



Spring 2015 Newsletter

April - June

Child Abuse Prevention & Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April was Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol county and The Women's Center collaborated with local elected leaders for a proclamation presented by Mayor Sutter on April 6th at Father Diaferio Village.

Truthworker Theatre Company Speaks at Boys and Girls Club

On April 16, Staff from Greater Fall River Re-Creation, the Katie Brown Education Program, Partners for a Healthier Community, Resiliency Middle School, Saint Anne's Hospital, Saint Vincent's Home, United Neighbors of Fall River, and the YouthBuild programs in Fall River and New Bedford gathered at the Boys and Girls Club for the start of the seventh annual Peace By Piece Summit on April 16, 2015. Sponsored by the Greater Fall River United Way, the Fall River Shannon Community Safety Initiative, Southcoast Health, Bristol County District Attorney's Office, and Saint Anne's Hospital, this year's event offered an opportunity to hear from the Truthworker Theatre Company (TTC) a social justice based, hip-hop theatre company for high school and college aged youth in Brooklyn, NY. TTC is a safe space for young people to be the subjects, not the objects of their stories-narrating their own experiences & unique perspectives in ways that unpack, problematize, & shift the dominant, often stereotypical narratives in mainstream media. The evening gathering gave staff a chance to see a portion of their work and dialogue with the group in preparation for their performance the next day at B.M.C. Durfee High School.



Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Initiative

FRYouthViolencePrevention@gmail.com • 508-679-0922 • www.FRYouthViolencePrevention.org



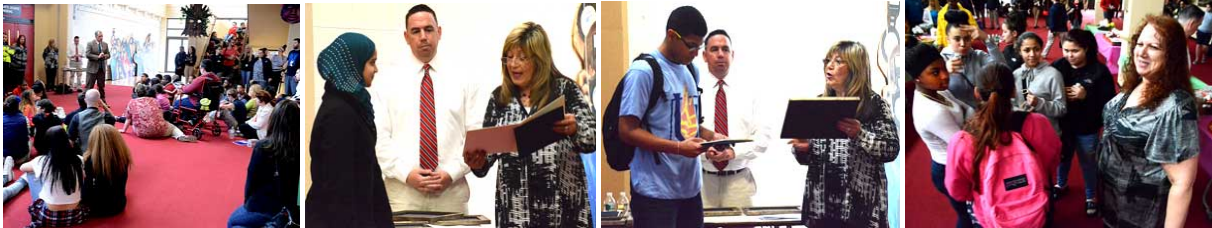
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Heroes of Peace 2015

The "Heroes of Peace" award was created in 2010 by the Peace by Piece Steering Committee to recognize the many individuals and groups who are providing a positive message of hope and compassion in Fall River. As part of the effort to acknowledge that no one person, group, or approach can solve the problem of violence, the Fall River Youth Violence Prevention Initiative Steering Committee held an event on April 17, 2015 at B.M.C. Durfee High School to recognize those in the community who are instrumental in overcoming violence, refusing to be a bystander to aggressive acts, and understanding that the world will become a better place because of kindness. The recipients of this year's Heroes of Peace Award are:

- Sumaiyea Uddin, youth citizen
- Diashawn Barros, youth citizen
- Wendy Garf-Lipp, adult citizen
- Rachele Foley, adult citizen
- Thomas Khoury, adult citizen
- Katie Brown Educational Program, group
- FRPD: Special Operations Division, group
- Students from BMC Durfee High School's Respect Campaign, group



Youth of the Year

It was another stellar round of finalists for this year's Youth of the Year 2014 celebration! These graduating seniors embody the talents, skills, ambitions, and compassion that make us so proud of our Fall River youth!

Congratulations to Mason Thibault for being the 2014 Youth of the Year!

This year's finalists were: Antonet Ayala, Bryanha Jeffries, Lucas Fernandes, and Dylan Almeida.



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Fall River Summer Youth Community Fest II

Fall River Summer Youth Community Fest II was a great success! Hundreds of people came for the basketball tournament, food, and fun! Peaceful Coalition held a reunion, and fest participants took a peace pledge...it was a great way to kick off a peaceful summer!



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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