

United Youth Workers of Boston presents the third

# CITYWIDE YOUTH + YOUTH WORKERS FORUM

## - building local and citywide networks -

December 1, 2005

## Goals

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### Main Goals:

- ❖ Share local struggles, & strategize strengthening **local networks**.
- ❖ Build **relationships across Boston** between youth & youth workers.

### Additional Goals:

- ❖ Re-examine our **citywide priorities** for youth and youth work.
- ❖ Get an update on the **Summer Jobs Campaign**.

## Agenda

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### 5:00 **registration and activities**

- ❖ *Share your stories and thoughts about your community.*
- ❖ *Play Citywide Bingo -- meet people and win a prize! Stay connected after today!*

### 5:30 **welcome and introduction**

### 5:45 **journey through the city**

- ❖ *Videos and presentations from different communities + youth programs*

### 6:00 **networks and stories**

- ❖ *Stories from existing local networks of youth, youth workers, and youth programs*

### 6:15 **build your community network**

- ❖ *Breakout groups: Envision how you can come together in your community to:*
  - ✧ *Work together on community issues*
  - ✧ *Support each other in your programs*

### 7:10 **report-backs**

### 7:30 **stand together: the citywide network**

### 7:40 **next steps and evaluation**

On your way out, please sign up for **next steps** on the back wall by the door (neatly write your name and program, or other contact info), and fill out an **evaluation!**

# CITYWIDE YOUTH + YOUTH WORKERS FORUM

## - building local and citywide networks -

## The Vision

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We are building a strong citywide network where we:

❖ **Take political action** *together for our priorities.*

Because youth and youth workers face so many issues, it's important that we stand together to tackle them. We need to make sure that elected officials and decision know our needs and priorities and act on them!

After our first forum in October 2004, youth and youth workers identified four citywide priorities:

\* *Youth jobs*

\* *Stable, long-term funding for youth programs*

\* *Living wages for youth workers*

\* *Youth leadership*

We held a second forum of more than 320 people in April 2004, and then a Statehouse rally, to share these priorities with elected officials and lobby for increased funding for youth summer jobs. Our action for these priorities and others continues this year!

❖ **Support each other** *on the ground in our programs and communities.*

As well as taking political action, we also work together for our youth day to day. Too many youth and youth workers feel isolated and burn out. If we come from different programs to build relationships, support each other, and share resources, we can do stronger work for youth and our communities.

❖ *Develop relationships + strategies in our communities through* **strong local networks.**

To work together effectively on a large scale and a small scale, we are building a *network of networks*.

By bringing together *local* networks who know what is important in their communities, we can make sure that our citywide action is about priorities across Boston, not just of a few communities.

Also, often we can build relationships and address our priorities more effectively within our local communities. In local networks, people can address community issues and support each other every day in their own community, not just every month or two in a large citywide network!

## Next Steps

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### **January 19 Forum**

Plan action on our priorities, including roundtables with city councilors & funders

### **Summer Jobs Campaign**

Attend monthly leadership workshops for youth; and lobby at City Hall and the Statehouse

### **Citywide Updates & Newsletter**

Help people across the city learn more and keep updated about each other's communities!

### **Strengthen Your Local Network**

... and stay connected with network builders in other communities.

### **Planning Committee**

Want to **decide what's next?** Plan future forums?

**December 7**, 10 am - 12 pm. We need strong representation from **all communities!**

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