

YETC Newsletter



Youth Evaluation and
Treatment Centers

April 2009

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High Hopes for Hard Times

The economic recession is on most everyone's mind. All of us have by now been impacted directly and/or indirectly and anticipate more challenges ahead. In the world that YETC lives in, concerns are two fold.

Will the agency survive the reduction in state and federal tax dollars which is our primary source of revenue? Fortunately we are in a good position to weather the storm. Medicaid funds will be supported by the federal stimulus and in addition most of the services we provide are protected by citizen initiatives and court mandates. YETC anticipates continuing our valuable services with only minor disruptions through the next fiscal year.

More important however are the hardships being felt

by the families we serve. All of them are at or below the federal poverty level. The economics of life is always difficult and in these times their situations can be devastating.



Financial reserves or resources for many are quickly used up with the loss of a job. Providing for shelter, food and clothing becomes an all encompassing concern.

Community support agencies are already overwhelmed and cannot begin to meet all of the emerging needs of so many families.

YETC is building a survival plan for our families that need life saving assistance. Fund raising efforts and

agency reserves will be dedicated to helping our families survive their personal crises.

We will do our best to assist them with food, shelter, transportation and other

critical needs.

No one knows how long these hard times will last. We do know that the YETC family will be here to help with high hopes and confidence in a bright future.

If you wish to help with this effort please contact our community development (ext 336) department for more information.

2008 YETC Holidays

2008 wrapped up with tons of holiday cheer for our families! **Early Warning, LLC Services** once again took YETC under their angelic wings and fulfilled the wishes of countless children and their families. In addition, through the support of our community partners; **Early Warning** and the **City of Glendale**, the Outpatient

department hosted a holiday party for YETC families at the **Rose Lane Community Center**. The afternoon included activities & games, refreshments and even a special visit from **Santa** (aka Board member, **John**) who brought in over 200 toys that were graciously donated by the **Starlight Children's Foundation**.



Personal thank you notes to **Early Warning** & the **Starlight Foundation** from parents & children

Special thanks to our holiday supporters!

NBA All Stars connect with Phoenix youth



"this was the funnest event ever!!!"
YETC Consumer

NBA All Star Weekend brought in a number of high profile events to the Valley. What many may not have been aware of were the charity events that also took place such as the **K-Mart Basketball Block Party** headed up by **Kenny "The Jet" Smith**. The event was held at the **Phoenix Children's Art Museum** and its purpose was to make

NBA All Star Weekend more accessible to the youth of our community. YETC along with five other children's organizations were invited to a private two hour session that included basketball clinics, tasty concessions, rock climbing and entertainment by well-known hip hop artists. In addition, our youth had the opportunity to interact one on one with

basketball stars, famous actors & entertainers. Everyone walked away with autographs and memories that they will cherish for a long time to come. One of the kids even said "this was the funnest event ever! ".

Helping our young girls' find their inner beauty

True beauty comes from within. Many young girls struggle with this statement and very few truly understand what it means to have **INNER BEAUTY**.

Nationals Incorporated, produces pageants for girls between the ages of 7-19 and focuses on helping young girls build confidence, make new friends and develop a healthy self image. In

addition, all girls have the opportunity to receive scholarships towards their future academic goals. YETC joined this noteworthy cause by providing guidance for positive growth and by serving on their panel of judges. **Community Development Director, Sara Ray** shared "Being a part of this pageant was a great experience. I was able to connect with local

community members who share our passion for empowering our youth and to me, that's inspiring!"

YETC will be facilitating their third Girls' Empowerment group this summer! Contact us to learn more!



The judges! **Fashion Designer, Elena Yukhvid**, **Community Activist and Miss Black Arizona 2009, Brittane Perkins**. All judges were pulled from our community!



Beautiful girls! There were over 370 contestants!

The YETC Way

Did you know that YETC has been providing services to the Valley since 1974? Throughout the years our services have evolved, our staff has changed faces and the one thing that has remained constant is our value of family. YETC's culture is driven by the services we provide and is built upon values centered around family and our community. We encourage creativity and opportunities for growth not only with our consumers but our staff as well. We continually seek out new

ways to cultivate a team environment with our diverse staff. One recent activity YETC hosted was "Staff Unity Day". Staff were invited out to Indian Steele School Park and took part in activities that were reminiscent of our younger years such as egg toss, sack races, pie eating contest and simon says. In addition, all employees contributed their favorite dish for the potluck and got the chance to get out and mingle with fellow staff members. This same culture has also stretched out to our Board

of Directors and has inspired them to host their own, Spring Picnic for all YETC staff and their families. That's just the YETC way!



"Our staff is what makes YETC unique"

Kathy Pedersen, HR Director

Community support comes back full circle

YETC thrives on creating new and innovative ways to provide quality care. Through the ongoing support of our community partners, YETC has been able to strengthen our programs and provide opportunities that can change lives! Opportunities that enable us to provide the basic needs for our families. Opportunities such as our special focus groups which address common issues affecting our youth and

parents today. Even opportunities to help our transitioning teens get enrolled into college or into their first apartment.

Our goal is to partner with youth and families and provide them with the knowledge, skills independence and stability that will set them on the path to a brighter future.

We look not only to our staff for new ideas but also to our Board of Directors which has brought us to our

newest venture. Enhancing our services through community outreach!

Our objective is to empower our youth and demonstrate that they too can make a difference.

Have an idea for a community project ?

Want to learn more about our giving opportunities?

Visit us online at www.youthetc.org!

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Summer is almost here!

The weather is perfect and the days are long which means summer is going to be here before you know it! YETC is gearing up by laying out summer plans for our kids. It's important that we keep our youth involved in positive activities on their summer break. Past

activities have included family fun days, healthy feelings camp and group outings to local fun spots. In addition, summer is also the time when we are able to assist parents in exploring their child's interest and connecting them to local resources!



Family Fun Picnic at Indian Steele School Park Park

YETC is continually seeking new members to help strengthen our programs and community. Interested? Contact us! 602/285-5550 ext 336

YETC is going green!

We believe that sustainability is essential for our agency and the services we provide.

Our aspirations for 2009 are to protect the environment we live in, maintain financial stability and give back to the community that has always been so very supportive of us.

We've begun to make subtle changes such as placing recycling bins at our offices, exploring ways we can cut back on energy costs and we have also begun our community outreach initiative for staff and our consumers.

In addition, YETC will soon make the transition to an electronic newsletter.

Support our efforts to protect our environment and sign up for our e-newsletter today!



www.youthetc.org

YETC

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Building a better tomorrow for our youth and families of today