

Unitarian Universalist Global AIDS Coalition

YOUTH DIVISION

The UUGAC was founded in Spring 2003 and is dedicated to making a difference in the fight against the global AIDS epidemic through education/outreach, political advocacy, and direct service. By combining with other UU congregations, it strives to speak out as a combined voice for liberal religious religion. It has contacts in 80 UU congregations, with a strong central base in Portland, in addition to working with the UUA Advocacy Office, the UU-United Nations Office, and the Jubilee USA Movement.

What is the “Youth Division”?

The goal of the “Youth Division” is to promote youth empowerment in local congregations and districts in addition to the goals of the UUGAC. This means that youth are educating other youth and adults and raising awareness about AIDS; youth are writing, calling, emailing, etc. their political representatives to demand change; and youth are getting involved on many levels in hands on projects in the fight against AIDS. Since the “Youth Division” is a new addition to the UUGAC, we are trying to plant our feet firmly in the ground and are starting small. Our main focus will be promoting youth participation for a day/weekend/week during World AIDS day on December 1. The theme is Stop AIDS, Keep the Promise. For additional info, check out www.avert.org/worldaid (World AIDS Day website)

How can YOU get involved?

Contact the Youth Representative to the UUGAC Board, Erica Lindegren at allaroundgurl@aol.com or Youth Advisor to the UUGAC Board, Toniann Read at dtzjread@comcast.net to be added to the email list and be kept up-to-date on the UUGAC Youth activities and events. You can also email them if you have any questions, ideas, etc. We will also be looking for officers for the “Youth Division” in the near future.

What’s the Name?

The Youth Rep/Advisor think that the term “Youth Division” is a bit stuffy and formal, and does not stay true to UU youth ideals of acronyms, so we are racking our brains for something that will rock the boat and shake the earth. We want to hear from YOU! Take a vote and drop us an email on what you think:

(Mark an X beside the one you prefer)

Youth Action Working Network (YAWN)_____

Youth AIDS Network (YAN)_____

Youth Eliminating Aids & HIV (YEAH)_____

Youth Educating to Eliminate HIV & AIDS Worldwide (YEEHAW)_____

Other (please tell us your suggestion!)_____