

Youth Empowerment & Leadership

(YEL) Project, a perfect place to start for any mentor, is from 5 to 8 PM every Friday and Sunday night at Hillbrook Youth Detention Facility. YEL is opportunity for youth in detention to have fun participating in collaborative and group-building activities. The best thing about YEL is that youth get to hang out with young adults going to college. At the end of the night youth are given healthy fruit such as watermelons and other snacks.

Save the Kids (STK) is a nonprofit organization founded in 2009 dedicated to reintegrate youth from incarceration to their community in New York State.

STK is a nonprofit organizations based in Syracuse, New York. STK is a full-volunteer collaborative organization that provides youth empowerment, leadership, group building, nonviolence, mentoring, and reintegration based programs for youth ages of **10 to 16 years** old in New York.

STK is one of the first mentor based youth re-entry programs in the US. STK located at Hillbrook Youth Detention Center, collaborates with SUNY Cortland, Center for Community Alternatives, Syracuse University, Le Moyne College, Onondaga Community College, American Friends Service Community, GEAR Up, and many other organizations and agencies in-order to achieve our goals. We are always looking to work with more agencies, nonprofits, and scholars.



More and more prisons are being constructed to accommodate your generation when you grow to adulthood. The question is, can you become motivated enough to **defy** the expectations that many people have of you."

- Stanley "Tookie" Williams

Save the Kids

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Save the Kids serves youth 10 to 17 years old in New York.

A Program of Save the Kids



The first phase of STK's re-entry program.

Help Open Possibilities Project (HOPP)

"Being there when you get out."

Adult Mentor Guidelines

- Parents/guardians must be notified and approve of mentorship with their child.
- All mentors must have a commitment against drugs, violence, and illegal activity.
- There must be at least two mentors on accomplishing any task or on any activity/outing.
- Parents/Guardians must approve of all photos with youth.
- Mentors must have a commitment against racism, sexism, homophobia, ageism, ableism, and all other forms of discrimination including those that have committed crimes.
- Mentors must be professional (with their language, behavior, and dress) and be positive role-models for youth and STK
- Mentors may not build a *personal* relationship on any level with youth.
- Mentors must hold to a confidentiality of youth's records, paper work, and files.
- Mentors must be at least 18 years old with no criminal record.
- Always log activities and mentoring, including phone-calls, e-mails, events, run-ins, letters, text messages, etc..
- Have completed STK's Mentor Training.



Help Open Possibilities (HOP) is Save the Kids' first phase of the youth re-entry program, which is accomplished within the first month of the kids' release from an incarcerated location. HOP is based on the **Ten Steps 4 the Real World**, which are ten tasks to achieve with youth between the ages of 10 to 16 years old to accomplish.

They include:

- 1. Pledge to stay away from drugs, violence, and alcohol**
- 2. Take a college tour**
- 3. Get into school**
- 4. Get a library card**
- 5. Get an e-mail address**
- 6. Create a resume**
- 7. Join an after school programs**
- 8. Complete STK's Job Readiness Academy and Find a Job**
- 9. Volunteer with an organization**
- 10. Become a Youth Mentor and help other kids**



Call For Mentors!

1) To be a mentor, one must work or volunteer in the New York juvenile justice system (this assures that you are a mandated reporter, have signed the confidentiality agreement, and have worked with at-risk-youth).

STK believes true re-entry starts from the inside out.

2) The next step is to write a personal statement between 500 to 1,000 words about yourself and why you are interested in working with youth and Save the Kids.

3) All volunteers must be professional, have a full commitment to nonviolence, social justice, above 18 years old, and love working with kids.

Please send your personal statement and resume to:

Anthony J. Nocella, II
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