



Youth Enrichment Services

December 2023 Newsletter

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Saturday, January 6: [Operation SnowSports Begins](#) YES is thrilled to offer young people another season of downhill skiing, cross-country skiing, and snowboarding at destinations around New England. The 2024 season will provide youth with meaningful outdoor experiences, confidence-building challenges, and opportunities to connect with positive role models. Follow our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) to see photos from our trips all season long!

Tuesday, 1/16, Wednesday, 1/17, Thursday, 1/18: [Leadership Corps Mock Interviews](#) (Boston, MA) During Mock Interviews, YES teens will practice the most common interview questions and receive feedback and suggestions. We are currently seeking volunteers to participate in this event. If you are interested, click [here](#) to sign up!

Thursday, January 25: [Trivia Night Hosted by the YES Young Professionals Committee](#) (Boston, MA) Save the date! Join YES and the Young Professionals Committee at Game On for a night of trivia, facts, and fun! All proceeds from this event support YES youth programs.

Saturday, January 27-Sunday, January 28: [Boston Run Show](#) (Boston, MA) Join YES at The Hynes Convention Center for the biggest running expo for all runners! All running enthusiasts are welcome, no matter how far or fast you go! To redeem free tickets for you and your family please register [here](#) using the code: **YESKIDS** by the end of December!

Tuesday, 1/30, Wednesday, 1/31, Thursday, 2/1: [Leadership Corps Networking Nights](#) (Boston, MA) During Networking Nights, YES teens will have the opportunity to ask adult volunteers questions, engage in conversations, and learn more about industries they might be interested in working in one day. We are currently seeking volunteers to participate in this event. If you are interested, click [here](#) to sign up!

Sunday, March 2: [Diversity in the Outdoors Series Trip #1](#) (Tenney Mountain, Plymouth, NH) Stay tuned for registration information about the first of two Diversity in the Outdoors Series 2024 trips! The first trip will involve skiing and snowboarding. The second trip will involve kayaking, rock climbing, or hiking. The Diversity in the Outdoors Series promotes diversity, equity, and inclusion in outdoor activities through togetherness and enhanced representation of youth of color in New England's outdoor recreation spaces. Thank you to [The ALKU Foundation](#) for making this special program possible.

Sunday, March 17: [Mass Snow Challenge](#) (Wachusett Mountain, Princeton, MA) On Sunday, March 17, Wachusett Mountain in Princeton, MA will be hosting the 2024 Mass Snow Challenge to benefit Youth Enrichment Services (YES). Save the date to join us for a fun-filled day with great skiing and snowboarding, racing, awards, and family games to support YES' Operation SnowSports youth programs!

Monday, April 15: [2024 Boston Marathon](#) (Boston, MA) YES received ten (10) official numbers as part of the 2024 Bank of America Marathon Non-Profit Program. This year's Team YES runners are athletic, passionate about our mission, and ready race in support of Boston youth! Click [here](#) to meet the runners and donate to support their fundraising efforts!

Thursday, April 25: [13th Annual Black Diamond Gala](#) (Boston, MA) The 13th Annual Black Diamond Gala will take place at the Boston Renaissance Waterfront Hotel, located at 606 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210. The night promises to be an evening of fun and inspiration offering something for everyone! Stay tuned for upcoming information on tickets and sponsorships.

Boston Youth Run, Bike, Climb, and Paddle With YES This Fall

This fall, Boston youth and teens had the opportunity to get active, explore the outdoors, and experience new adventures with Youth

Enrichment Services (YES).

YES continued its community-based partnerships with Mildred C. Hailey Apartments and Urban Edge's Academy Homes by offering a weekly biking program for their youth residents. Many young people have limited access to safe outdoor activities. In the program, young people learned how to ride a bike, improved their biking skills, and connected with positive adult role models.

YES also partnered with Tech Boston Academy and Boston Collaborative High School to introduce teenagers to new experiences in the outdoors. These students had opportunities to canoe, bike, hike, and rock climb with YES this fall.

Take a look at our favorite fall moments in our 2023 Fall Programs recap video!



Youth in YES's Cross Country running program stayed active this fall with weekly practices at Saunders Stadium in Moakley Park. The program is an introduction to the sport of cross country running with a strong emphasis on the development of strength and stamina to run longer distances. Youth also had the opportunity to compete in the Mayor's Cup at Franklin Park in October!

