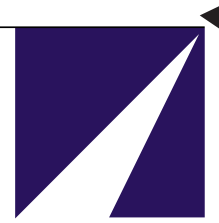


ReVision



P R O J E C T

YES

re (ri) *n.* 1. anew, again **vision** (vizh 'a) *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.

Dade County Public School Counselors Meet at Project YES

Hats Off - to Safe Dialogue from FANM

On March 9, Project YES joined Fanm Ayisyen Nan Miyami (FANM/Haitian Women of Miami) for a night of celebration at FANM's annual fundraising dinner. Highlighting FANM's work for the social, political, and economic empowerment of Haitian women and girls, this festive event brought together diverse community allies.

Martha Fugate was recognized by Haitian Women of Miami for "Outstanding leadership; strong commitment in creating dialogue and a safe world for all young people. You give hope and a voice to young people everywhere." *Chapo Ba! (Hats Off).*

We thank FANM for a spectacular night and look forward to future work together.



Martha Fugate and Marleine Bastien, Executive Director of FANM.



Dr. Oren Wunderman discussing Community Care with school counselors.

In February, 45 school counselors from Dade County Public Schools gathered at Project YES for their regional meeting. Counselors devoted the first hour of their 3-hour meeting to learning about the *Community Care* program from Dr. Oren Wunderman, Executive Director of Family Resource Center (FRC).

Since that meeting, FRC has received 4 youth referrals from school counselors, propelling *Community Care* into motion. This response indicates the necessity of crisis intervention when gay youth come out to their families, ensuring the growth and success of *Community Care*.

As *Community Care* develops, we will have new solutions for youth who have long been ignored. Recently, a young man who came to our



Dr. Oren Wunderman, Martha Fugate, and Phyllis Hallberg, Director of Student Services of DCPS.

Community Meeting for the first time shared a sentiment we hear often at Project YES:

// I never knew so many people cared about us. //
- 17 yr. old student

We are grateful to all our partners for communicating that essential message to our youth.

Inside

JUSTPEACE Conference	.....Page 2
January Communication Course	.....Page 2
Dialogue for Action	.....Page 2
Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce	.....Page 2

MACTown Trainings	.....Page 3
Valentine's Party	.....Page 3
WLRN Program	.....Page 3
Kiaora Society Donor Update	.....Page 3

SAFE-T Courses	.....Page 4
Community Outreach	.....Page 4
Special Announcements	.....Page 4
Upcoming Events	.....Page 4

JUSTPEACE Conference

Rev. Marta Burke, Martha Fugate, Joseph Zolobczuk, and Nina Topp joined religious leaders from across the country in Nashville, Tennessee, for a conference hosted by JUSTPEACE, a center for mediation and conflict transformation within the United Methodist Church.

In addition to gaining insight into the JUSTPEACE approach to conflictive situations, they had the opportunity to meet with Joe Harris, head of the United Methodist Men. Discussion centered around a possible national dialogue between the United Methodist Church and the Boy Scouts of America.



On the campus of Scarritt-Bennett, retreat center in Nashville, Tennessee.



Peter Storey, former President of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa, addressing the conference. Professor Storey served as Nelson Mandela's prison chaplain in the 1960's and was a national leader in the church struggle against apartheid.

January Communication Course

We hosted 28 people in our January Communication Course. Although many came looking for tools to fight back, they gained something entirely different while exploring our model of communication.

Parents, youth, business leaders, and counselors connected by sharing unique experiences and perspectives.

Participants left equipped with a sword of generosity, the most powerful Project YES tool.



Martha Fugate explains our communication model.

“...Everyone who loves children should experience this course.”
- Lilliam Enriquez
Parent

“This was my missing piece. I can't wait to use it in every aspect of my life.”
- Adrian Gonzalez
Youth



Participants of the January Communication Course.

Dialogue for Action

Nursing students from Barry University attended a preview of our educational Dialogue for Action (DFA) workshop on March 7. Counselors from Family Resource Center also participated in a DFA training as they prepared to reach out to youth and families through the Community Care program. Our next DFA previews will be April 24 and May 22 from 1:30-3:00 PM. Call Marta at 305-663-7195 to attend.



Nursing students from Barry University.

Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce

Emilio Vazquez of Citibank recently invited Project YES to attend a breakfast for the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce. At the breakfast, Eva and Martha had the wonderful opportunity to meet with new Chamber President, Lettie Bien. Citibank later invited



Jimmy Morales, Miami-Dade County Commissioner, Martha Fugate, and Letty Bien, Chamber President.

