



Magellan Youth Leaders Inspiring Future Empowerment

**The Evolution of MY LIFE...
how you can do it too**



MY LIFE empowers youth by giving us a voice in helping to improve youth and young adult programs and services related to behavioral health, child welfare, education and juvenile justice systems.



MY LIFE is made up of youth between the ages of 13 and 23 years old who have experience with mental health, substance abuse and/or foster care related issues.



MY LIFE Meetings

MY LIFE meetings are held every other week and average nearly 75 youth attendees per meeting, including youth from residential treatment facilities.



MY LIFE Positions

- Chairpersons
- Secretaries
- Presentation Coordinators
- Outreach Coordinators
- Volunteer Coordinators
- Special Events Coordinators
- Fundraising Coordinators

MY LIFE MY FEST '08
 a MUSIC, ART, ENTERTAINMENT & YOUTH INVOLVEMENT FESTIVAL
TEMPE BEACH PARK
 JUNE 7TH • 10AM TO 5PM

Artists: MACHETA, THE HIG SHOW CASE, THE VISIONARY, THUNDER THIEF, CHAINCET TRINELAVE, ROOSEVELT, KENNY DOBBS, Ear Candy, Mat Weddle, Divine, Queen Be, Scotfish, MIKID.

PSA for TAWAKENINGS:
 MY LIFE gives youth an opportunity to use their experiences, talents and ideas to make positive changes in their lives, while helping others to do the same. Once all agencies and companies will be present to share information regarding opportunities for youth to get involved with employment, volunteering, youth programs and other activities.

MY LIFE is made up of youth between the ages of 11 and 13 years who have experience with mental health, substance abuse and/or foster care related issues, and who have a desire to make positive changes in their own lives.

For more information, contact: MY LIFE, 1000 N. Central Expressway, Suite 100, Tempe, AZ 85281-1000
 Phone: 480-964-3333, Fax: 480-964-3334, Email: mylife@mylifefest.com

MY LIFE Focus

- ❖ To learn, utilize and teach advocacy skills to help make positive change;
- ❖ To provide youth with opportunities to develop leadership skills, social skills and positive social supports;
- ❖ To use their experience to provide hope and inspiration to other youth and families in similar circumstances, and to reduce stigma;
- ❖ To coordinate and collaborate with other youth groups to make positive changes for youth and the community; and
- ❖ To help develop and inspire the next generation of peer behavior health professionals.

MY LIFE Experience

Collaboration

- ❖ **Bridging Gaps between Child and Adult Systems**
- ❖ **Collaboration with Non-Behavioral Health Youth Care Systems**
- ❖ **Department of Behavioral Health Services**
- ❖ **Youth involvement protocol**





The *This is MY LIFE* video was selected as a top 10 YouTube video at the National Council of Human Service Providers Conference in March 2010.

MY LIFE Presentations and Events

Federation of Families Conference December 2009, Washington, D.C.



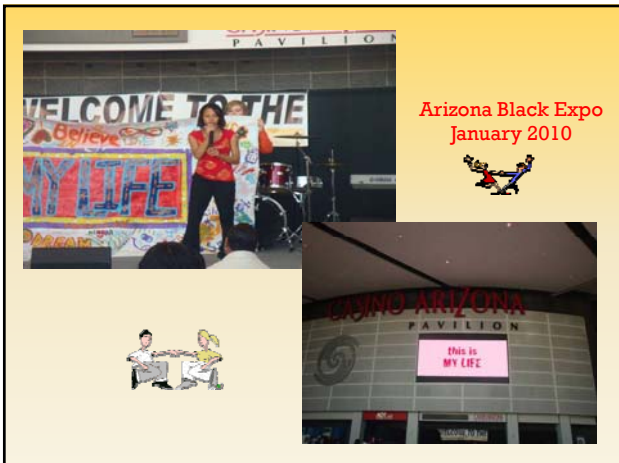


Federation of Families Conference
Washington, D.C.
December 2009



MY LIFE Experience





**Arizona Girls Roundtable
January 2010**



**Western States Decision Support
Group Conference
January 2010**



**Youth Day at the Capitol
February 10, 2010**



**Youth Day at the Capitol
February 10, 2010**



**Youth Day at the
Capitol
February 10, 2010**



**African American Legislative and
Leadership Conference (AALLC)
February 12, 2010**



Third Annual MY Fest





**MY Fest'10
April 3, 2010**

Tempe Beach Park



More than 5,000 youth and families attended!







MY LIFE Presentations since MY Fest '10

Governor's Youth Leadership Day

Arizona Youth Summit on Underage Drinking

Scottsdale Prevention Coalition

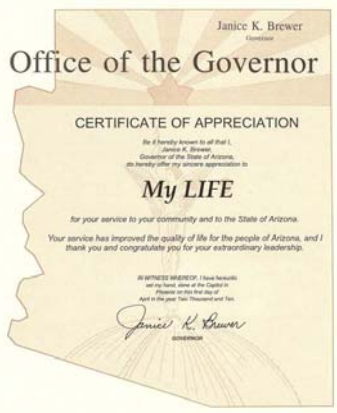
Mingus Mountain School for Girls

A New Leaf – Transition from detention program

Hayley wins Mental Health America's MPower Award



Hayley with Dr. Fred Frese and MHA CEO Dr. David Shern





Moving Forward...

Creating Youth Peer Support Opportunities

MY LIFE is dedicated to creating formal and informal opportunities for youth to provide and receive peer support services.

Peer Specialists

At previous Magellan Governance Board meetings MY LIFE advocated for the development of peer services delivered by and for transition age youth. The Magellan Governance Board listened to MY LIFE's recommendations and took action!

Seven youth are in the last stages of peer support training and will be graduating July 16, 2010. Upon graduation they will be employed at Visions of Hope as peer support specialist serving the transition age youth population.

Second training class is scheduled to begin in September.

Enhancing Youth Involvement

Share your desire to start a group with individuals and organizations who may be willing to help!

- ❖ Youth
- ❖ Peers
- ❖ Family members
- ❖ Organizations that serve youth and families
- ❖ Behavioral health agencies
 - Case managers
 - Administrators
 - Direct supports
- ❖ Advocates and advocacy groups in your area
 - Mental Health America
 - NAMI
- ❖ Schools
- ❖ Treatment centers and hospitals
- ❖ Youth Centers -Boys and Girls Club, YMCA, etc.
- ❖ Faith-based youth groups

Sharing MY LIFE

MY LIFE members would like to be actively involved in replicating the MY LIFE model across the country.



How to Create Similar Groups and Initiatives

Review and Discuss MY LIFE'S

Logic Model

and

Start-up Manual
