

# AMERICAN YOUTH FOUNDATION

2011 ANNUAL REPORT *and* 2013 CALENDAR



*My own self, At my very best, All the time*

## MISSION

The American Youth Foundation inspires people to discover and develop their personal best, to seek balance in mental, physical, social and spiritual living and to make a positive difference in their communities and in the wider world.

## CORE VALUES

- **Best Self** – We seek to develop excellence in people by motivating them to discover and develop their personal best
- **Balanced Living** – We believe that balanced living is an integral part of everyone's life, personally and professionally. We encourage people to attain balance in mental, physical, social and religious/spiritual pursuits.
- **Safety** – We commit to providing a safe environment in which people can take emotional and physical risks.
- **Respect** – We seek to involve people from diverse cultures, values and perspectives and to impart respect for others.
- **Responsibility** – We strive to instill responsibility to act for the good of others and for a sustainable environment.
- **Stewardship** – We commit to the long term health of our organization and our world.

## VISION

The AYF will continue to excel in developing individuals who achieve their best; balance the mental, physical, social and religious/spiritual aspects of their lives; understand persons from diverse backgrounds; and work for a sustainable environment.



*"The AYF was effectively the most formative experience during my time as a youth. It shaped the way I looked at the world and those around me and I don't think I would be the person I am today if not for this unique mission." – AYF Alumnus*



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## Dear friends,

The mission of the American Youth Foundation continues to burn brightly as we wrap up another incredible year of activity. The highlights of this past year are far too numerous to fully describe, but I hope you will take a moment to absorb some of the reflections from campers, staff, parents, and alumni who gave voice to this publication. Their gifts of revelry, humility, and passion add richness to our organization and I hope that each of you feel proud to be part of their involvement in the AYF.

Miniwanca and Merrowvista are delivering more youth programming now than ever before in our history. There were fewer than 30 calendar days last year in which children were not present at our sites. We are serving more diverse populations such as youth with Down's syndrome, students from inner-city middle schools, children with parents serving in the military, and others. It is a wonderful blessing for these youth to be able to experience the full impact of our mission as they rise to the dare of being their own selves at their very best. As always, our goal is to provide an increase in scholarships and financial support as our programs expand and the cost of doing business rises. Thanks for helping us to meet this goal.

It is only with your support that so many were able to grow with us in 2011, and it will be your continued support that enables us in the coming year.

We hope that the mission of AYF continues to serve as a beacon in your life. We thank you yet again for helping AYF enlighten youth in profound and lasting ways.

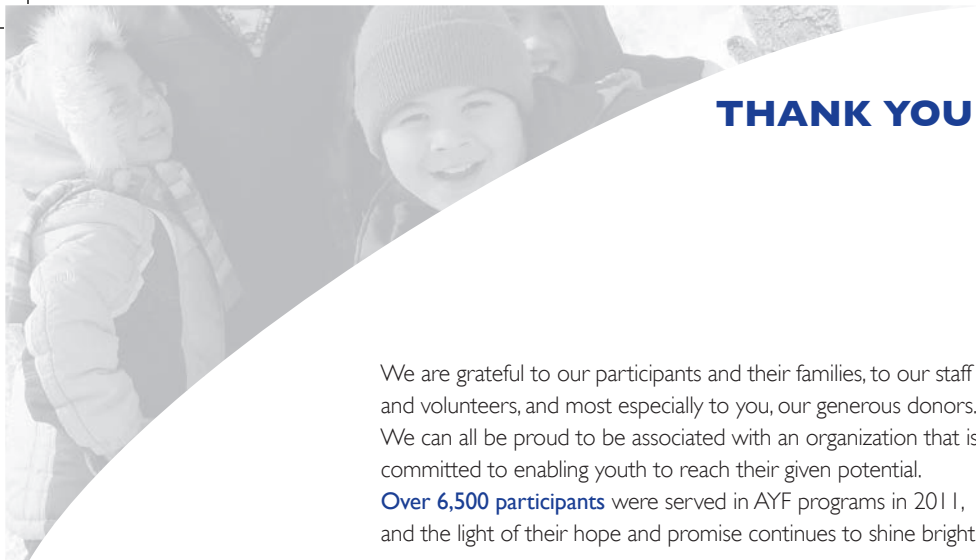
Anna Kay Vorsteg  
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*“My horizons have been broadened and my future changed because of what I have experienced here.”*  
— AYF Participant





