



TCYSD COMMUNITY UPDATES

JULY 7, 2015

We are honored to be charged with investing time, resources, and funding in local Tompkins County communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life, and hope that this quarterly communication will serve as another resource to help create a community where all youth are given the opportunities to thrive.

2016 County Budget

On June 30, 2015, the Tompkins County Youth Services Board recommended the 2016 Youth Services Budget. If adopted by the Tompkins County Legislature, the budget includes ~\$1.4 million in spending for youth planning, programming, quality management, and services. Projected revenues include funding from New York State Office of Children and Family Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services, and other local municipalities. The Resource Allocation Committee of the Youth Services Board asked the Youth Board to consider four over target requests which were all recommended, they include:

Over Target Request #1: \$14,258 to continue to support departmental planning and coordination through maintaining staffing at the current level of 6 FTEs. If this OTR is not funded we will have to re-examine how the Youth Services Department functions and reduce certain operations such as our support to the Community Coalition for Healthy Youth, Workforce Development Board, community trainings and programming for community agencies.

Over Target Request #2: Use of \$15,300 in one-time rollover funding to be utilized to continue to enhance our professional services line. Included in this request is the use of \$10,000 to provide training to funded partners, municipalities and community organizations to increase their programmatic outcomes, internally and externally monitor and evaluate programs, and to provide resources for training components that may have been lost due to funding reductions. As of June 2015, we have already served 129 registrants in 6 training sessions provided this year. Also included in the Professional Services line is funding to support the Results Based Accountability Scorecard in the coming year as the Office of Children and Family Services looks to potentially take on this work in the future as well as funding for the transition of the OJ Guide for Teen Services and the Summer Camp Guide into a new electronic format.

Over Target Request #3: \$11,426 to provide a 3% increase on County funds for Youth Services contract agencies which will allow a cost of living adjustment (COLA). The COLA will support a slight increase to cover the rising cost of program maintenance since our agency contracts were first negotiated in 2013.

Over Target Request #4: \$20,000 for the continuation of the youth employment coordination for the Municipal Youth Services programs as provided through Cornell Cooperative Extension Youth Works program, which currently serves the Towns of Caroline, Danby, Enfield, and Ithaca, and the Villages of Cayuga Heights and Lansing.

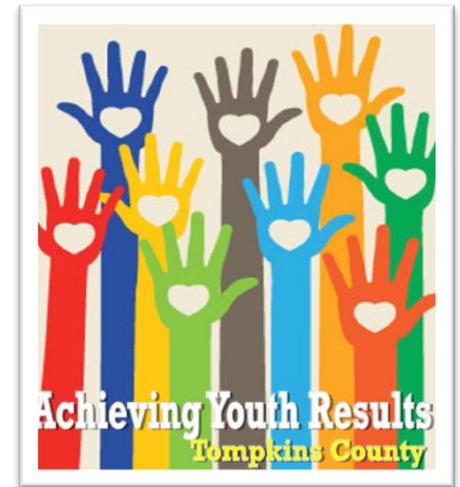
This recommendation will now be provided to the County Administrator to be included (or denied) in his recommended budget. The County Legislature acting as the budget committee will begin to review these recommendations starting in September with the release of the County Administration's Recommended 2016 Budget.

Achieving Youth Results

In an attempt to provide information on how youth in Tompkins County are truly doing, the Achieving Youth Results (AYR) process was launched by 30 community leaders in February of 2015. Our first step is to identify traceable youth indicators across six goal areas that impact our community as a whole.

