

WISCONSIN POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE, INC. (PYD)
Incorporated 1984

MISSION

PYD is a non-profit organization working statewide in Wisconsin to actively promote the well-being of young people by helping local communities to create and nurture conditions which will contribute to:

- Positive expectations
- Access to meaningful roles
- Opportunities for decision-making
- Development of life skills for all youth.

CURRENT ACTIVITIES

PYD provides training and technical assistance to diverse community initiatives for positive youth development and prevention of problems experienced by adolescents. Services include coalition building, community engagement, strategic planning, and youth engagement in civic leadership.

PYD offers a variety of youth and adult leadership training workshops related to promoting the principles and practices of positive youth development. Underlying frameworks include resiliency, developmental assets, risk and protective factors, and America's Promises. Training goals include adult/youth partnerships, youth councils, community youth development, peer programs, intergenerational programs, and youth in governance.

PYD coordinates the activities of the Alliance for Wisconsin Youth (a program of the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services), by providing over 100 local coalitions in Wisconsin with networking, training and technical assistance, competitive grants programs, youth alliances, and a variety of membership services.

PYD represents Search Institute as a deliverer of national training through Vision Training Associates, the exclusive provider of Search Institute training.

PYD works with University of Wisconsin-Extension 4-H Youth Development, Department of Public Instruction, Wisconsin Rural Challenge, and Statewide Youth Leadership Council to promote youth engagement through our "Youth As Partners in Civic Leadership" initiative.

HIGHLIGHTS OF PAST ACTIVITIES

Provided training and technical assistance to thousands of adults and youth in scores of communities across Wisconsin, the United States, and Canada. (1979-present)

Coordinated the Wisconsin Community Service and Volunteerism Awards Banquet, a collaborative of several state agencies, non-profit organizations, and the First Lady of Wisconsin, for the Alliance for Wisconsin Youth. (2002)

Created Wisconsin Promise Statewide Youth Leadership Council (SYLC) and developed funding collaboration with state-level agencies and Points of Light Foundation for YES (Youth Engaged in Service) Ambassador. (1998-2000)

Initiated and published *Pass It On* newsletter three times per year, written by and for teens, and distributed to over 10,000 teens in Wisconsin—a collaborative of six state-level agencies (1992-2000). This newsletter is now the *Youth Press of Wisconsin News* and is coordinated by Marshfield Medical Clinic-Prevention Department.

Developed curricula and training expertise for five annual four-day Wisconsin Regional Teen Institutes (WRTI) for youth leadership and prevention. WRTI is managed through University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire through funds provided by the State of Wisconsin. (1990-2000)

Lead sponsor and coordinator of Wisconsin Prevention and Wellness Conference, a collaboration of over 20 state-level agencies and organizations that attracted 500-1000 youth and adults per year. (1984-1998)

Coordinated Learn and Serve (community-based service learning) projects in Wisconsin and Minnesota with a grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service (1995-1998).

Authored a guide for middle school teachers about involved students in peer education for traffic safety. (1995)

Authored guidebook, published by State of Wisconsin, titled *Teen Power: A Guide to Involving Youth in Your Local Alliance*. (1995)

Sue Allen, Executive Director
Wisconsin Positive Youth Development Initiative, Inc.
314 S. Thomas Street
PO Box 10
Westfield, WI 53964
Phone: 608-296-9960
Fax: 608-296-2900
susanrallen@verizon.net