

How Can You Help

Donations and Fundraisers

Fundraisers and community donations supplement our primary sources of support and are vital to YDA's ability to continue to successfully achieve our mission. Your tax deductible donations are gratefully welcomed and appreciated.

Board of Directors

The Board meets on the third Wednesday of every month, excluding July and August, and consists of adult and youth volunteers. The Board's function is to determine the needs of the community and the direction of YDA. In action, the Board members provide leadership and continuity, select and appoint the Executive Director, govern YDA policies, select fellow board members, fundraise money and promote the agency.

Volunteering

Volunteers are a vital part of YDA. They share their time and knowledge gaining many personal rewards. Some of the varied volunteer opportunities include chaperoning and coaching recreational activities, teaching new skills to youth and joining the Board of Directors. Youth volunteers are invited to participate in YDA's Community Impact Team (CIT). CIT gives back to the community by performing different service projects throughout the year. These projects include but are not limited to food drives, Special Olympics, Adopt-A-Family, tutoring and beach clean ups.

The YDA is funded by the Town of Huntington Youth Bureau, the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, the Northport/East Northport School District, the Townwide Fund of Huntington, local churches, private grants and donations.

Support Services

YDA is a contract agency of the Huntington Youth Bureau. The Huntington Youth Bureau also supports the following townwide youth serving projects...

Drug and Alcohol Project - substance abuse counseling, crisis intervention, referrals and education. (631) 271-3591

Sanctuary - provides assessment and intervention for runaway/homeless youth and their families. Emergency short-term housing is available when appropriate. (631) 271-2183

Excel - career, academic, and enrichment oriented. Programs include GED tutoring, vocational counseling, job development and placement, drop out prevention and creative expressions workshops. (631) 271-5499

Youth Court - trains teens to dispense justice to their peers. (631) 271-5547

Crisis Hotline:

For crisis counseling, information and referrals (24 hours), call the Town of Huntington Youth Bureau hotline:

(631) 549-8700

You can find us on the internet at:
www.ydaonline.org or
E-mail: yda1@optonline.net

Like us on facebook!



**7 Diane Court
East Northport, NY 11731-2547**

**8 Gates Street
Greenlawn, NY 11740-1431**

**Celebrating
40 Years
1972-2012**

(631) 261-7901

Fax: (631) 261-1460

Your local non-profit community and youth agency serving youth and their families in the Elwood, Harborfields and Northport/East Northport school districts.

What is YDA?

Youth Directions and Alternatives is a private, non-profit community and youth agency, founded in 1972 serving youth (aged 11-21) and their families in the Elwood, Harborfields, and Northport/East Northport School Districts. YDA is for all youth. We do not limit our activities to the gifted or the disadvantaged.

YDA staff works cooperatively with schools, churches, libraries, police, service organizations and other community groups to determine the contemporary needs of our youth and develops programs and services to meet these needs. Fully compliant with the goals of the A.D.A., YDA is constantly striving to ensure that no one is denied accessibility and opportunity for full participation because of disability.

YDA programs emphasize the positive development of youth. Our professional staff are facilitators who believe that youth can do things for themselves if given the opportunity and support. Youth are encouraged to plan, implement and evaluate their own projects under adult guidance. By incorporating this philosophy of empowerment into our programs, youth learn valuable life-planning skills and the coping mechanisms needed to navigate adulthood.

Programs and Services We Offer

Youth Development Programs

Youth assume responsibility for creating, organizing and implementing programs such as:

- Community Impact Team
- Peer Leadership
- Grandfriends

Educational Programs

- After School Homework Help
- Health Awareness Workshops
- Home Alone Program
- Detention Center



Recreational Activities

- Basketball
- Drop-Ins
- Movie Nights
- Field Trips:
 - Hershey Park – Beach Trips
 - Splish Splash – Surf Camp
 - Sporting Events – Six Flags
- Step Team

Individual and Family Counseling

Confidential assistance for youth and their families who seek help in coping with pressures related to school, peers, drugs and personal conflicts.

Groupwork

Specialized groups on topics such as divorce, anger/aggression, bereavement, social skills and parenting are offered as needed.

Youth Advocacy

Someone to stand by youth in conflict situations involving the courts, schools, etc.

Information and Referral Service

Crisis Intervention

Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday
9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday
2:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

