



Fall 2015 Newsletter

October - December

Youth & Candidate Forum – Huge Success!

Fall River youth had the opportunity to speak to the mayoral, City Council, and School Committee candidates running for office at a forum held at Kuss Middle School on October 20, 2015. Students Alexandra Codeno-Correa, Vanessa Smith, Kai Uehara, Cheyenne Forsee, Daishawn Barros, Sumaiyea Uddin, Brandon Pankowski and Ava Blewitt spoke powerfully about the issues that they and other youth confront every day both in school and in the community. Candidates were then given the opportunity to submit questions to the students. After listening to the students' responses, the candidates were given one minute each to pledge one thing that they would do to address the students' concerns. The event was planned and sponsored by the Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Task Force!



Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Initiative

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Continuing the Discussion

Post Youth & Candidate Forum, FRYVP Task Force has continued the discussion regarding issues youth are facing. Various community members came to the table to discuss the issues we can begin working on for the youth of our city, as well as the larger problem of discrimination. There were self-reflection exercises and large group discussion to begin exploring this deeper issue. The newest Fall River Youth Violence Prevention sub-committee, Confronting Discrimination, featured a student from BMC Durfee High School, Ramon Torres, presenting on discrimination related to LGBTQ+ issues and safe spaces. He discussed gender stereotypes and sexual orientation, educating many of the adults in the audience. It has been incredible information shared!

FRYVP Receive Herald News's "Pushing Fall River Forward" Award

Fall River Youth Violence Prevention is honored to receive a brand new award from the Herald News Community Advisory Board called, "Pushing Fall River Forward" Award. We are the first monthly recipient in response to the Youth & Candidate Forum that promoted great change and conversations in its wake. Thank you, Herald News, for this incredible honor!

Peace Through Partnerships

In a Peace through Partnerships event, the Fall River Police Department police officers presented youth with bats as a symbol of community partnership at the Boys and Girls Club. Mayor Sutter and Chief Racine were part of this peaceful event to promote positive relationships!



Please remember to email FRYouthViolencePrevention@gmail.com with any information for the Fall River Youth Violence Prevention website, newsletter, and Facebook page. Thank you!

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