

YAK!

Youth Adult Konnections

FALL 2009



Upcoming Events

For more information or to volunteer, please call Kelly Nicholson at 727-8735.

St. Luke's YAK! is a healthy youth development program based on the Developmental Assets philosophy and supported by a coalition of community partners. YAK! provides programs and services for young people that help them to be safe, healthy, and active participants in our community.

For more YAK! information:

Visit: www.stlukesonline.org/YAK

Call: (208) 727-8735

Blog: youthadulthoodconnections.blogspot.com/

Se habla español. Llámanos con preguntas.

Konnections Made

BCTAC Students Interacting with Local Adults



Molly Fox, Debbie Horn, Sara Cooley, and Lisa Huttinger at EcoCamp this July.



Bryan Parker of the Middle Fork District of the US Forest Service, guided Joey Altermatt, Chris Ellis, Alex Henning, and Kelly Nicholson on a four day Frank Church Wilderness Stewardship trip in June. Twenty-five miles were cleared and maintained in the Challis National Forest!



Lara Spencer of The Dollhouse, A Consignment Boutique, and Kelly Willows-Munro during a two-month job mentorship.

“The Changing Face of Idaho” Diversity & Inclusion Symposium

The Idaho Inclusiveness Coalition (IIC) is presenting a conference on how schools, businesses and communities benefit from a deeper understanding of diversity. BCTAC's Diversity Drama Troupe has been invited to perform diversity drama for participants of this conference.

October 1, 8:15 am-2:00 pm
Boise State University, Boise

Trick or Eat

BCTAC II will spend two evenings in costume collecting food for the Hunger Coalition.

October TBA
Wood River Middle School

Bellevue Haunted Forest

For the second year, BCTAC students will help organize and participate in the Bellevue Haunted Forest. The Haunted Forest funds long-term maintenance of the Howard Preserve, as well as, local youth groups. BCTAC students will plan and act in the zombie portion of the forest, and there are many leadership opportunities available.

October 29 and 30
Howard Preserve, Bellevue

“Be the Change” Diversity Training

To address the changes in our community, St. Luke's YAK! is offering training to create dialogue regarding diversity issues. The retreat will feature trainers Sam Byrd and Jan Salisbury, who dramatize issues related to diversity. Students will be trained to perform diversity skits at forums throughout the Wood River Valley and beyond. These skits will affirm the human dignity of all people and teach proactive behaviors to help create an accepting community.

November TBA
Ellsworth Inn, Hailey

Healthy Choices Panel-“Today Affects Tomorrow”

BCTAC students provide input for panels that are presented to small cohorts of Wood River High School freshmen. This panel will discuss the choices teens need to make today in order to be healthy and successful in the future. Covered topics include drug use, sexual activity, alcohol, and friends. The panelists are Terry Basolo, Executive Director of the Blaine County Community Drug Coalition, Jenny Stireman, NP-C with St. Luke's Obstetrics and Gynecology, and Michael Mercy, MD, emergency medicine.

TBA
Wood River High School

“Creating a Healthy Community” Annual Conference

St. Luke's Annual Fall Conference in partnership with the Blaine County Community Drug Coalition. This year's conference will feature keynote speaker Stuart Brown, MD, Director and Founder of The National Institute for Play. YAK! students will present a learning session called: “Telling It Like It Is: A Dialogue with Teens.”

Saturday, November 7, 9:00 am-4:00 pm
Community Campus, Hailey

“This past week, I had an amazing opportunity to work with Sara and Debbie, who both volunteered a week of their time to be counselors for the ERC's EcoCamp. When it comes down to it, the counselors work harder than anyone at camp – they make free-time fun, ensure the meals run smoothly, present amazing evening activities, and help our young campers sleep safe and sound. In one short week, I watched these young women take on ever-greater responsibility, create lasting bonds with the campers, and shine their unique personalities upon the group. They handled the fun times and the challenging times with patience, enthusiasm, and a sense of humor. We truly couldn't have had camp without them!!”
-Lisa Huttinger, Education Director, Environmental Resource Center

“Thank you so much for the opportunity to mentor Kelly Willows-Munro through your YAK program. She has been nothing but a joyful, hard working, and dedicated volunteer. She has helped me immensely and continues to learn quickly each passing shift. I would recommend her to any prospective employer. I hope more business owners take advantage of students you recommend for volunteer work. It benefits our businesses, and our future generations, as we are able to help educate young people outside of the schooling system.” -Lara Spencer, Owner, The Dollhouse Consignment Boutique

Meet a BCTAC Student

Sean Dahlman



Sean Dahlman is a local senior at Wood River High School. He is involved in the drama club and plays bass in his own band, Toast. He has worked at the Bigwood 4 Cinema for the past six months. He has been a member of BCTAC since the 8th grade.