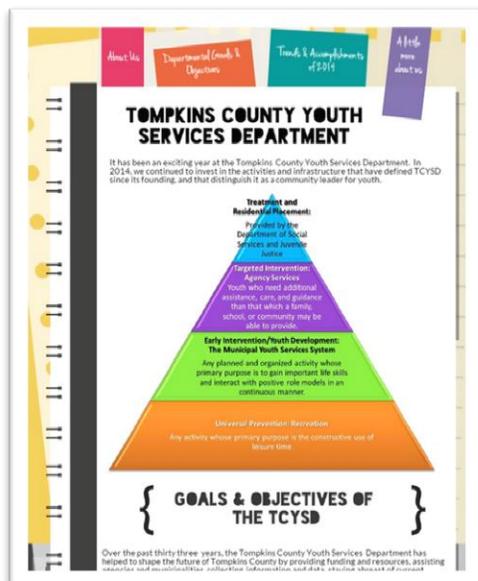
These six goal areas are:

- 1) Economic Security - Youth will be prepared for their eventual economic security
- 2) Family - Families will provide children with safe, stable, and nurturing environments
- 3) Civic Engagement - Children and youth will demonstrate good citizenship as law abiding, contributing members of their families, schools and communities
- 4) Education - Youth will leave school prepared to live, learn and work in a community as contributing members of society
- 5) Physical and Emotional Health - Children and youth will have optimal physical and emotional health
- 6) Community - Tompkins County will provide children, youth and families with healthy, safe and thriving environments



As these measurements will be tracked by the Youth Services Department but will provide a community measurement, we are asking members of the community to take 10-15 minutes to rank the indicators that they believe should be tracked to measure our communal success in achieving the goals, through the AYR survey <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AYR2015>. The survey is open through Monday July 20, 2015.

Following the data collection on each of the indicators we will host several community covering meetings to discuss how we can move the metrics and achieve the youth results we would like to see her in Tompkins County. The first community convening meetings will be held August 12 & 13, so please save the dates!



2014 Annual Report Release

Check out what the Tompkins County Youth Services Department team has been up to. Visit our [annual report](#) to learn more about all that we accomplished in 2014!

Youth Worker Training Series

Tompkins County Symposium on Mentoring Part Two
July 9, 2015 – Hotel Ithaca

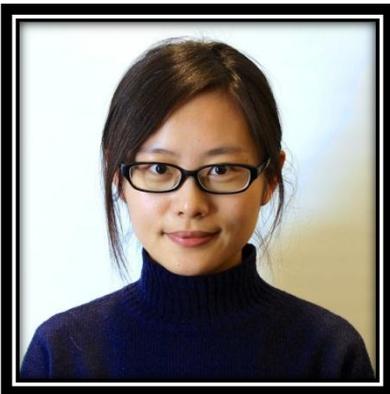


Programs that provide mentoring services to youth are invited to join facilitator, Angela Sullivan (Director of the Alcohol and Drug Council of Tompkins County and Youth Services Board Chairperson) to further explore mentoring in Tompkins County. This part two training will build off of February mentoring symposium and will allow programs to look at ways resources can be shared across the community to provide mentoring to young people.

Youth Inclusion Series
September – October 2015

This three part series will explore inclusion practices within youth programming. More information including dates will be available in the near future.

Meet Chuchu Lou



The Youth Services Department is honored to have Chuchu Lou join us this summer! As our summer intern, she will contribute her skills and efforts to the department over the next nine weeks.

Ms. Lou graduated from Lanzhou University where she received a BA degree in Journalism and Japanese. Currently she is enrolled at Cornell University for the Master of Public Administration (MPA) degree which is typically used for a career in public affairs, public administration and public policy. Chuchu's hope is to someday work for either a University or Foundation. Her internship is supported by the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA). She plans to graduate in May 2016.

Chuchu is originally from Ningbo in Zhejiang Province of China. She is a talented student who comes to our department with a wealth of skills including fluency in Chinese, Japanese and English. She also brings to the team an extensive technical background that includes Photoshop, data analyst software, web design and web coding.

After searching for several internships she decided that TC Youth Services Department would offer her the opportunity she was eager to find. "I hope to learn more about educational policies from within the United States that might be applied in China, as well as understand and observe public and nonprofit management practices."



News from the Community Coalition for Healthy Youth

Every other year, students in Tompkins County middle and high schools participate in the Communities that Care® Youth Survey. For most schools, fall, 2014 marked the fourth time their students participated, allowing for time trend analysis since 2008. The survey is a biannual project done in collaboration with Tompkins County secondary schools, TST BOCES, the Community Coalition for Healthy Youth, and the County Youth Services Department.