Project YES to join the Chamber as their guest, and again we are honored by their support and partnership.

Our incredible relationship with Citibank has unfolded over the past 2 years. They originally came to Project YES to attend one of our Community Meetings, arriving with gifts of rainbow-clad water bottles and Citibank flags. They have conducted a homebuyers' seminar for gay and lesbian youth and continue to attend our monthly Community Meetings. For the past 3 years, Citibank has funded Project YES with U.S. Citibanking Grants. Recently Citibank donated \$10,000 to underwrite all expenses for our Five Year Anniversary Book.

Let Citibank know if you also appreciate this investment in gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender youth. If you are already a Citibank customer, send a note of thanks to the manager of your bank. If you are not already a customer, consider joining us by moving to the #1 online bank in America.



Palm Springs Presbyterian Youth Group (above) generously donated \$700 to Project YES. South Florida Tennis Club also contributed \$700. We thank both supporters for their partnership.

MACtown Trainings

Addressing predominant misconceptions and stereotypes, we led 2 training workshops for staff at MACtown, a non-profit organization serving adults with developmental disabilities.

“ Considering the intense hostility to this subject among our staff, I think this presentation was a real breakthrough. ”
- Caseworker



MACtown Staff.

Emphasizing our purpose to ensure safety for all, the workshops ultimately moved participants, evoking personal stories about orientation of family and friends. The notable shift in responses served as a testament that people are the same at heart.

“ This presentation was very enlightening. It changed my outlook. ”
- Administrator

Valentine's Party



Supporters **Kevin Veilleux & Jimmy Mourra** raised \$2,800 for Project YES, hosting 100 guests at a Valentine's party in their home.

WLRN Program

On February 20, Project YES participated in a talk show on WLRN discussing homophobia and harassment. Organized by high school peer educators, the program was part of a series dealing with youth issues.

Eva Leivas-Andino, Bob Oldakowski, and Mario Fuentes spoke about the power of language and the importance of honoring diverse viewpoints while focusing on safety for all.



Eva Leivas-Andino, youth speaker Mario Fuentes, and Rudy Espinoza, student at Turner Tech High School.

Kiaora Society Donor Update

Project YES welcomes **North Georgia College & State University-Department of Education, Triangle Foundation** from Detroit, Michigan, and **United Teachers of Dade County** as Kiaora Leaders. We are grateful to **Tim Dugan & Meredith Birrittella** for increasing their Kiaora contribution to the **Visionary Level**. We also thank **Douglas DeBoer & Howard Kurzweil, Dr. Karen Raben & Andrea Pernick, and Lang Baumgarten** for increasing their

contributions as **Leaders**. **Gary Bremen & Roger Boone** and **Kevin Miller** renewed their commitment at the **Mentor Level** through United Way. New Kiaora Mentors include the **Health Foundation of South Florida, South Florida Center for Theological Studies, Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation, Ms. Laura White, Harry Rimm, Jerry Chasen, and Mark Kirby**. We also appreciate the ongoing support of **United Way and Dade Community Foundation**.

Kiaora Society

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



Visionary

\$10,000 or more

A.D. Henderson Foundation
Citibank FSB
Tim Dugan & Meredith Birrittella
Jonathan Lewis & Roberto Posada
Ed McAmis & Gerson Gonzalez
North Dade Medical Foundation
Rosie O'Donnell For All Kids Foundation
Ruth Anderson Foundation
United Way of Miami-Dade

Champion

\$5,000 or more

Greg Baldwin & Jose Castro
Dade Human Rights Foundation
Espirito Santo Plaza
Stephen E. Herbits
Joseph H. & Florence A. Roblee Foundation
Miami Beach Police Department
Jacques Soukup & Aaman Crane
Southern Country South Florida, Inc.
Rev. Dr. Marta S. Weeks
Rev. Hugh Westbrook & Carole Shields
Carol & Ed Williamson

Leader

\$2,500 or more

Connie Barden & Martha Fugate
Nellie Barrios
Barton G
Lang Baumgarten
Coral Gables Congregational Church
Cordis Corporation
Douglas DeBoer & Howard Kurzweil
J. Bryan McCullar
North Georgia College & State University, Dept. of Education
Robert Oldakowski & Luis Mendoza
Dr. Karen Raben & Andrea Pernick
Triangle Foundation, Detroit, MI
United Teachers of Dade County

