



DYNAMITE YOUTH CENTER FOUNDATION, INC.

www.dycinc.org

Executive Director
William A. Fusco

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Dear Friends,

In December, 1970 DYC opened its doors to 10 teenagers. From a neglected Brooklyn movie-house-turned-disco we created a professional and residential building, slowly modernizing the original section and eventually adding two floors at the top.

In 1973 we bought an old hotel and 100 acres of land in upstate Fallsburg, New York, and turned it into a residential facility where focused technique would be put into practice. If you visit today you will see a main building, two separate dorms housing 85 members, an educational complex, a large gymnasium building, an athletic field, and staff housing. Currently we accommodate 75 9am to 5pm outpatient members in our Brooklyn facility, with schoolrooms, meeting rooms, and group, individual and family counseling areas. In 2008 we were able to expand our facility, adding two floors to the top of the building. One floor contains meeting rooms, counseling rooms, and schoolrooms with state-of-the-art materials. The top floor is our separate residence floor, housing sixteen members transitioning from upstate to city (along with appropriate staff). Members in treatment are responsible for all operations and upkeep.

Our staff combines the wisdom of experience with creativity and the latest scientific information. DYC was chosen to be one of five "Exemplary Programs" in the country to be studied through a federal research grant. Following is a quote from the book Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment in the United States: Exemplary Models From a National Study (Hayworth Press, 2003) engendered by the study: *"What is generally known is that DYC is an established adolescent Therapeutic Community that has evolved over time to meet the needs of the adolescent community. DYC has thrived, in part, due to its ability to adapt TC principles to meet the changing demands of adolescents, their parents, and the larger culture. Whether at the residential facility, the day services program, or in the transition phase, members and staff work together throughout all aspects of treatment."*

Since inception, we have had 70 graduation exercises: involved young people who worked hard and have an earned sense of accomplishment; good friends and loving family members, making their way in the world with wholesome habits and a serious support-system. The DYC alumni association meets regularly.

Lately a number of governors and state legislatures, including Andrew Cuomo, have made a significant effort to tackle the epidemic of opiate addiction. In New York

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numerous projects to combat heroin and prescription-drug overdose have been publicized, i.e. implementation of I-Stop, the Combat Heroin campaign, and the use of Narcan. Although more are being reached than in past attempts, statistics show that 90% of individuals in need of treatment are not receiving help. The annual rate of overdose deaths have now surpassed vehicular deaths.

We have felt the obligation for some time, now, to further expand our program in order to provide treatment for more adolescents and young adults in need. We know how to do it, and we know we should be reaching out to more families -- the very population that, when given authentic help, make success stories for life. With this in view, we have formed an ad hoc *Funding Committee for Expansion*.

On May 4, 2016, we will celebrate our 45th Anniversary at the Prospect Park Picnic House. The proceeds of the NYC Forty-fifth Anniversary Commemorative Journal will provide major funding toward our expansion effort; we ask you to please keep this special goal in mind when you fill out your subscription form with your personal message or business advertisement. Our members are urged to patronize our advertisers and your contribution is fully tax-deductible.

We hope you will never need us; but we need you now, more than ever.

Sincerely yours,



Brian Rice
Chair, Board of Directors