

Having Our Say

The newsletter of SaySo, Strong Able Youth Speaking Out

Volume 8 Number 4

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, birthdate, 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.
411 Andrews Rd., Ste. 230
Durham NC 27705
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Fax: 919/384-0338
Web Site: www.saysoinc.org
Email: sayso@ilrinc.com

Officers

Co-chairs: Cherish C and LaRico C.
Secretary: Jackie S.
Treasurer: Reneka C.
Sergeant-at-arms: Dwayne W.



NEW BOARD-NEW AGENDA: A NEW YEAR FOR SAYSO!

On June 14th the new SaySo board that YOU elected at SaySo Saturday was commissioned and began the process of creating an amazing, fun filled agenda for the 2007-2008 year. If you take a second to glance towards the left corner of "*Having Our Say*," you will notice that changes have been made to the officers' list. Email addresses of all board members are listed on the back. Anyone who has an interest in SaySo and becoming more involved are encouraged to contact them.

Agenda for 2007-2008:

- **Foster Parent Recruitment and Retention**
- **10 year Celebration Boards/design**
- **New SaySo Exhibit Board design**
- **"For You" Guidebook to go with the video**
- **Help with the Program Improvement Plan for foster care in NC**
- **10 Year Celebration Campaign/celebration (March 1)**
- **Revamping Bi-Laws**
- **Make A Difference Day in October (more on the website)**

If anyone is interested in participating in these activities, please contact a board member (either in your region or one of the officers) to find out more information. You can also contact Rhiannon, Program Coordinator for SaySo, 800-820-0001 or sayso@ilrinc.com.

This year is going to be a great year for SaySo. The new board is eager and ready to go to make 2007-2008 the best year that SaySo has ever seen. We look forward to your participation ☺ ☺



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SAYSOINC.ORG New Website is Up and Running: Join in on the Fun!!! Sign Up as a User NOW!!!

Board Member Contact:

Region 1

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Chaetaz "Chae" C.

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Region 5

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Shawda' E.

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Region 6

No representation at this time.

Executive Director

Nancy

Nancy.carter@ilrinc.com

Program Coordinator

Rhiannon

r.galen@ilrinc.com



Thanks to the wonderful dedication by Adrian McMullan, SaySo now has an amazing website (<http://www.saysoinc.org>) fully functioning and ready to meet the needs of all foster and adoptive youth throughout North Carolina. Over the next several issues of *"Having Our Say,"* we will feature and discuss the different aspects to the website in order to help everyone become more familiar and utilize the website to your advantage. Check it out and register now! **It's free!**

The **Message Board** is perhaps the most exciting addition to the new website. Now, everyone will be able to post and send messages to their fellow SaySo members or friends who are registered with the site. The first step is to register. When you register, an email will be sent to the address that you listed in order to activate your registration. Now, when you sign in on the website, there will be a new menu selection offered to you...The **message board** will be one of these functions.

CAUTION: Anything that you post will go through the Program Coordinator at SaySo. Let's make sure to treat this feature with respect, along with your fellow SaySo members. No cursing, gossiping, or anything that may offend others. Let's keep this fun, informative, safe, and entertaining for all.