Judy Cooper & Tom Jordan

An era ends in the City of Manchester on June 30, 2010, when Judy Cooper and Tom Jordan retire after decades as city employees. The two have served Manchester youth and adults as counselors at the Office of Youth Services and the Employee Assistance Program, respectively. Judy has served the youth of greater Manchester, providing information, assessment, education, and counseling, and winning the Tom Fox award for her expertise and compassion in substance abuse services. As Employee Assistance Program Coordinator, Tom Jordan has helped Manchester city employees with problems ranging from substance abuse to employment troubles, providing a much needed and appreciated safety net. Both Tom and Judy will be missed as colleagues and as resource people. We wish them good fortune in their retirements.

For Young People

Check out the New For Young People Episode on MCTV and Youtube that features a brief highlight of the fun and festivities of the Weed N Seed block party that took place on May 22nd.



In the digital version

- Calendar of Events
- Inspired Recovery Logo Contest
- Community Friends

Substance Abuse Hotline

Are you a parent concerned your child may be using drugs? Are you a teenager who is considering using drugs? All of your questions can be answered via our Substance Abuse Information Hotline **(603) 665-6600**

Contact Us!

1045 Elm Street, Suite 204, Manchester, NH 03101
 Phone: (603) 624-6470 Fax: (603) 628-6285 Email: OYS@manchesternh.gov
 Visit us on the web: <http://www.manchesternh.gov/youth>



Inspired Recovery Logo Contest

“Winner will receive a \$100 Visa Giftcard”



Inspired Recovery is an event that invites all to experience the journey toward recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction through music, spoken word, and visual arts.

Are you an artist looking for an opportunity to develop a project that will help the community?

The event is looking for a new logo. The logo should embody recovery from addiction through visual arts, music, and spoken word poetry.

The winner will receive a \$100 Visa Gift Card as well as having their artwork featured for this year's event

Use any medium to express your creativity, but please note, all artwork must be submitted in digital form in 300DPI (Dots Per Inch) resolution and submitted by June 15th 2010.

For further details on rules of the contest and submission guidelines, please check the Inspired Recovery website: www.wix.com/inspiredrecovery/ir
Submit Artwork to inspiredrecovery@gmail.com Contest Ends: 6/15/2010

Community Calendar

- Mayor's Night In Tuesday, June 08, 2010 6:00 PM @ Mayor's Office, City Hall
www.manchesternh.gov
- The Manchester Jazz and Blues festival Friday, June 11, 7:00PM 2010 7:00 PM @ HanoverSt.
- Make a Splat! Messy Outside Art Friday June 25, 2010 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM @ City of Manchester Library Lawn www.manchesterlibrary.org
- Downtown Manchester Farmers Market Opens Thursday, June 17, 2010
www.manchesterfarmersmarket.com
- African Caribbean, August 14, @ Veterans Park
- 11th Latino Festival 2010 Saturday, August 21, 2010 @ Elm St. www.latinosunidosnh.org
- Glendi 2010 September 17th-19th @ St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral 650 Hanover Street, Manchester www.stgeorge.nh.goarch.org

High School Commencements

- Memorial High Commencement 6/11/2010 6:30p @ VerizonCenter
- West High Commencement 6/12/2010 2pm @ VerizonCenter
- Central High Commencement 6/12/2010 6pm @ Verizon Center

Community Friends

girls inc. GIRLS INCORPORATED
of NEW HAMPSHIRE



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF MANCHESTER



GREATER MANCHESTER
FAMILY YMCA

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Meet the OYS Staff

Marty Boldin, Director
Carlos Agudelo, Youth Services Counselor
Judy Cooper, Substance Abuse Evaluator
Dan Daigle, Juvenile Firesetter Program
Jon Donovan, Youth Services Counselor
Dan Duval, Outreach Worker
Estefania Gonzalez, Office Assistant
Jeff Gore, Outreach Worker
Shannon Hebert, WYR Project Specialist
Dorothy Krasner, Administrative Assistant
Peter Lennon, Juvenile Firesetter Program
Karen Lord, Youth Services Counselor
Andrew Messinger, Americorps VISTA
Andrew Quigley, NH National Guard Counter Drug Liaison
Mario Peña, Youth Services Counselor
Charles Pierson, Juvenile Firesetter Program
Joyce Pollinger, Juvenile Firesetter Program
Hector Urrea, WYR Project Specialist

City of Manchester
Office of Youth Services
1045 Elm Street, Suite 204
Manchester, NH 03101
(603) 624-6470

Our Mission:

The City of Manchester Office of Youth Services helps all young people by providing effective solutions to a variety of challenges encountered by youth and their families.

By offering a supportive environment for young people to address issues like alcohol and drug abuse, juvenile delinquency, truancy, and problems at home, the City of Manchester Office of Youth Services helps disconnected youth.

Likewise, the City of Manchester Office of Youth Services also provides significant resources to young people who are catalysts for positive change in the community.

Office Hours:

Monday—Friday, 8:00 am—5:00 pm
Evening hours available by appointment.

Contact Us:

By phone: (603) 624-6470
By E-mail: OYS@manchesternh.gov