



**Winchester Youth Center**, 458R Main Street, Winchester MA 01890, 781-721-0906,  
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**It's our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary**  
**The WYC has been in its current space at McCall for 10 years**  
**Come celebrate with us!**

If you are a teenager who wants: to do something good for others... something fun to do after school... cool events and activities to attend... to spread the word about important issues... to be a role model to others... to give something back to the community... to learn more about yourself and what you're capable of... ..then the WYC is the place for you! The WYC offers something for everyone, come check us out and find out how you can get involved.

## **LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**

### **Peer Leadership Program**

The WYC Peer Leaders are a group of Winchester High School students who are committed to their community and serving as role models for all Winchester teens. The Peer Leaders meet on Monday evenings to work on further developing their leadership, communication, interpersonal, and decision-making skills; plan for upcoming projects; and have a lot of fun. They staff the Drop-in Center after school and serve as Project Leaders for all of the WYC's service-learning projects including all of our special events and community service projects. This group is open to any WHS student who has natural leadership skills and the desire to further develop them. Anyone interested in joining this awesome group is welcome to contact the WYC for more information.

### **SSA: Students Spreading Awareness**

SSA is the WYC's peer education group for Winchester High School students. The mission of this group is "to inspire positive change in our world and provide opportunities for students to become active in the community. We identify issues of concern that we feel our peers are uninformed about and spread awareness in unique and interactive ways." Throughout this school year we'll be focusing our efforts on both middle school and high school issues including body image, alcohol and drug abuse, stress, bullying, and more. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact the WYC for more information.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

Throughout the year the WYC runs a ton of different special events in an effort to provide WHS students with great alcohol & drug-free alternatives. It's all part of the Peer Leaders' commitment to help their peers make good decisions! Check out our website to learn about all of our special events and mark your calendars for all the things you won't want to miss.

### **Scavenger Hunt**

We are organizing a town-wide scavenger hunt in October. Select 3-5 of your quickest, smartest, stealthiest, most adventurous friends and enter your team in this super fun challenge. Teams must have a team name, costumes, and a digital camera. Trophies, medals, and other prizes will be awarded to the most cunning, most creative, and best teams. Check out our website to find out more or stop by the WYC to enter.

### **WYC Halloween Costume Party Coffee House**

On Friday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-11:00 pm the Peer Leaders will transform the WYC into a Halloween-themed Coffee House. All attendees are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes and get into the Halloween spirit! There will be a contest for the best costumes and prizes will be awarded to the winners. As always, the Coffee House will feature live music and delicious homemade treats, frappes, and coffee drinks. The Coffee House is open to high school students only. Admission is \$5. All proceeds will benefit the Peer Leaders' Habitat for Humanity trip.

### **Rock for Youth**

Each year the WYC sponsors a Battle of the Bands for local high school rock stars. The first of three rounds will take place on Friday, November 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-11:00 pm in the Winchester Town Hall Auditorium. If you are interested in registering your band, contact the WYC or email us at [rock4youth@gmail.com](mailto:rock4youth@gmail.com). If you have friends in a band or just like to listen to great, live music be there to select the bands that will move on to Round 2.

Admission is \$10 and each audience member receives one ballot to vote for their favorite bands. As with all WYC events, no outside drinks are allowed and students are not allowed to re-enter. Proceeds from Rock for Youth benefit the Harrison Chadwick Youth Service Award Scholarships.

## **SERVICE PROJECTS**

Throughout the year the WYC Peer Leaders coordinate and participate in a huge variety of community service projects. The Peer Leaders are committed to making a positive difference in the world and encouraging others to do the same. If you're interested in doing something good for our community, stop by the WYC and find out how you can get involved. Please check out our website for a complete description of our service efforts.

### **Winchester Youth Service Day**

On Saturday, September 25<sup>th</sup> the WYC & Connect and Commit will co-sponsor the seventh town-wide Youth Service Day in Winchester. Hundreds of teens will be given the opportunity to participate in service projects all over town including park clean-ups, planting and beautification projects, Aberjona clean-up, and more. This amazing community service event is open to all middle and high school students. Students can register at the WYC and in the WHS Connect & Commit office. We are also searching for adults who are interested in volunteering with the students and additional service projects that we can put on our list. Please contact us at 781-721-0906 if you would like to get involved.

### **WYC Jewels**

The Peer Leaders have created beautiful jewelry made of glass beads, hemp, recycled materials and more. All of our hand-crafted jewelry is on display in the WYC and can be purchased Monday-Friday from 2:00-5:00 pm. The proceeds from all jewelry sales go to benefit the WYC and our youth development programs. Check out our website for upcoming jewelry party dates.

### **Making Strides Against Breast Cancer**

The Peer Leaders are organizing a team to participate in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Walk in Boston on October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Please check out our website or contact us at the WYC to find out how you can join our team and/or make a donation to this tremendous cause for the American Cancer Society.

### **Halloween Window Painting**

The WYC sponsors and organizes this town-wide annual event for children in collaboration with the Winchester Recreation Department. Participants are given the opportunity to paint the windows of participating downtown businesses with a Halloween theme on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Peer Leaders set it all up and will be in their Halloween costumes to encourage the children and present medals to all participants.

### **Halloween Horribles Parade**

The WYC, Winchester Recreation Department, and Family Action Network are co-sponsoring the second annual Halloween Horribles Parade and Party for kids on Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Children of all ages are invited to meet behind the Public Library at 10am for a costume parade to Winchester Common and then go trick-or-treating at many downtown businesses. Next we will head over to the Town Hall Auditorium for a Halloween Party featuring games, crafts, and music. WYC Peer Leaders will be in their costumes to help lead the parade and then organize games and crafts for everyone at the party!

### **Lowell Wish Project**

The Lowell Wish Project provides emergency, basic, and seasonal goods to low income families in the Merrimack Valley. The Peer Leaders volunteer several times throughout the year sorting and organizing donated items. Currently we are collecting a wide variety of greatly needed items including new/lightly used pots & pans, jeans for school-aged children, clothing and other gear for babies. We respectfully request that all items be in new/lightly used condition. Please bring your donations to the WYC during the week of October 4-8.

### **Habitat for Humanity**

For 5 years the Peer Leaders have participated in a week-long service-learning project with Habitat for Humanity to help build homes for needy families. During April vacation we will travel to a different area of the country to participate in our sixth annual week-long service trip. Throughout the fall and winter, the Peer Leaders will be running a variety of events in an effort to fundraise 100% of the expenses for our trip in April. Please contact us if you would like to make a donation toward this amazing service-learning experience.