

Activities

Fall River Named One of the 100 Best Communities for Young People

Fall River today was named one of America's Promise Alliance's 100 Best Communities for Young People presented by ING. The national award was given to Fall River to recognize its outstanding and innovative work in addressing the high school dropout crisis and for its programs and services that make it an outstanding place for youth to live, learn and grow.

Fall River, a third-time 100 Best winner, uses America's Promise Alliance's Five Promises as a framework for success. The community's Youth CHOICES taskforce unites local organizations so they can share resources, plan activities for youth and increase access to community grant opportunities. The city employs a Massachusetts Promise Fellow who creates, leads and manages youth development projects for a year of service. Currently, the Promise Fellow is working with middle school and high school students to create a Youth Master Plan that will outline the community's youth-oriented goals for the next few years.

Fall River also has a Youth Outreach Program funded through the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative and the Fall River Shannon Community Safety Initiative. Outreach workers, in collaboration with social service agencies, use a youth development approach to work with at-risk and high-risk youth. The approach focuses on developmental, achievement and problem-free (prevention) outcomes and seeks to connect the youth and their families with caring adults and safe places that offer pro-social activities in order to reduce gang crime and youth violence. Being connected to people, places and opportunities leads to being connected to a peaceful community.

A special thanks goes out to all the agencies and organizations who fulfill the 5 Promises and whose hard-work, commitment and dedication helped Fall River become one of the 100 Best.

Congratulations also go out to New Bedford who earned the award this year. Plans are under way to collaborate and celebrate with New Bedford.



Photo Courtesy of Dave Weed



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Stand Up Against Violence Event

October is national Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The Women's Center and SSTAR hosted an event on October 2nd to give the public the opportunity to show support for local victims and their families, renew their commitment to nonviolence, and heighten awareness of domestic violence in our community. Fall River Mayor William Flanagan presented a proclamation for Domestic Violence Awareness Month at Fall River Government Center

Youth Outreach Program Featured in Herald News Article

City Outreach Gives At-Risk Youth Opportunity to 'Reinvent Themselves' was the title of the Fall River Herald News article featuring the Youth Outreach Program.

As violence among gangs and their young members thrives in Fall River, local agencies are stepping up to offer positive alternatives to gang life and violence on the street.

One is the Youth Outreach Program at CD Rec in the Armory building. The program serves 44 young men from ages 16 to 24 — who are court-involved because of violent crimes and are at risk of joining a gang or have already been inducted into one — through intensive one-on-one mentoring with Outreach workers, said Christian McCloskey, the city's youth services coordinator.

The intervention program, officially titled Safe and Successful Youth Initiative, is in its first year. It is being funded from a \$1.2 million grant through the Executive Office of Health and Human Services. The program coordinates intervention efforts with another CD Rec program, the Shannon Community Safety Initiative, which works with at-risk young men and women ages 14 to 24...

-To read more, visit www.heraldnews.com!

District Attorney's Youth Basketball Clinic

Shannon Prosecutor Mike Cahillane from the District Attorney's Office at the Fall River Boys and Girls Club participated in the DA's free youth basketball clinic.





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Announcements

Healthy City Fall River

Stay updated with information about all the healthy initiatives going on in Fall River. The Healthy City Fall River newest newsletter is available at: www.gfrpartners.com!

Bristol County District Attorney Sam Sutter's "The Prevention Report"

To read the Second Edition of Bristol County District Attorney Sam Sutter's "The Prevention Report", visit www.bristolda.com or click on the link at www.frshannon.org!

September's Events

- 5 – Youth CHOICES meeting, 3:30pm, CD Rec
- 10 – School-Community Partnerships Promoting Positive Youth Development meeting, 2pm, Kuss Middle School
- 12 – 100 Best Communities for Young People Viewing, 12pm, Kuss Middle School
- 16 – VOLUNTEER: Brian Biancuzzo Peace Garden Clean Up, 10am-12pm, Durfee High School
- 21 – International Peace Day
- 29 – Prescription Drug Take Back, Blessed Trinity Church (1340 Plymouth Ave), 10am-2pm (\$10 gift certificate given!)

October's Events

- 2 – Stand Up To Violence Awareness Event, 3-6pm, Government Center
- 13 – VOLUNTEER: CSF of Fall River Dollars for Scholars' Shake the Can Fundraiser, 8:30am – 1:30pm, Government Center
- 16 – Multicultural Committee Meeting, 1-2pm, St. Anne's Hospital
- 18 – Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County's Open House, 9am-6pm, 58 Arch Street
- 26 – BOLD Coalition Annual Meeting, 8am, White's of Westport
- 19 – HealthFirst Family Care Center's Fundraising Gala, 7-10pm, 387 Quarry Street
- 20 – VOLUNTEER: District Attorney's Youth Basketball Clinic, 10:00am-12:30pm, Boys and Girls Club
- 20 – VOLUNTEER: North Park Clean Up, 9am-12pm, Meet at the top of the park
- 21 – VOLUNTEER: Arthritis Walk Bone Bash, 10:30am – 2pm, Bristol Community College
- 23 – Greater Fall River Domestic Violence Coalition Clam Boil Fundraiser, 4-8pm, LePage's Seafood & Grill
- 26 – Free viewing of The Interrupters with Ameena Matthews, 7pm, Zeiterion Theater in New Bedford
- 29 – VOLUNTEER: Fall River Housing Authority Halloween Party, 6-8pm, Boys and Girls Club



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31 – VOLUNTEER: CD Rec Halloween Party, 5-7pm

Upcoming November Events

7 – Greater Fall River Child Protection Council 36th Annual Breakfast featuring Peaceful Coalition, 8:30am-11:30am, White's of Westport

14 – St. Anne's Focus Group Meeting (all are welcome!), 6pm, SSTAR

Please check the website for continuous updates for upcoming events at www.frshannon.org!

****Shannon Partners: Please remember to email Michaela Gagne Hetzler with any information for the FR Shannon website at: michaelajgagne@gmail.com. Thank you!**