2023-2024 Leadership Corps Program Begins

Teens in the Leadership Corps program started their school-year season with YES in October. This year, teens will develop their leadership and career readiness skills through participating in workshops and trainings and put those skills into practice through volunteering with YES's ski & snowboard rental shop and supporting SnowSports trips. Recently, teens have been working hard in the YES Rental Shop to learn how to bind, wax, and scrape skis and snowboards to prepare for the upcoming winter season. Teens have also been learning about communication styles, attending workshops about the college admissions process, and more.



YES Welcomes Seven New Board Members

New Board of Directors



New Board of Trustees



We are so pleased to welcome two new members to the YES Board of Directors, and five new members to the YES Board of Trustees. To learn more about Directors (left to right) Marie Daniel and Payson Swaffield, and Trustees (from top left to bottom right) Noah Parekh, Margaret Sanderson, Jim Stephenson, Richard Ward, Kyle White, click [here](#)!

Team YES Prepares for the 2024 Bank of America Boston Marathon



Youth Enrichment Services received ten bibs this year through the Bank of America Non-Profit Boston Marathon Program. We are thrilled to introduce ten runners to Team YES!

Pictured top left to bottom right, Amanda Engelhardt Talbott, Michelle Hediger, Kari Kenyon, Mark McGarry, Sonia Monserrat, Hannah Trudeau, Ella Sirakovsky, Sam Naples, Katie Wakiyama, and Charles Williamson are athletic, passionate about YES's mission, and ready to fundraise and race in support of Boston youth next year.

To read the full profiles of our amazing Team YES runners, click below!



**OFFICIAL
CHARITY**

**Meet the
Team!**

**OUR NEW WAY
FORWARD**

Proud **United Way** Partner



United Way of
Massachusetts Bay

YES Announces New Partnership with United Way

YES is thrilled to be selected as one of the 124 new grantee partners of the United Way of Massachusetts Bay! Thank you to the United Way for recognizing our organization's alignment with their new pillars of giving. Funds will help YES sustain and expand our outdoor and leadership programs for Boston young people. The mission of YES aligns perfectly with the United Way's efforts to help foster communities that are vibrant, abundant and equitable! Read more about this exciting new partnership [here](#).

Meet YES' New Director of Programs & Operations!

We are so pleased to welcome **Kristin Taylor** (she/her) as the new Director of Programs & Operations at Youth Enrichment Services (YES). Kristin has over 20 years of experience working with children and families who have experienced homelessness, youth involved in the juvenile dependency system, and affordable housing communities. Prior to this role, Kristin spent 6 years in California developing and implementing programs with a large nonprofit affordable housing developer. Kristin has an extensive background in social work and youth development and has held numerous leadership positions within transitional and permanent housing programs, community-based organizations, and out-of-school time programs. In addition to her professional experience with program development and management, Kristin is also an active volunteer with organizations serving youth and young adults in foster care. A graduate from Stonehill College with a degree in Sociology, Kristin has also obtained specialized certifications in Psychological and Mental Health First Aid, supporting LGBTQ+ youth in systems of care, and best practices in trauma-informed care approaches.



Give the Gift of Outdoor Experiences this Holiday Season!

DONATE



Whether large or small, gifts of any size make a difference at YES. Thank you for giving generously!

- \$50 pays for two youth to receive a pair of waterproof gloves and hat for the slopes.
- \$100 pays for one young person to ski or snowboard with YES for the day.
- \$250 pays for two youth in YES's partnership program with Boston housing developments and schools to experience outdoor adventures like biking, rock climbing, and canoeing.
- \$500 pays for one youth to attend the Outdoor Adventure program at YES for one week in the summer.
- \$1,000 pays for four youth to get active in the Track & Field program.
- \$2,500 pays for ten teens to participate in the YES Leadership Corps program for an entire school year.
- \$5,000 pays for 50 young people to experience a day of skiing and snowboarding with the Operation SnowSports program.

Thank you for remembering YES in your year-end charitable giving. December 31st is the last day to

Get FREE Tickets to the Boston Run Show Using Code 'YES'

The Boston Run Show is returning on January 27 and 28 at The Hynes Convention Center. It's the biggest running expo for all runners, no matter how far or fast you go!

To redeem free tickets for you and your family please register [here](#) by the end of December using the code: **YESKIDS**

Four-time Olympic Gold medalist, and eight-time World Championship gold medalist, Michael Johnson will be headlining the expo with a fireside chat and Q&A. Plus, don't miss more stage sessions from John Kelly, Laura Green, Hellah Sidibe, Becca Pizzi, Scott Jurek, and more!

Stop by and say hello at the YES booth! We can't wait to see you there.



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