

Having Our Say

The newsletter of SaySo, Strong Able Youth Speaking Out

Volume 12 Number 1 (01/11)

Become a Member!

If you are interested in joining **SaySo**, let us know! E-mail or write us with the following information: your name, birth date, and address (including e-mail), region and the kind of out-of-home placement you are or have been in.

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This Month's Inspirational Quote: *If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.*

John Quincy Adams

January LinkUp

We had a wonderful time at the SaySo LinkUp Conference in Wilson County on Saturday, January 22, 2011. We started the day off with the Cha-Cha Slide. We also had informative workshops where the youth learned about college scholarships through the NCRReach/ETV Program and also how to respect others in "Understanding Diversity". There were Empowerment Stations on health & wellness. We gave away great door prizes, had pizza for lunch and played exciting games at the end. Each participant also received an end of day gift & Certificate of Participation. SaySo would like to thank Wilson County Community College for the usage of their facility for this Conference, as well as Wilson County LINKS Program for their assistance.



Help us "Upgrade" the SaySo website!!! If you had any ideas about what should be added to SaySo's website, email us directly at sayso@irlinc.com. We welcome your input & suggestions to make our new website the best on the Internet!

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Good News!

Hey everyone, do you have something positive you want to share? Maybe it's good grades, being accepted into college or getting a new job. SaySo now has a "Good News" column that will be added to each newsletter. Whether big or small, we want to know about it! Please email your happy news to Chaney at chaney.stokes@ilrinc.com. Your good news will be added to the newsletter the following month.

Here is this month's "good news" SaySo has to share with you:

-SaySo's Holiday Gift, SaySo received a check for \$10,000 from the Concern of Durham Organization. We would like to thank Concern of Durham for the wonderful & generous donation.



SaySo Staff:

Executive Director:
Nancy Carter
Program Coordinator:
Lauren Zingraff
Assistant Program Coordinator
Chaney Stokes

Upcoming Events

Save the Dates....

- **SaySo Saturday** – Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Guilford Technical Community College in Jamestown. You can register online at www.saysoinc.org under the Events tab. We have single registration as well as group registration forms.
- **Legislative Page Week** – March 20-25, 2011 in Raleigh, NC. There are 3 programs: Governor's Page, House Page, and Senate Page. You can access the Governor's Page Application at:
<http://www.volunteernc.org/programs/pageProgramApplication.aspx>
You can access the House Page Application at:
<http://www.ncleg.net/house/pages/home.html>
Applications must be returned directly to the SaySo office by January 31st.
- **It's My Transition** -Saturday April 2, 2011 in Robeson County.

If you need more information regarding the upcoming events, please contact SaySo directly at 800-820-0001, or email Chaney, Assistant Program Coordinator, at chaney.stokes@ilrinc.com

What's New...

As the Assistant Program Coordinator of SaySo and a former foster youth, I am interested in beginning the North Carolina Chapter of the Foster Care Alumni Association. The Foster Care Alumni Association (FCAA) is a National Organization of former or present foster youth from the age of 18 and up. The mission of FCAA is to connect the alumni community and to transform policy and practice, ensuring opportunity for people in and from foster care. You can view more information about the organization on their website: www.fostercarealumni.org.

If you are a former foster youth or, currently in foster care and would like to be apart of the NC FCAA Chapter, please contact me via email at chaney.stokes@ilrin.com.