



Ferguson  
Youth Initiative

# Strategic Planning Meeting

January 12, 2013

## FYI Projects

Past

Current

2010 Ferguson Youth Summit - The summit that took place on November 6, 2010 at Ferguson Middle School. Over 60 youth and over 50 adults attended the summit with the majority of the students coming from Ferguson Middle School. Prior to the summit, 584 youth completed a 10-question survey on what they believe is important aspects to address when developing youth programs. The four goals of FYI's mission statement resulted from the summit: Communication; Connectivity; Collaboration; Coordination.

FYI / Ferguson Middle Bowling League - Thanks to the hard work of Charles Rimkus, Ferguson Middle established this 10- week league. Every Tuesday after school, 33 students bowled at Dick Weber Lanes. For just \$5, the students got to learn the rules of the game, improve their bowling skills and practice good sportsmanship.

FYI / The Vine Summer Leadership Institute - In 2011, five students were trained in the personal and group skills needed to be lifelong leaders. Each student received a \$250 stipend.

FYI Tie-Dye Booth at Sunday Parkways - FYI provided tie-dye materials and tutorials during the Aug 2011 event.

Winter Coat Drive - In 2011, FYI conducted a coat drive at the Indoor Market. Collected coats were donated to Ferg-Flor Homeless & Bridges over Troubled Waters.

Spot 394 - Spot 394 is a free event for teenagers; transforming a facility into a mock youth center for one night. Happening three times a year, Spot 394 includes Wii and Playstation zones, a music lounge, basketball courts, board games, free food / soda, and other activities tailored for teens. This event developed out of the need for teens to have a place to feel free to express themselves.

"I Support Young People" Shirt Campaign - This campaign requested donations via [rally.org/ferguson youth initiative](http://rally.org/ferguson youth initiative). With a minimum donation of \$15, supporters receive a t-shirt. Shirts also sold at the Farmer's Market. To date, we have raised ~\$280 (net).

FYI Remnant Candle Fundraiser - Remnant Candles are recycled candles made from old candles. With the generous donations, volunteers melt the donated wax to form new candles for this environmentally friendly fundraiser. We sell the candles at the Farmer's Market. The Emerson YMCA Teen Club has been very supportive. (-\$470)

Ferguson Youth Advisory Board (FYAB) - The City created this board in July 2011 to facilitate the involvement of the young people in government processes in order to receive a youth perspective. The board provides insight and feedback on city issues relating to youth. FYAB is composed of 8 to 10 student members & 5 adult non-voting advisory members; having resided within the city limits one year prior to the appointment. Every student must have completed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade & shall have neither graduated from high school nor reach his/her 19<sup>th</sup> birthday.

- The 2012/2013 board is conducting **Design Project** that is aimed to enhance the community for young people.
- 3-\$1000 stipends are available to the 2012/2013 board. Stipends are awarded by application & a point system.

Website - [FYIFergYouth.org](http://FYIFergYouth.org). Yearly expense.

Facebook - 90 Likes. 35-44 yrs old is most popular age.

Twitter - 30 Followers. Mostly other organizations.

FYI Informer Newsletter - Each month, FYI puts out the FYI Informer, an online newsletter full of information about youth activities and programs in the Ferguson community. (192 Active Contacts)



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**Planned**

**Conceptual**

Use of Old Fire House for FYI - Council has agreed to allow FYI to use the back bay of the Old Ferguson Fire House 1 (next to City Hall) in addition to part of the basement under City Hall Council Chambers. FYI will use this space for activities and programs currently being held at different facilities throughout the area. Council has requested that outside funding be secured to manage operations, FYI use doesn't conflict with City's obligation to food pantry using front bay, and we address any possible security issues.

FYI Intern - With the help of the City, FYI has secured a part-time intern to help with programming for Spring 2013. This intern will work 20 hrs per week to help with day to day activities, the intern will help develop one program.

Ferguson Community Service Program (FCSP) - FCSP will allow individuals under the age of 21 to complete community service projects in lieu of paying those fines. Volunteers to assist with operations and help with community service projects will be needed. Plan is to start in Fall 2013 – *dependent on grant funding*. Volunteer Gail Babcock is spearheading this effort – working with UMSL for assistance.

FYI App for Smart Phones - Developed by an UMSL Grad student, this idea is to create and develop a mobile application that will allow members and or those interested in becoming members easier access to the website and events that Ferguson Youth Initiative will be putting on. This is a way for FYI to get the word out to everyone interested. It also allows them to sign up for events and allows FYI to have a better way to reach those who aren't already connected. This program will be funded by grants from local businesses. What will need to be funded are the initial cost of start-up cost (\$1000) for the application itself and a fee to keep the application going each month (\$50).

Dine Out 4 FYI - Local restaurants are offering youth the opportunity to work for a percentage of sales for FYI. Youth will learn valuable working skills while helping raise money for the Ferguson Youth Initiative. Volunteers are needed to help supervise the youth and aid them in providing impeccable service. Tentatively set for an evening in March.

Feast of Ferguson - This is a potential fundraiser to help support two local scholarships. As currently proposed, FYI will assist with name recognition, volunteers, and non-profit status. *Potentially could fund FYAB Stipends.*

FYI Youth Summit & Youth Empowerment Series - It has been two years since the first youth summit. Loads of information was obtained at this summit and another summit is needed to engage the next round of youth as well as obtain feedback on how FYI has been doing. The thought would be to hold this summit in Fall 2013 and have it feed it into a monthly Youth Empowerment Series with the help of different youth organizations. Volunteers needed to assist with operations and implementation of summit & series.

Apprenticeship Program - This program will assist youth in learning job skills through tutorial and on the job training.

Parental Assistance Program - In an effort to assist the family structure, this program will help parents tutor and mentor their children while engaging them in the mission and goals of FYI.

Suspension Relief - Youth will have the option to volunteer or attend classes to relieve suspension.