



April, 2010

## Welcome to our Newsletter

You are receiving this because you have expressed an interest in Reach for Youth and its mission to provide counseling and support to at-risk young people. From time to time we will bring you news of our organizations successes and our challenges. We hope to introduce you to our history and make you a part of our promising future.

Many people we have introduced to our efforts have asked how they can help. Through this newsletter we hope to give you opportunities to help us help young people. There are a lot of options. Forwarding this e-mail to someone you think would be interested in our efforts is one way. Perhaps you would like to donate to the cause through one of our upcoming fundraising events. Maybe you would some day like to serve on our board of directors. There are a lot of options.



For now, welcome and feel free to learn more about us by visiting our website at [www.reachforyouth.org](http://www.reachforyouth.org).

Thank you.

Executive Director  
**Michelle Study-Campbell**

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## A Success Story

**Carlos: Age 16**

Carlos had always been close to his father. He had enjoyed how his father, a contractor, had taught him construction and let him be a part of projects. They were close.

And even though they had grown more distant and confrontational, no one expected that in 2009 Carlos would be arrested for battery in an incident that culminated with Carlos' hands wrapped around his father's throat.

Between that incident and entry into Reach for Youth's behavioral treatment programs, Carlos found himself again incarcerated on a gun charge. He had attained the handgun in one of several home break-ins. He had begun robbing homes to get money for drugs and alcohol.

His parents had been confronted by Carlos' anger issues many times before and knew he had been smoking marijuana and doing other drugs. And while they were devastated by the gun charge and news of the robberies, they were most disturbed to hear in family counseling that Carlos had envisioned suicide as a solution to his problems.

Reach for Youth counselors helped Carlos see that his family, especially his dad, was still there for him and helped the family learn how they could help Carlos. Carlos found he wanted to be part of his family and never wanted to put himself or them through this kind of trouble again.

Since leaving counseling at Reach for Youth, Carlos spends more quality time with his parents, especially his father who gave him a job working on construction projects. Making a little money feels good, but so does the sense of accomplishment.

With no more fighting, no more stealing and no more angry outbursts, he realizes that he isn't destined to go back to Juvenile or worse. He is in control of what happens to him. With time, counseling and support from his parents, Carlos has come to understand that drug use led him to the negative choices he made and crumbled his relationship with his parents.

"I don't want to be in trouble again," says Carlos, "I don't want to risk losing my family."

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### **Roll for Youth Fundraiser Save the Date!**



**July 18th, 2010 at the Woodland Bowl!**

### **Teen Court Volunteers Needed**

Our award winning program Teen Court which helps young offenders understand the consequences of their actions through before their teen peers in a court-like moderated setting, always needs young people on the case. Interested in volunteering call (317) 920-5900.