## THANK YOU FOR MAKING IT ALL POSSIBLE!

*"I Dare You, whoever you are, to share with others the fruits of your daring. Catch a passion for helping others and a richer life will come back to you!"*

—William H. Danforth, I Dare You!

We are grateful to our participants and their families, to our staff and volunteers, and most especially to you, our generous donors. We can all be proud to be associated with an organization that is committed to enabling youth to reach their given potential.

**Over 6,500 participants** were served in AYF programs in 2011, and the light of their hope and promise continues to shine brightly.

The demand for AYF programs is growing and our enrollments are rising. It has long been the commitment of the American Youth Foundation to offer financial assistance to youth whose families would not otherwise be able to afford camp and conference tuition. Because of your generous gifts, in 2011 we were able to provide more than \$600,000 in financial assistance to our participants. 76% of AYF campers, 48% of Leadership Conference participants and 55% of School and Community Programs received support from our scholarship funds.

We also recognize and appreciate the many volunteers who play a vital role in helping us continue to deliver quality programs to our young people. Your dedication to our organization and our mission enriches the experience for all of our children.

While there are simply too many to list, you have made it possible for us to fulfill our mission to teach our children how to be their own selves at their very best, all the time, and we are eternally grateful to each of you!

*"Listen to the Mustn'ts, child, listen to the don'ts  
— listen to the shouldn'ts, the impossibles, the won'ts  
— listen to the never haves, then listen to me.  
Anything can happen, child. ANYTHING can be."*

— Shel Silverstein





*"I think it's a shame that more children don't get to experience the AYF. The connection to nature and to becoming your Best Self, how important these things are in today's world."*

— AYF Alumnus



# JANUARY | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	31	1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9





*"We heard many things about balance in his life, doing his best and not giving up."*

*– AYF Participant Parent*





# FEBRUARY | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2 Groundhog Day
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16
17	18 President's Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9



*"She really found a spark of inner strength in her week at Miniwanca"*

*— AYF Participant Parent*



# MARCH | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
24	25	26	27	28	1	2 AYF Board of Directors Winter Meeting (St. Louis)
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Savings Starts (Spring Forward)	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19	20 Spring Equinox	21	22	23
24	25	26 Passover (through April 1)	27	28	29	30
31 Easter Sunday	1	2	3	4	5	6



*"I am my Best Self when I make new friends and feel confident. I feel very supported and loved in this place."*

*— National Leadership Conference Participant*





# APRIL | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Alumni and Volunteer Work Weekend Starts (through April 21)	20
21	22 <i>Earth Day</i>	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11



*“He takes so much pride in his abilities when he comes home and shares the experience of staying at camp for three weeks as a huge accomplishment.”*

*— AYF Participant Parent*



# MAY | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>Mother's Day</i>	13 12th Annual Donald Danforth, Jr. Memorial Golf Tournament (St. Louis)	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 <i>Memorial Day</i>	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8



*“Because we are only here a short time, you cannot see the far-reaching effects of your work with our kids.  
They have a renewed commitment to their education, their community, and to each other.”*

*— AYF School Program*





# JUNE | 2013



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10 Day Camp: Miniwanca (through June 14)	11	12	13	14	15
16 Father's Day National Leadership Conference (through June 23)	17	18	19	20	21 Summer Solstice	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30 Camp Miniwanca Session A Starts (1 and 3 weeks)	1	2	3	4	5	6