Here are a few highlights from our recently released Summary of Highlights.

84%	of Tompkins County youth feel safe in their neighborhood	43%	of Tompkins County youth have lots of adults in their neighborhood they could talk to about something important
83%	of Tompkins County youth participated in extracurricular activities at school or in the community in the past year	31%	of Tompkins County young people report being depressed or sad most days
83%	of Tompkins County youth could ask their mom or dad for help with a personal problem	26%	of Tompkins County high school students are current alcohol users
60%	reduction in likelihood that local youth will use marijuana if their parents tell them they disapprove	25%	of Tompkins County students were verbally bullied at school in the past month
47%	of Tompkins County students like school most of the time or always	13.8	years old is the average age when Tompkins County youth try marijuana for the first time

To see the full summary, please visit www.healthyyouth.org or www.tompkins-co.org/youth/publications

On June 29, the Community Coalition for Healthy Youth hosted a community forum on heroin. Over sixty people attended the session, held at Tompkins County Public Library. An expert panel, representing law enforcement, treatment, medical, and recovery, provided an overview of the drug, its effects on the user, its availability, and its impact on the community. The standing-room only crowd learned that this drug does not discriminate: there are users of every age, race, socio-economic group, and gender. The Coalition thanks Kevin McKenna from Ithaca Police Department, Jamison Wood from Alcohol & Drug Council, Jeanne Chappel from Cayuga Medical Center, and Eric T., in recovery. It was clear that the community is interested to learn more and talk about what can be done. The Coalition will discuss next steps at its future meetings. Visit www.healthyyouth.org for more details.

TCYSD in the Community

From roads to human rights to transportation to planning to community health to ruling from the legislature, Tompkins County offers a lot to our residents and we are proud to support our community as we celebrate what makes Tompkins County so wonderful – the people. Be on the lookout for familiar faces at upcoming summer events in our effort to share the multitude of services and supports provided by the many departments within the county. Here, Kris Bennett from TCYSD joins other representatives from various county departments to march in the Ithaca Festival Parade.



Lansing Youth Commission Fishing Derby



There were a lot of big smiles Saturday, June 20th as the 10th annual Lansing Youth Services Fishing Derby took place at Myers Park. 30 youth between the ages of 3 and 14 took part in the derby catching a record amount of fish. “I’ve been at the derby all ten years,” said Janice Johnson, staff at the County Youth Services Department, “this is the best fishing day I have seen!” Members of the Lansing Youth Commission helped tie and bait hooks as every kid caught at least one fish. Lansing Youth Services puts on this annual event to get kids outside and have them try the life-long sport of fishing. Even though Lansing is located on Cayuga Lake many kids have never fished, this is their chance to get interested in something new. Lansing Youth Services provides a variety of activities during the school year and the summer for middle school youth. Katie Turner is the Program Manager and can be reached at 533-4271 ext. 2118 to find out how to sign up for summer programs such as Funky Furniture, Dungeons & Dragons, Iron Chef, and a trip to Roseland Water Park.

Opportunities for Involvement

Do you support the mission of investing time, resources and funding in communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life? Are you willing to commit to providing your thoughts, insights, and time to help advise the Youth Services Department?

If you answered yes to these questions perhaps membership on either a local youth commission or the Tompkins County Youth Services Board is the right fit for you!

Current vacancies include:

- **Tompkins County Youth Services Board** is in need of representatives from Caroline, Danby, Groton, Newfield and Ulysses/Trumansburg, as well as two Tompkins County youth ages 16-21.
- **The Joint Youth Commission** is looking for commissioners residing in Caroline, and Town of Ithaca;
- **The Dryden Recreation and Youth Commission** has vacancies for commission members residing in the Town or Village of Dryden or Village of Freeville.
- The **Community Coalition for Healthy Youth** continues to meet monthly to bring partners together to reduce youth substance use. Please come to a meeting if you think you might be interested; dates and times can be found at www.healthyyouth.org.



For more information on ways you can get involved please contact Amie Hendrix at ahendrix@tom-pkins-co.org.



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