This summer Sean has been a great help for the Relay for Life event. While working on his Silver Medal Congressional Award for his personal development goal, he organized and planned all the musical entertainment for the Relay. He contacted many local bands and scheduled seven to play all night. He organized the timing of the bands, the equipment needed for all aspects of the show, and designed advertising materials. In addition, he contacted local artists and arranged for them to set up a booth at the event to raise more money for the American Cancer Society.



Wood River Animal Shelter Hiking Buddies - June 17, 2009
Elena Almquest, Jasmine Marquez, and Peter Torwan

Ongoing Projects

For more information or to volunteer, please call Kelly Nicholson at 727-8735.



Hiking at Colorado Gulch - July 29, 2009
Catherine Henry, Shyla Jones,
Marina Gallardo, Omar Ocampo

Blaine County Teen Advisory Council (BCTAC)

BCTAC is the high school group of St. Luke's YAK! It is a fun, hardworking youth action council committed to improving the community by involving young people in community service, creating programs and services to address youth needs, and building Developmental Assets.

Tuesdays, 7:00-8:00 pm
The Hub, Community Campus, Hailey

Blaine County Teen Advisory Council II (BCTAC II)

BCTAC II is a middle school youth council that works to improve both the school and outside community for young people. BCTAC II helps educate our youth about building Developmental Assets, largely by planning and implementing community service projects.

Every Monday, 3:30-5:15 pm
Wood River Middle School Library

Blaine County Youth Partnership (BCYP)

BCYP is the adult counterpart of BCTAC and works to encourage healthy youth-adult relationships in our community. In addition to their participation in community service projects, members direct the formulation and fulfillment of YAK!'s mission.

Congressional Award

St. Luke's YAK! provides free assistance and guidance for those seeking the prestigious national Congressional Award. Sign up today at www.congressionalaward.org.

Teen Job Board/Calendar of Events

Check out the Teen Job and Community Service board online at our recently updated website - www.stlukesonline.org/YAK. This information is also available at Atkinson's Market in Hailey, WRHS, and the Hub at the Community Campus.



Jay Owenhouse Magic Show - June 13, 2009
Rafael Orozco, Erin Pfaeffle, Kelly Nicholson,
Catherine Henry, Lauren Willows-Munro,
Ryan Willows-Munro, and Peter Torwan

Young Moms Group

The Young Moms Group serves as a resource for local teen mothers and their children. Activities include group meetings, leadership activities, resource referrals, and connection with the BCTAC group.

Fall Volunteer Opportunities

Opportunities exist for volunteering all throughout the fall, on a one-time or recurring basis. Organizations YAK! supports include: Sun Valley Adaptive Sports, the Hunger Coalition, The Advocates, Sagebrush Equine Therapy Arena, The Environmental Resource Center (ERC), The Nature Conservancy/Silver Creek Preserve, and the Wood River Animal Shelter.



Be the Change at a WRMS class - May 20, 2009
Whitnee Dudley, Patty Regalado,
Mary Cruz Baltazar, Carly Gustafson



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Blaine County Youth Partnership &
Blaine County Teen Advisory Council



Blaine County Water Quality Activities at Blaine County Rec District - Summer 2009
Louvier Gomez and Debbie Horn

Cover photo: BCTAC meeting at the Bead Shop with local bead experts!

Contribute

Give the gift that keeps on giving. Donate to St. Luke's YAK! in someone else's name or your own!

Contribute to St. Luke's YAK!

Financial contributions: Mail a tax-deductible contribution to support our youth programs and help St. Luke's YAK! reach its goals. Both monetary and in-kind contributions are always appreciated. Make checks payable to St. Luke's Wood River Foundation and mail to:

St. Luke's Wood River Foundation
PO Box 7005
Ketchum, ID 83340

Volunteer: We have volunteer opportunities for all ages, interests, and needs. We are indebted to our volunteers for their generous contribution to the community.

Suggestions: We are always looking for new community service and outreach opportunities. Send us your ideas.

A project of St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center

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