*"She keeps going on and on about her experiences.  
It makes me wish I could have been a part of the AYF when I was younger."*

*– AYF Participant Parent*



# JULY | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>30</b> Camp Miniwanca Session A Starts (1 and 3 weeks)	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> <i>Independence Day</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> Camp Miniwanca Session A Starts (2 weeks)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <i>Ramadan (through August 7)</i>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> Camp Miniwanca Session B Starts (1 & 3 weeks) Camp Merrowvista Session B Starts (1 & 4 weeks)	<b>22</b> Day Camp: Merrowvista (through July 26)	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> AYF Board of Directors Summer Meeting: Miniwanca (through July 28)	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> Camp Miniwanca Session B Starts (2 weeks) Camp Merrowvista Session B Starts (2 & 3 weeks)	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>



*"These kids have taught me how to play, how to serve, how to listen, how to pray, how to love, and how to live."*

*— AYF Summer Staff Member*





# AUGUST | 2013



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Camp Miniwanca Alumni & Family Weekend (through September 2)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7



*"I have a passion to awaken these children through the experience of our mission.  
And they in turn are the fire that reaffirms my commitment each day."*

*– AYF Camp Director*



# SEPTEMBER | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 <i>Labor Day</i>	3	4	5 <i>Rosh Hashana (through September 6)</i>	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14 <i>Yom Kippur</i>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 <i>Fall Equinox</i>	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12



*"I felt that by just being my best self I could be an encouragement to others when things got hard on trail."*  
— AYF Participant





# OCTOBER | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 <i>Columbus Day</i>	15	16	17	18	19 Camp Miniwanca Fall Family Festival
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9



*“This is the most accepting place I’ve ever been. I can just be myself and have fun here”*  
— AYF Participant



# NOVEMBER | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3 Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Back)	4	5	6 Michigan Middle School Leadership Initiative (through November 10)	7	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day Hanukkah (through December 5)	29	30
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

My own self,

At my very best,

All the time

*“The American Youth Foundation to me really is a lifetime commitment. My family has come for generations and intends to continue this tradition for as long as we can.”*

*—AYF Alumnus*





# DECEMBER | 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 AYF Board of Directors Fall Meeting (via teleconference)	6	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day</i>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 <i>Winter Solstice</i>
22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26	27	28
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

# HONOR ROLL | January 1 to December 31, 2011

The American Youth Foundation extends our deepest gratitude to the following individuals, corporations and foundations for their generous support of our programs and the children we serve.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. Please accept our sincere apologies for any errors or omissions.

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# HONOR ROLL | January 1 to December 31, 2011

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# HONOR ROLL | January 1 to December 31, 2011

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Shawn Dennany  
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Tracy Fritzsche  
Roland and Lilian Fulde  
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Bob Garrett  
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Nicole Gerome



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Audrey Mueller Hahn  
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*— list continues next page*

## **DARERS CIRCLE** *(continued)*

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Eugene Leithiser  
Jerome and Shirley Leslie  
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Jill E. Lewis  
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## HONOR ROLL | January 1 to December 31, 2011

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*"I dare you, boys and girls,  
to make life obey you,  
not you it."*

*— William H. Danforth*

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# HONOR ROLL | January 1 to December 31, 2011

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## HONOR ROLL | January 1 to December 31, 2011

### 2ND ANNUAL FRIENDS OF AYF ST. LOUIS TRIVIA NIGHT

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Appalachian Mountain Teen Project  
Berlin High School  
Berwick Academy  
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of Boston  
Brewster Academy  
Camp Kesem at Massachusetts  
Institute of Technology  
Children's Hospital at Dartmouth  
– Diabetes Services  
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Codman Academy  
Concord Middle School  
Esperanza Academy  
Essex Elementary School  
Gorham Middle High School  
Granite State Running Camp  
Groveton High school  
Hampton Academy

