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AND BE
HEARD.**
AOTEAROA YOUTH
VOICES NETWORK
STAND UP



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Your April edition of AYV!

In this edition you will find out about:

- Get involved in creating the AYV newsletter!
- Youth Week 2014 including the Youth Week Award
- World Conference on Youth 2014 - NZ Delegates announced
- UNICEF NZ Youth Congress 2014
- iCan - anti-bullying campaign / Manawatu Youth Ambassadors
- 2014 Minister of Health Volunteer Awards - Youth Category
- Youthline Wellington - Now recruiting!
- Summerz End Youth Fest
- Whangarei Youth Space - Leading Change Inspiring Futures
- Have your say - Make a submission to the Government

Let us know what's happening in your community and send us your stories anytime to - ayv@myd.govt.nz



From the Ministry of Youth Development (MYD).

Exciting opportunities to create the AYV newsletter!

We are excited to let you know that we are in the process of giving the AYV newsletter a full make-over.

To make this possible we want YOU and other AYV members to be more involved and

create content to share with the AYV network!

If you are interested in taking part and providing stories, opportunities and other content for AYV, message us on Facebook or email the new email address: ayv@myd.govt.nz

Don't forget to visit the [AYV Facebook page](#) and spread the word!

We look forward to hearing from you!



Youth Week 2014 and Awards



Youth Week 2014 kicks off next month and will be held from 17 to 25 May. The theme this year is 'Be the Change'.

Do you know any young people who are doing amazing work in your community?

As part of Youth Week 2014 we have been working with Ara Taiohi, to develop the Youth Week 2014 Awards. These were announced by Minister Kaye on 2 April and will recognise and celebrate young people aged between 12 and 24 who are valued as active members of their community.

Nominations for the awards are now open and will close at 9am Monday 28 April. The four award categories are:

Change Maker - The Change Maker Award will be awarded to a young person who, through embracing diversity, is creating change in their community.

Leadership - The Leadership Award will be awarded to a young person who has demonstrated their leadership in a project or organisation.

Giving Back - The Giving Back Award will be awarded to a young person whose actions address a current need and have had a significant impact on their community.

Working for Youth - The Working for Youth Award will be awarded to a young person whose actions specifically support other young people - this may include sport, cultural or arts activities.

For more information about the Youth Week 2014 Award and to fill out a nomination form [click here](#).

World Conference On Youth 2014 in Sri Lanka - NZ National Youth Delegates announced



We are pleased to announce the appointment of Suzy McKinney and Oliver Ibbetson as National Youth Delegates of New Zealand to attend the World Conference On Youth 2014 (WCY 2014) in Sri Lanka, held from 6-10 May 2014.

The WCY 2014's cross-cutting theme is 'mainstreaming youth in the post-2015 Development Agenda'.

We would like to congratulate Suzy and Oliver on being selected from 133 applicants and thank everyone who applied for the opportunity.

To find out more visit the [World Conference on Youth website](http://www.wcy2014.com).

UNICEF New Zealand Youth Congress 2014



UNICEF NZ is offering 50 young New Zealanders the chance to learn more about the world, share ideas about how to make a difference and gain the skills needed to take action for children.

The UNICEF Youth Congress 2014 will be held in Christchurch with the theme of youth citizenship. Participants will learn about empowering youth participation in society to enact positive change.

For more information and to apply to attend the UNICEF Youth Congress 2014 go to the [UNICEF website](http://www.unicef.org).

The deadline for applications is 12 noon, Friday 16 May 2014.

iCan - anti-bullying campaign



Sam Pike, a MYD National Youth Advisory Group member has been working with Te Manawa Services to initiate the anti-bullying campaign iCan. The iCan Youth Action group is a youth led initiative established to address issues of bullying, promote social change and create a safer environment for young people. Their motto is helping people up, not pushing people down.

They have the support of local schools, the Manawatu District Council and Feilding Police, and recently set up a Facebook page which you can find at - [iCanYouth Action Group Against Bullying](#).

Manawatu Youth Ambassadors - MYA

Sam also started a Facebook page for [Manawatu Youth Ambassadors - MYA](#), which arose in response to a Youth Forum. MYA are involved in many leadership roles and decision-making opportunities.

To read what Sam has written about the work the Manawatu Youth Ambassadors are involved in [click here](#).

2014 Minister of Health Volunteer Awards - Youth Category



Do you know someone who you think should be recognised for their commitment, dedication and hard work volunteering in New Zealand's health and disability sector? You can nominate them for the 2014 Minister of Health Volunteer Awards!

Every year, the Ministry of Health helps run these awards which include a category specifically for young people who give their time to health and disability NGOs, service groups, hospitals or other health-related groups!

Last year's Youth Health Volunteer Award recipient Matthew Wadham is helping to promote the awards. [Check out the clip](#) about how he got involved in volunteering and what it means to him. To nominate someone for a 2014 Minister of Health Award [click here](#).

Youthline Wellington development programme- Now recruiting!

Youthline Wellington is currently recruiting for its Youth Development Programme starting 9 May. This free programme aims to increase confidence, provide job opportunities and

develop new friendships for young people, via a variety of team activities and creative projects that will provide challenges and opportunities for attendees to develop key life skills.

To find out more [click here](#).

Summerz End Youth Fest

The inaugural Summerz End Youth Fest took place in Christchurch on Saturday 5 April and was attended by an estimated 4000 people. The event showcased the talent of youth and provided an opportunity for youth to take part in something fun and inclusive, meet and connect with new people and learn about groups and clubs operating in the city.

Read more on what Sally Carlton wrote about the event by [clicking here](#).

Whangarei Youth Space - Leading Change Inspiring Futures

Whangarei Youth Space (WYS) will open on 1 May 2014. There will be a dawn blessing led by tangata whenua followed by the formal opening. MYD will be present and participate in the opening.

If you live locally, check out the family and community activity focus on Friday 2 May and a band and performances by young people on Saturday 3 May.

WYS will provide a universally accessible and centrally located youth centre that brings together operational programmes of social and recreational activities, youth development, and youth health and support services.

HAVE YOUR SAY - Make a submission to the Government



Have your voice heard by making a submission on a number of issues currently being considered by Parliament.

A submission is your chance to present your opinions, observations, and recommendations on a matter before a select committee.

The current items under consideration are:

Title	Closing Date
Building (Earthquake-prone Buildings) Amendment Bill	17 April 2014

Environmental Reporting Bill	17 April 2014
Energy (Fuels, Levies and References) Amendment Bill	17 April 2014
Kaikoura (Te Tai-o-Makoura) Marine Management Bill	17 April 2014
Education Amendment Bill (No 2)	30 April 2014
New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Amendment Bill	5 May 2014

To learn more about making submissions, how it works and what it means click [here](#).
