



➤ Past YRTA Members at youth conference X

Could this be you?

Founded by a few students in 1993, Youth Reacting To AIDS (YRTA) consists of area high school students that are committed to educating themselves and their peers about HIV/AIDS. They take a stand on the issue of HIV/AIDS today.

YRTA members donate their time to attend trainings that will make them HIV/AIDS peer educators. Once trained, they use this information to make presentations to their peers in schools and community organizations throughout the greater Danbury area. YRTA teaches in high school health classes, speaks in parent-teacher forums, and presents at local World AIDS Day celebrations.

Outside the classroom, YRTA works Directly with the care receivers of Interfaith AIDS Ministry. For most YRTA members, this is a surprising experience as they realize that AIDS does not just affect individuals but friends and families as well. **These experiences promote essential compassion and acceptance in YRTA members.**

We promote acceptance. Prejudice against people affected or infected by HIV is very prevalent today. Many people are still misinformed and fearful. We speak out against prejudice and transform ignorance into personal power.

The Power of We!

We Enlighten! Many students, upon hearing a YRTA presentation admit to not knowing as much as they thought about HIV/AIDS. Being a part of YRTA is an enlightening experience.

We Educate! YRTA members become certified in peer HIV/AIDS education. We present at local schools and church groups to promote HIV/AIDS awareness.

We Empower! YRTA plans a yearly state wide Youth Empowerment conference as a community forum for peer education and fun!

We Volunteer! YRTA and Interfaith AIDS Ministry help people affected or infected by HIV. When you give time to those in need you will gain personal strength and vitality.

We are Recognized! In 2002, YRTA received the Good Samaritan Award from the American Red Cross as well as official US Congressional recognition.

We have Fun! Working with people committed to a cause is fun but so are bowling, movie nights, dinners, and training retreats – other YRTA activities.

Believe it...

"The most enriching facet of the group is that the material is being taught by teens for teens."

- Jack, Past YRTA Member

"When we go to other schools I am amazed how unprepared students are in relation to how much knowledge there is out there about HIV/AIDS."

- Roni, Past YRTA Member

"I love being able to go out to the surrounding schools and teach my peers about how HIV/AIDS affects 43% of the teen population in CT."

- Tina, Past YRTA Member

"If it weren't for YRTA and our regular meetings I might not know everything I do now and I wouldn't be able to share it with my peers."

- Katrice, Past YRTA Member

"You all have so much power. You can make a difference. You are all here to help your community and each other and that is bigger than all of us. That is greatness."

- Jennifer Jako, HIV-positive keynote speaker at the YRTA Youth Empowerment Conference X.



➤ YRTA Members at Youth Conference XI with the creator of Who's Positive Tom Donohue!

Contact Us!

Interested? Youth Reacting to AIDS welcomes any high school student to join. YRTA meets in your school and at 39 Rose Street in Danbury.

Contact:

Daniela De Castro, Community Educator
Interfaith AIDS Ministry
39 Rose ST. Danbury, CT. 06810

Email: iamdaniela@sbcglobal.net

Voice: 203.748.4077

Fax: 203.748.2841

YRTA Club sign up

All personal information is kept in the strictest confidence and not shared with any other organization or agency.

Contact Information:

Emergency Contact:

Name: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Relationship: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

E-mail: _____

Where did you hear about YRTA?

Availability:

If you are willing to join, what days and times would you be available?

What School do you go to now?

What skills (computer, clerical, translation, advocacy, etc.) do you have to offer?

Why does joining YRTA interest you?

What is the best way to contact you?

When is the best time to contact you?

How old are you?

IAM Staff Notes:

Thank you for taking your time to fill out this application.

We look forward to talking to you!