Mentor

\$1,000 or more

Nancy Allen
Architectural Alliance
Benjamin Beach
Paula Black
Gary Bremen & Roger Boone
Brickell and Partners
Jerry Chasen & Mark Kirby
City National Bank of Florida & the Abess Family
Dade Community Foundation
Scott Danksy & John Dawson
Dr. John T. Macdonald Foundation
Dupont Pharmaceuticals
FrameWorks
Gill Foundation
Walter F. Goodman & Robert A. Flanders
Randall R. Gluss & Fernando Mendez-Villamil, MD
James C. Hanrahan, Jr.
Marty Harris & Nikki Korval
Health Foundation of South Florida
Highsmith & Company
Holland & Knight, LLP
Lawrence R. Hyer
IBM Funds for Community Service
Carol Amaya King
Jan Kirchoff
Jonathan & Tina Kislak
Jim Kitchens & Edward Lee
Robert Longstreth
Ralph Lutrin & Alan Lewis
Dr. John J. Martin, Jr. & Forrest McSurdy
Edward McIntyre & Fernando Anes
Judith Mercier
Kevin J. Miller
Richard Milstein
Glenn Minton & Eddie Eskdale
Elsie Miranda & Lourdes Cuervo
Peter Pilotti & Joseph Rodano
Pink Palm
Tony & Katia Prado
Wendy Reiner & Paula Xanthopoulou
Gordon Rhodes
Mr. Harry Rimm, AmEx VIP Travel
William & Nancy Rolnick
Bill Ross
Howard Perry Rothberg, II, & Paul A. Scolieri
Leslie Sadur & Karen von Bergen
Marty Schildhouse
Janice & Howard Scholl
Lee Brian Schraeger
Chesterfield Smith
Rev. Frank Smith & Isabelle Hill
Martin Smith
South Florida Center for Theological Studies
Mark Steinberg & Dennis Edwards
Juan Carlos Urquiola
William Vaughan
Kevin Veilleux & Jimmy Mourra
Tim Wagoner & Victor Garcia
Lori Weems
Kathleen Wells & Donald Dillport
Steve Werner
Robin Wheatley & Jeffrey Newton
Ms. Laura White
Dr. Michael Wohlfiler & Albert Eldridge
Robin Wolff & Kathy Gregory
Robert Leon Yates
Stephen I. Yaeger, Ph.D.

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Miami, Florida
PERMIT NO 81192



5275 Sunset Drive, Miami, FL 33143
Ph: 305-663-7195 Fax: 305-663-7197
www.projectyes.org

Board of Directors

- Robert Oldakowski, Chair
- Paula Black, Vice Chair
- Nancy Allen, Secretary
- Bill Ross, Treasurer
- Connie Barden
- Doug DeBoer
- Tim Dugan
- Marty Harris
- Jan Kirchoff
- Elsie Miranda
- Karen Raben, M.D.

Staff

- Martha Fugate, Director
- Nina Topp, Director's Assistant
- Carolyn S. Garwood, Ph.D., Educational Specialist Liaison, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
- Eva-Leivas Andino, Hispanic Coordinator
- Rev. Dr. Marta Burke, Religious Liaison
- Joseph Zolobczuk, Community Liaison

School Counselors Meet at Project YES

Special announcements

Project YES Community Meetings
Thursday, May 9, at 3:30 PM
Thursday, June 13, at 3:30 PM
Everyone invited!

ReVision is now available in Spanish online at www.projectyes.org. We thank Daniel Shore from El Nuevo Herald for providing this translation.

Communication Course
Sat. & Sun., June 22 & 23
Call Marta at 305-663-7195 to register.

Upcoming events

For upcoming events and speaking opportunities, go online to www.projectyes.org and click the Calendar link.

SAFE-T Courses

Students from Hialeah Miami Lakes, Carol City, and Miami Country Day School gained access to powerful communication skills in 3 separate Student Alliance for Empowerment Training (SAFE-T) Courses. Students learned effective ways to bridge the gap of silence about harassment in schools.

"Honestly, you guys are the answer to my prayers. Learning an effective way to communicate gives me a great advantage."
- Hialeah Miami Lakes student



SAFE-T Course participants learned new skills from Nina Topp and Joseph Zolobczuk.

Community Outreach



Eva Leivas-Andino speaking to students at MAST Academy.

As part of the Dade County Schools Symposium, we discussed misconceptions and stereotypes about gay youth with students at MAST Academy. We shared our work with social work students in Professor Shed Boren's class at Barry University. We also spoke to participants in a diversity conference at Florida International University and students at both Killian High School and St. Thomas University.