

# Having Our Say

*The newsletter of SaySo, Strong Able Youth Speaking Out*

Volume 13 Number 3 (05/12)

## 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.

## Contact Information

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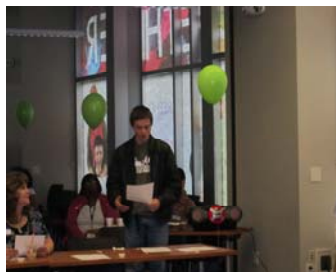
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**This Month's Inspirational Quote:** *We can't help everyone, but everyone can help someone.* Ronald Reagan, 40th U.S. President

## It's My Transition

On April 28, 2012, Buncombe County, Madison County, and Randolph County DSS sponsored one of our "It's My Transition" events for the year. This workshop is for youth ages 16 + up that focuses on independent living & LINKS outcomes needed for successfully transitioning out of care. The young people were able to receive information on all LINKS outcomes: employment, housing, education, support network, avoiding high risk behaviors, postponing parenting, health care. Our guest speakers were Lydia Butler from the Sister's Program, Wendy Kier from Fostering To Success, Kevin Hayes from Goodwill, and our SaySo Board Member, David Rosario. Many thanks to our sponsors for making this conference happen.



From our Executive Director...

So tell us... go ahead "speak out & speak loud!"

What **LINKS outcome is easiest** for you to reach?

What **LINKS outcome is hardest** to achieve?

What can SaySo do to help you achieve it?

We all are different so some outcomes are easier than others, right? What connects us is we all hope to achieve them. Achieving the outcomes means we'll transition much more smoothly. So, since we're all in this together, how can we help each other? Are there things you've learned to help you get more education, keep a job, remain in the same apartment, avoid becoming a parent too early, increasing the number of people who support you, taking better care of your health, and staying away from activities that could get you hurt or arrested? The LINKS outcomes are challenging to achieve but not impossible. Send your ideas to [sayso@ilrinc.com](mailto:sayso@ilrinc.com) and we'll create a page on the website with your ideas! Just maybe it might help someone else! Together we can all make a difference! ~ Nancy

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## Good News!

This month is very exciting for SaySo. We have so many young people doing wonderful things. This month's Good News:

Congratulations to Marcella M. for becoming a 2012 FosterClub Allstar.

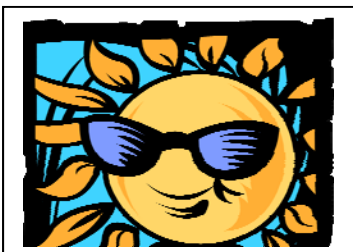
Congratulations to Damonique L. for being accepted into UNC Charlotte.

Congratulations to Shanita G. for being accepted into UNC Greensboro.

Congratulations to Kalyn D. who received her Associate's Degree from Cape Fear Community College.

Congratulations to Roman R. for maintaining a 4.0 GPA at ECU and also for being recognized as an Outstanding Youth Leader

**Are you graduating this year from college or high school and want to be featured in our newsletter? Just send us an email with your school and graduation information and we will be sure to recognize your 2012 success.**



Summer, summer, sum-mer-time. It's summertime!!!

### SaySo Staff

Nancy Carter- Executive Director

Lauren Zingraff- Program Coordinator

Chaney Stokes- Assistant Program Coordinator

## Sayso survivor



*SaySo Local Chapters....Let us know what great things you are doing for our next newsletter!*