



From the YAR Cave

A publication of Youth As Resources, a program of the Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau



Mark Your Calendars!

- 12/20/11-1/2/12: Happy Holidays!
- 1/14/12, 10am-12pm: YAR Board Meeting at the Youth Bureau. Come learn more about how you can be involved in YAR!
- 1/21/12, 1-3pm: YAR Grant Kickoff Celebration at the Youth Bureau! We will be recognizing recent grant recipients and award winners.

Message From the Coordinator

Hey YAR people,

I'd like to take the time to say thank you to all of you for making my time here worthwhile. Your willingness to participate in this program speaks volume to your desire and ambition to be a positive spark in the community. Know that the work you all put in is greatly valued and appreciated.

I've had the great opportunity to grow with you all as a professional and as a person, and have you to thank for that. It's been a true blessing to see you all develop and take on different roles within our program and excel at each and every task you participated in. I say that to say this: YAR functions solely on the efforts of its volunteers; you are all the reason why this program has been so successful over the years, and although I will no longer be here as the coordinator for YAR, you will still be here, meaning that the most important aspect of the program still persists.

I truly believe that you all can do what it takes to continue to grow and develop this program. I ask that as I leave that you stay committed to YAR and your community. Please make sure to stay active with the program, Leanne and Elizabeth will be here for the next 8 months, a new coordinator will be identified before the end of the year, and community members are still applying for the mini-grants.

One thing is for certain, I expect great things from all who have been a part of YAR during my time here. Together, you are an amazing group of people and you've only begun to scratch the surface of what you can accomplish. To the adults, thank you for your time and your contributions, I wish you much success in all your endeavors in life. To the youth, there are not enough words to express how thankful I am for your efforts and contributions, thank you so much. Please make sure to get the best education you can and continue to stay on track of being the leaders of now, the world is yours and everything that's in it can be too, as long as you work persistently.

It's been a great pleasure, much success to you all and take care. ☺

Gabriel Perez
Youth As Resources Coordinator (Jan-Nov 2011)

From the YAR Cave is a publication of Youth As Resources, a program of the Rochester Monroe County Youth Bureau. For more information about YAR, contact:

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The Purpose of YAR is to...

- Empower and engage youth as partners with adults in creating positive community change and development.
- Demonstrate to the Rochester community that when given the chance, young people can—and will—be effective, creative leaders in solving community problems.

Youth Voice: Poetry

I am 16
I am raw
Like raw chicken
But YAR is cooking me
Bringing me up to be a leader,
A great citizen
Teaching me the ropes of life,
Giving me experiences I would have never had without them,
Giving me the chance to fill out grant applications,
And review them.
Giving me the chance to run meetings and conduct them,
Giving me the chance to go to conferences
And give presentations to adults
I love YAR
They love me
The adults are there for you
Making sure youth has a voice

-CJ Miles

Project Spotlight Daycare Safety

This fall, YAR eliminated deadlines for submitting grant applications in order to better accommodate needs of the community. The first group to submit an application under this new policy is a group of youth who call themselves "A Better Community." During Project Daycare Safety, the youth plan to construct a fence around a daycare in order to keep neighboring dogs away from the children, as well as install a swing set to keep the children active outside. The youth will be working with the daycare provider and local businesses to get the assistance they need to complete the project.

The two girls coordinating this project are close friends. They decided to do the project because one of their sisters attends the daycare. The YAR board approved the grant for \$1,000. We're looking forward to seeing all of the changes!

In the News: County Executive's Holiday Seniors Ball

On December 5th, the Monroe County Office for the Aging and the Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau sponsored the County Executives Holiday Seniors Ball at the Double Tree Hotel. At this event, senior citizens and high school seniors from all over Monroe County came together to celebrate the holidays. Four youth from YAR went to this event to support our youth bureau staff and the seniors. It was a great event. We all had a lot of fun eating, dancing, listening to a great band, and getting to know other youth and senior citizens from around Monroe County. We found out that our fellow Youth Bureau worker Mike can sing and that those senior citizens can really get down!



CJ, Nyheir, Beth and Kaisean at the Holiday Seniors Ball.

Thank You to Our Funding Support and Community Partners:

