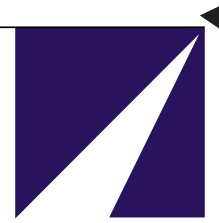


ReVision



P R O J E C T

YES

re (ri) *n.* 1. anew, again **vision** (vizh 'ən) *n.* 1. the manner in which one sees or conceives of something.

Making our world safe for ALL youth

The mission of Project YES is to prevent suicide and ensure the healthy development of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth by initiating dialogue, providing information and creating support systems.

Project YES Moves *Adelante* in El Paso

Training at South Miami Hospital



Dr. Karen Raben, Tom Pietrogallo, and Barbara Menachem

On August 22, Project YES was invited by Thomas Pietrogallo, a social worker at South Miami Hospital to conduct a training workshop for the social workers at the medical facility.

The social workers were eager to acquire more knowledge and resources for gay and lesbian youth and their families. One participant said, "This presentation gave an excellent perspective and different methods to effectively approach our patients."

After the workshop, they requested Project YES participation as part of their ongoing education programs at the hospital. We are in the process of having our training CEU accredited for health care personnel. They plan to advertise these workshops to the entire local medical community.

We would like to thank Dr. Karen Raben for her efforts in helping us realize this opportunity for South Miami Hospital and our youth.

Adelante is an organization in El Paso, Texas, with a mission closely resembling that of Project YES. Looking for ways to invigorate their five year old organization, they began an extensive Internet search. Rex Wiesenthal located Project YES, and contacted us with many questions about the results of our organization. Over the course of several months, we shared information about our models and programs. In September, they asked Project YES to come to El Paso and make a presentation to their general membership and Board of Directors.

to be a learning experience for both organizations. We will keep you posted on what happens next in El Paso.

Rex recently emailed Project YES with a grateful response:

"Thank you for the conversation about the inception, current progress and vision of Project YES. Why should just one community have the experience of true communication, and the bringing of various fragmented communities together for a cause?"



Rex Wiesenthal, Board Member of Adelante



Jonathan Kennedy, Vice President of Adelante and Martha Fugate

They are now looking to see if our models can be utilized to produce the same results for Adelante. This trip allowed us to learn some of the necessary steps to share our model in a powerful way with other organizations interested in making the world safer for gay youth. It was an inspiring weekend that proved

From your presentation, I realized our issue is a common issue. We must learn to dance without putting up walls of 'us' and 'them'. Our community can only be enhanced by initiating the communication model that Project YES presented. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and powerful message."

"Selfishness is not living as one wishes to live. Selfishness is asking other people to live as one wishes to live."

- Oscar Wilde

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Citibank Florida Visits Project YES



Leticia Anaya and Emilio Vazquez, Citibank Florida

We are excited about a new partnership with Citibank Florida. Leticia Anaya, Citibank at Work Specialist and Emilio Vazquez, Financial Center Executive Vice President, found Project YES when looking for a local celebration for gay and lesbian pride month in June. Although there was no parade, they found us celebrating a lot of results for our youth. We are proud to have such an outstanding corporate leader come forward to contribute to our youth.

Some of this support includes services such as no-cost financial education seminars (in English and Español), including financial needs analysis "CitiPro", buying a home, women and investment, and debt management. These seminars are an opportunity to help our youth and community gather invaluable financial skills and resources. Through Citibank Florida, Project YES applied for a grant to fund our community leadership forum that will work for safer environments for gay and lesbian youth.



Citibank brought gifts to our community meeting

Citibank Florida is also pursuing opportunities to provide corporate sponsorship for our upcoming New World Symphony benefit concert on Friday, March 30, 2001. Thank you Leticia, Emilio, and everyone at Citibank for your leadership and the welcome you have extended to Project YES and our youth. For free Citibank financial education seminars, please call 305-470-7171.

God As Love Initiative Grows

By The Rev. Dr. Marta Burke

God As Love has begun to dream dreams and live them out. In September, we launched our idea for a dream team with persons in ministry that will meet monthly to envision ways we can live out Project YES's mission in our faith communities. These monthly gatherings hold promise for creative programming, key speaker presentations, and interaction between denominations and multi-faith traditions to take place. Project YES also participated in a denominational gathering of clergy for the South Florida United Methodist Church this month. The South Florida Center for Theological Studies Multicultural Seminar will meet and participate with Project YES as well.

Our signed Affirming Stand statements total over 70, as individuals and faith communities learn more about Project YES. If you or someone you know of in ministry would like to sign an Affirming Stand, or join our dream team, please call 305-663-7195.

Our next Communication Course for people in ministry will take place on October 26 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Please call 305-663-7195 to register for this course.



Affirming Clergy Breakfast Meeting

Safe Schools ... Healthy Families Education Updates

Project YES will return to visit our friends in Dahlonega, GA at the North Georgia College and State University. Dr. Bob Michaels, the Dean of Education at NGCSU has invited us to conduct a workshop for high school teachers in Lumpkin County in December.



“When we align our thoughts, emotions, and actions with the highest part of ourselves, we are filled with enthusiasm, purpose, and meaning.”

- Gary Zukav



Aspen, Colorado

Solomon Liston, a Communication Course graduate and multicultural education advocate in Aspen, Colorado, has met with administrators in the Garfield County School District to include gay and lesbian youth awareness in their outreach through Project YES. We would like to acknowledge Solomon for his leadership and for being an extraordinary role model for gay youth everywhere.

St. Bartholomew Youth Group

Project YES was invited to speak to the 50 member youth group at St. Bartholomew Catholic Church near County Line Road. After Orlando Calderin shared his story, one girl spoke up and said, "It is good that you still love your mother, that's what Jesus would have done."

By the end, Project YES had found a whole new group of friends! The youth were very nice and were happy to talk about safety for all youth, no matter what differences appear to separate us from one another. We would like to thank Edith Perez for opening the door at St. Bartholomew's.



St. Bartholomew's Youth Group

Communication Course In Action

Our most recent Communication Course was very inspiring! Our next Course dates are October 21 and 22.

Call 305-663-7195 to register or sign up online at www.projectyes.org.

"I knew that in this life, we are always in the process of creating. With the Model of Communication used by Project YES, I learned that the real power lies in the ability that someone has to listen and to 'recreate' others. There is no 'right or wrong' in this Model, there is only 'purpose'. The purpose is the centralizing point of all thought. It is the creative force needed to build a relationship. Until thought is linked with purpose there is no intelligent accomplishment. 'All kids must be SAFE' is the purpose of Project YES. What a wonderful way to begin a dialogue. Thank you Project YES for being one source of true communication in our community."

- Ronald Cherilus, Occupational Therapist



Ronald Cherilus, OTR/L



Paul Briggs, LCSW

"This course makes a point of sticking to the point! The Model of Communication will integrate effectively in my profession as a social worker and public speaker. Using this powerful communication model, all points of view can be heard and acknowledged. When common ground is the safety of ALL youth, people become inspired to begin working on solutions rather than arguing about problems."

- Paul C. Briggs, LCSW

Agape House



Project YES presented an in-service workshop for Agape Family Ministries. Agape works with women in the justice system who are in need of rehabilitation and family support services. Reflecting many varied points of view and a wide range of experiences on our issue, the entire staff was respectful and supportive in working for the safety of all youth.



Agape Family Ministries Workshop participants

GLOW Project Goes Back-To-School

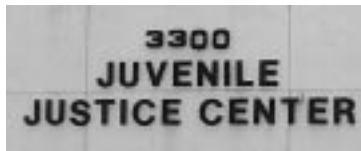


Kristopher Smith, Orlando Calderin and Joseph Zolobczuk loading the book bags and supplies for the Town Park residents.

Gays and Lesbians Offering Warmth (GLOW) donated book bags and school supplies to Project YES to be distributed to children and families in need through their Back-To-School Project. We presented over 100 book bags and school supplies to the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Council (GRGC) started by the Advocates PTA two years ago. The GRGC has distributed the book bags and supplies to the families of Town Park, a HUD initiative neighborhood in Overtown. Town Park was identified as a community in need through the collaborative efforts of Kristopher Smith from the Non-Violence Project, The Advocates PTA, the GRGC, and Project YES.

We would like to thank Michael Haughtalin and Lisa Newbold of the GLOW Project for allowing Project YES to participate in such a nurturing outreach to benefit the entire community.

Guardian Ad Litem Workshop



Edith Perez, BSW, Community Voices speaker

Project YES was invited to conduct an in-service training for the volunteers and staff at Guardian Ad Litem, an organization that advocates for children and teens who are caught in the throes of the judicial system amidst family crisis.

The participants were very helpful, describing many areas in the legal system where this issue needs to be addressed, and the resources available for these youth and families. The Juvenile Justice System appears in dire need of both resources and education on this topic.

We would like to thank Jackie Cotarello-Echagarrua for organizing this workshop.

Kiaora Society Members

Kiaora Society members donate \$1,000 or more to Project YES annually.

Visionary \$10,000 or more

Gill Foundation
A. D. Henderson Foundation
Collin Higgins Foundation
Ittleson Foundation
Jonathan Lewis & Roberto Posada
John T. Macdonald Foundation
Ed McAmis & Gerson Gonzalez
New World Symphony
Peacock Foundation
Ruth Anderson Foundation

Champion \$5,000 or more

Greg Baldwin & Jose Castro
Espirito Santo Plaza
North Dade Medical Foundation
Joseph H. & Florence A. Roblee Foundation
Carol & Ed Williamson

Leader \$2,500 or more

Kate Adler & Pam Reynolds
Connie Barden & Martha Fugate
Nellie Barrios
BellSouth
Bob Cole
Colonial Bank
Cordis Corporation
Dwina Gibb
Health Foundation of South Florida
Robert Oldakowski & Luis Mendoza
Pink Palm
Karen Raben & Andrea Pernick
real.life.basic
Jacques Soukup
TIDES Foundation/Kicking Assets Fund
William Vaughan

Mentor \$1,000 or more

ADAM Fund
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Janice & Howard Scholl
Lee Brian Schrage
Scott Sittler
Chesterfield Smith
The Rev. Frank Smith & Isabelle Hill
Howard Snoweiss & Lin Childress
South Florida Tennis Club
Mark Steinberg & Dennis Edwards
The Rev. Marta S. Weeks
Lori Weens-Hertz
Kathleen Wells & Donald Dillport
Steve Werner
Robin Wheatley & Jeffrey Newton
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- Eva-Leivas Andino**, Hispanic Coordinator
- The Rev. Marta Burke, Ph.D.**, Religious Liaison
- Joseph Zolobczuk**, Community Liaison
- Kathryn Deriso-Schwartz, MBA**, Financial Officer

Upcoming events

Communication Course for volunteers and speakers: **October 21 & 22**
Communication Course for Clergy, Rabbi's and Laity: **October 26**

Call 305-663-7195 to register, or click the "Course Sign-Up" link at www.projectyes.org

Next Community Meetings: **Thurs., November 9, 3:30 PM and Thurs., December 14, 3:30 PM**

SAVE THIS DATE!

MARCH 30, 2001 • NEW WORLD SYMPHONY BENEFIT CONCERT

Special announcements

Funding News

Thank you **Richard Milstein** for renewing Kiaora mentor support through your **United Way** contribution. We thank the **Rev. Martha Weeks** for renewed support as Kiaora Mentor as well as her spiritual support of Project YES within the Episcopal Diocese.

We are always grateful for **Dr. Michael Wohlfelers'** medical expertise and caring in our community. We now welcome **Michael Wohlfelers & Albert Eldridge** as Kiaora Mentors.



Note: We want to thank you for making Project YES your designated United Way choice. Many of you have called with comments about the United Way and their funding of the Boy Scouts. We are supporting United Way in finding solutions for this conflict. You can continue to contribute to United Way, and if you are not comfortable with your donation going to the Boy Scouts, write in Project YES on your donor choice form. Be sure to ask that Project YES be advised of your contribution so we may acknowledge you.

Johnson & Wales University Says Thanks

By Kalen Hezard, Counselor



The Resident Advisors and Staff at Johnson & Wales University

I wish to acknowledge Joseph Zolobczuk and Orlando Calderin for coming to our Johnson & Wales University in August and September. They spoke to our Resident Advisors and staff, as well as the student body.

It is unfortunate that it took prejudice and injustice to bring us together, but in the end I am much richer for the experience.



Betsy Kaplan, School Board member, with Bob Oldakowski and Martha Fugate

Betsy Kaplan, School Board Member District 9, dropped by the Project YES Community Meeting again this month. She continues to contribute ideas and opportunities, declaring her intention to make our monthly meetings whenever her schedule allows.

New Board Member



Bill Ross, President, Estoril, Espirito Santo Plaza

Project YES would like to welcome new Board Member Bill Ross. Bill has been actively involved with Project YES for the past two years with the New World Symphony benefit concerts. We are delighted to have Bill join our outstanding Board.