

Karin Akins

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Sent: Friday, March 31, 2006 2:33 PM
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Cc: Alan Williams; Michelle Szechenyi; Karin Akins; Kim Ascoli; Susan Pezzullo; Sheila Kinkade
Subject: FW: Make a Connection e-mail update (March 2006)

Dear Partners,

Hope this note finds you well. Bellow we've provided some highlights and information we would like to share with you this month.

Annual Meeting

We will be sending out the agenda in the next few weeks. In the meantime, we ask that you please make your travel arrangements as soon as possible. If you have any questions relating to travel, hotel accommodations, visas, etc. please contact Michelle at mszechenyi@iyfnet.org.

Resources

1. We are attaching two articles from the journal *New Directions for Youth Development*. Although it is US focused, we feel many of the learnings can be applied internationally, too. If any of you have interesting articles to share, please let your regional managers know so we can include in the monthly e-mail. The titles and summaries of the articles are:
 - *More than just being there: Balancing the participation equation*
overview of why participation in out-of-school programs matters, description of some of the barriers to youth participation, definitions of participation, and presentation of the Harvard Family Research Project conceptual model of participation.
 - *Activities, engagement, and emotion in after-school programs (and elsewhere)*
description of a study that sought to identify the kinds of settings and activities that foster engagement and, by extension, positive youth development.
2. Our partner in the UK, National Children's Bureau has just published a *practical resource for developing life skills with vulnerable young people*. The resource is a useful document for all those working with vulnerable young people aged 13-16 in a range of settings, to help them develop life skills. If you are interested in receiving a copy of this resource, please contact Sophie Wood at SWood@ncb.org.uk.
3. Lastly, we thought our Spanish speaking partners might enjoy reading a chapter in a recent publication by the German Development Agency (GTZ) and the Pan-American Health Organization (PAHO), as part of their Latin American initiative to encourage youth development and prevent violence in this region (<http://www.paho.org/CDMEDIA/FCHGTZ/informaciongeneral.htm>). The chapter, titled **Una Oportunidad para Ser el Cambio**, explains the design and the implementation of the De Calle a Calle project in Peru, and describes some of the learnings and challenges the project has had.

Opportunities

We are attaching the call for nominations for the annual World of Children (WOC) Awards. Please take a close look; we encourage you to nominate youth you may know.

Staff Transitions

We are sad to announce that Kathy Lane, our Senior Communications Advisor, will be leaving IYF. She has accepted an exciting position with CARE International in Chicago. We wish her the best. For any communications related issues, please contact your Regional Point of Contact.

*****PICTURE OF THE MONTH*****



This picture was taken in the Ancieta community of Lima, Peru. As part of the De Calle a Calle project, CEDRO works to strengthen local youth groups in high risk communities, and encourages these groups to organize and conduct volunteer activities with children in their neighborhoods.

In this picture, we see a member of a local youth group (in the background) directing children as they play in a community game, organized in a neighborhood park.