

Having Our Say

The newsletter of SaySo, Strong Able Youth Speaking Out

Volume 7, Number 1

About SaySo, Inc.

SaySo is a statewide association of youth aged 14 to 24 who are or have been in North Carolina's out-of-home care system. This includes all types of substitute care, including foster care, group homes, and mental health placements.

Our mission is to work to improve the substitute care system by educating the community, speaking out about needed changes, and providing support to youth who are or have been in substitute care.

Become a Member!

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

Contact Information

SaySo, Inc.
c/o ILR, Inc.
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Fax: 919/384-0338
Web Site: www.saysoinc.org
Email: sayso@ilrinc.com

Officers

Co-chairs: Curtina K. and
Cherish C.
Secretary: Julia S.
Treasurer: Britney M.
Sergeant-at-arms: Antwan B.



NEW Leadership Conference!!

***SaySo Survivor will be held May 5 - 7, 2006. FREE!!
Save the date! Space is limited. Registrations/agendas
will be available at SaySo Saturday, March 4th.***

Three COOL Ways to Make a Difference!

NC Youth Legislative Assembly (YLA):

YLA is an opportunity to learn the legislative process in North Carolina and to express your opinions on issues facing our local, state, and national government. We hope you will take advantage of this occasion and let your voice be heard by the leaders of our state. For more information or to request an application please

contact 919-733-9296 or www.ncyaio.com

Act Quickly!! Application deadline is February 21, 2006

(Our SaySo office also has applications. Scholarships are available.)

It's time for the SaySo Page Week.

This year's page week will be May 15th-19th, 2006. If you would like more information on becoming a page or would like to request an application please contact Tracy Taylor tracy.taylor@ilrinc.com or 1-800-820-0001. Earn a stipend and make a difference.

Choose from Senate, House, or Governors Program.

Application deadline is March 29, 2006!

Congressional Internship: provides an opportunity for talented college students, who have spent time in foster care, to intern in Congressional offices for the summer. The Foster Youth Internship is a full-time work experience, taking place over six weeks from June 1 - July 15, 2006. Interns are paid a small stipend to cover daily expenses. The CCAI FYI program pays major expenses such as housing and transportation. Interns must be able to live in Washington, D.C. for the full duration of the program. For more information contact 703-288-9700.

Our SaySo office has applications. 800-820-0001

Deadline/postmarked by February 24, 2006

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JOIN ALL SAYSO MEMBERS for the

7th Annual SaySo Saturday Conference, March 4, 2006

Guilford Technical Community College, Jamestown (Greensboro)

9:30 AM - 3:30 PM (See enclosed flyer)

- Elect New Board Members · Eat · Learn about AWESOME Opportunities ·
- Celebrate SaySo's birthday · A Variety of Workshops · Meet friends

Is SaySo Saturday for everyone? No. It's only for young people ages 14-24 who are or have been in substitute care. Adopted youths who were in foster care and later adopted should also attend. College students and older youths who have aged out have lots to say about how foster care helped and hurt their transition to adult life. We all have something to say. This is the time to say it and take some action.

Will I get anything out of SaySo Saturday? That depends on you. Like anything else, what you get depends on what you are willing to put into it. It could be awesome and make a huge difference in your life - or none at all. You decide that. You will get conference materials, lunch, snacks, and cake - maybe even one of the birthday gifts and probably even a new friend or two. Check out our pictures from last year.

SaySo's Birthday Celebration



Shhhhh... it's a secret!

SaySo Local Chapter Special Surprise!!

This year a special surprise will be awarded to each active, local SaySo chapter that attends SaySo Saturday with at least three members of their chapter. This is not to be missed!