Heinemann Professional Development  
Heronfield Academy  
Inter-Lakes Middle Tier  
Kids4Peace – Boston  
Leadership New Hampshire  
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Littleton High School  
Lowell Community Health Center  
Manchester Central High School  
Marshwood Middle School  
Maude H. Trefethen School  
McCarthy-Towne School  
Memorial Elementary School  
New Hampshire National Guard  
Child & Youth Program  
North Hampton Elementary School  
Northwood School  
Ocean Hill Collegiate Charter School  
Ossipee Central School  
Profile School  
Rye Junior High  
Sandwich Central School  
Seven Sisters or Sew  
St. John's Episcopal Church – Vestry  
St. John's Episcopal Church  
– Youth Groups  
Strafford School

Stratford Public School  
The Fay School – 5th Grade  
The Fay School – 9th Grade  
The Fenn School  
The Pike School  
Tuftonboro Central School  
University of New Hampshire  
– Campus Activities Board  
University of New Hampshire  
– Leadership Camp  
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– Camp Meridian  
White Mountain Regional High School  
York Middle School  
Zebra Crossings – Down Syndrome  
Family Weekend

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Breton Downs 5th Grade  
Center for Economicology  
Ealy Elementary 5th Grade  
Family Camp  
Father-Son Retreat (Cub Scouts)  
Grand Rapids Community College  
Grand Rapids Medical Education  
Partners Residents Retreat

Hamilton Football  
Mason Lake ISD Skills Class  
Miniwanca Couples  
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Montessori Children's House  
of Lansing  
Montessori Radmoor School  
Nellie B. Chisholm Middle School (fall)  
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*"The people here are from all kinds of different places.  
I really like that. I think I'll have so many new friends now that I have come here."*

*— AYF Camper*

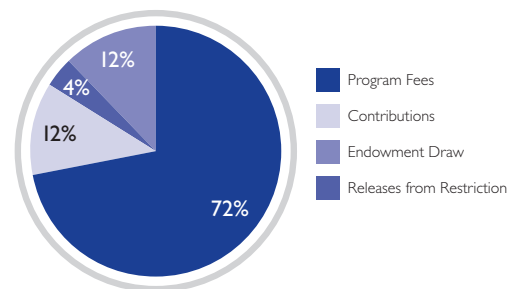


# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | Statement of Financial Position, January 1 to December 31, 2011

## REVENUE

Program Fees (Camps, Conference, Schools)	\$ 3,963,845
Contributions (Grants, Donations & Other)	\$ 663,212
Releases from Restriction	\$ 234,656
Endowment Draw	\$ 665,953

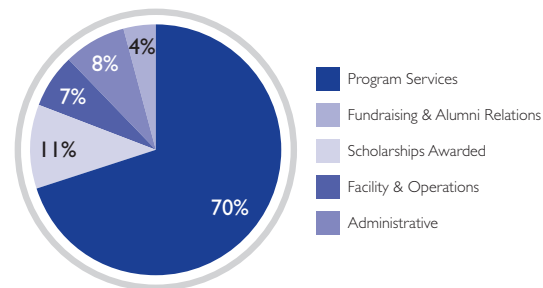
**TOTAL REVENUE SUPPORT & DRAW: \$ 5,527,666**



## EXPENSES

Program Services	\$ 3,889,026
Scholarships Awarded	\$ 604,218
Facility & Operations	\$ 365,786
Administrative	\$ 434,255
Fundraising & Alumni Relations	\$ 234,381

**TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 5,527,666**



*If you would like more information about our financial statements, our annual audit and annual IRS Informational Return Form 990 are available to the public. A copy can be obtained by visiting our website and clicking on "About AYF" and following the link to the financial reports.*



For more information about our programs or to learn how you can support our mission, please visit our website at [www.ayf.com](http://www.ayf.com)

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Merrowvista  
147 Canaan Road  
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603-539-6607  
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American Youth Foundation  
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