



Helping Young People Build Their Future

Thank you for helping us launch **Friends of West Kent YMCA**. We hope you will champion, promote and support our work - as a Friend - for many years to come.

We are also pleased to launch our first campaign, for 2013-14, to highlight the needs of young people, to promote our vital work and to raise funds for specific support. The campaign has

been named by the young people in our projects **“SAY YES 2 YOUTH”**

This name underlines how young people really value the positive work of West Kent YMCA as we help young people to turn their lives around, to take a step up, and to build their future. We listen to them. We believe in them. We empower them. We equip them - and when so often

they hear “No” or expect “No” as an answer, we say **“YES”**

**“YES”** to a homeless 16 year old - given 2 years of supported housing in **Ryder House**.

**“YES”** to a 14 year old boy or girl excluded or disengaging from school - given a year of accredited vocational training in carpentry or plumbing at **the Horizon Project** with team work, life skills and ‘one to one’ help with IT, numeracy and literacy.

**“YES”** to a man or woman age 17 ‘not in employment, education or training’ (NEET) – given enterprise training and work experience in our **Furniture Warehouses**.

**“YES”** to a young person with little hope and low self-esteem - given new opportunities to shine and grow - as a Youth Champion, on ‘Big Five For Life’ or doing a Duke of Edinburgh Award - in our **V4C - Vehicle 4 Change** youth engagement or our **Juice Bar YOUTH Clubs**.

**This year we want to raise £25,000. Help us “SAY YES 2 YOUTH” for**

- **SAFE SPACE** – a dedicated room, trained staff and support to help young people deal with emotional trauma, anger and other issues in their life. Many homeless young people find it hard to focus on a new direction without learning to deal with their past.
- **Youth Opportunities** - a fund for new opportunities to help the most dis-connected young people reconnect with their community and start to build their future.

**Here are some of the ways that you can help us “SAY YES 2 YOUTH”**

Sign up as a **volunteer**

Sign up as a **Friend**

Tell us **your story**

Arrange to visit any of our projects.

Book a speaker for your club, business or church

- Donate via [www.westkentymca.org.uk/get-involved/donate/](http://www.westkentymca.org.uk/get-involved/donate/) or by gift aid
- Text **YMCA75 £5 to 70070** [you even get an option to use giftaid].
- Host a **Y Party** (our pyramid party scheme) to raise funds and awareness. Call, email or text us for as many packs as you need - Details are at [www.westkentymca.org.uk/get-involved](http://www.westkentymca.org.uk/get-involved)
- Do something wonderful to help – run, jump, swim, organise a cake stall! Every little bit helps.
- Donate furniture, electrical items and clothes to us - and gift aid the proceeds. Even old cars!
- Recycle phones, CDs, ink cartridges, jewellery at our warehouses or use our envelopes
- Join our **Family Fun Day** Sat 15<sup>th</sup> Jun, 11 am – 4 pm at Ridgewaye playing fields, Southborough (Crafts, BBQ, Birds of Prey display, Cream Teas, Face-painting, Mask competition, and lots more!). If you feel strong enough - enter a ‘Tug of War’ team – contact us for your application form.
- Join the **“Yes 2 Youth” Celebration** at the TN2 Community Centre - to hear young people from our projects - on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013 at 6.30 pm Book in for our **Quiz night** (details to follow).

Thank you for your support as we **“SAY YES 2 YOUTH”**

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