

“IF I CAN  
MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE  
IN MY  
COMMUNITY,  
THEN MY  
COMMUNITY  
CAN MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE IN  
THE WORLD.”

- Michaella Pontacoloni,  
ANYTOWN '10



**nccj** The National Conference  
for Community and Justice

The National Conference for Community (NCCJ) is a human relations organization dedicated to fighting bias, bigotry, and racism through education, advocacy, and conflict resolution.

**EXPERIENCE OUR PROGRAMS:**

**BRIDGES:** A 2-day leadership, anti-bullying and prejudice-reduction program for middle and high school students. During BRIDGES a group of 25 diverse students and faculty explore the feelings, attitudes, and experiences we have about people of different backgrounds and identities (racial, gender, ethnic, faith). The participants leave BRIDGES with a deeper understanding of how prejudice and bias affect our life and how we as individuals, and as a collective, can work to make our communities more just, accepting, and inclusive.

**ANYTOWN Youth Action Coalition (YAC):** A group that takes a youth centered approach to creating positive change in our communities and schools. YAC is made up of ANYTOWN Alumni who learn to work together to fight bias and bigotry through action projects idealized at ANYTOWN.

**The YES! Campaign:** The YES! Campaign is a national, youth-led movement to transform school cultures into safe, welcoming, and inclusive communities for all students. YES! empowers youth to lead this change by respecting youth as experts in their own experience; promoting youth ideas, voices, and leaders; and connecting youth nationwide to engage and inspire each other. YES! provides the tools, and youth build the community.

**Faculty Training Programs:** A custom designed organizational development programs facilitated by trained NCCJ staff. These workshops address a variety of social justice issues and guide school faculty toward the development of positive and supportive school environments.

**Support:** NCCJ appreciates the continued support of ANYTOWN by individuals, foundations, and corporations who make this program possible each year.



Become our Fan on Facebook.  
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A SIX DAY  
SOCIAL JUSTICE,  
COMMUNITY  
BUILDING  
AND LEADERSHIP  
EXPERIENCE FOR  
HIGH SCHOOL  
AGE YOUTH WHO  
WANT TO CHANGE  
THE WORLD!

Dates for 2012 TBD

Check back in  
January 2012!



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[WWW.NCCJ.ORG](http://WWW.NCCJ.ORG)

## What is ANYTOWN?

Camp ANYTOWN is a nationally recognized and award winning diversity, leadership, and social justice program for youth ages 15-18. Founded in 1957, ANYTOWN is designed to educate, liberate, and empower youth participants (delegates) to become effective, responsible leaders and community builders. For six days, a diverse group of 60 high school students come together to build a community based on respect, understanding, and inclusivity.

Through fun and engaging workshops, Delegates along with 25 staff members explore the thoughts, opinions and experiences we all share on topics like bias, bigotry, oppression, and social change. Through this dialogue, the Delegates are taken on an inspiring journey to create a model for an ideal community in which members move beyond tolerating each others differences to celebrating them. It is the goal of ANYTOWN to equip young leaders with the knowledge and skills to transform their home communities into places where individual differences are seen as positive tools that bring people together instead of keeping them apart.



## Where is ANYTOWN?

ANYTOWN is usually held on a small college campus or at camp site that features separate bunk-houses for “cabins” of 8-10 participants. ANYTOWN Delegates are housed in a same-gender yet diverse “cabin” staffed by two youth counselors. Meals are eaten with the entire community at the cafeteria that features vegetarian, vegan, and kosher options.



## Why ANYTOWN?

- “ANYTOWN was a life-changing experience, after having gone to it, I became a different person, a more inspired and enlightened person.”
- “I have made friends at ANYTOWN that I will keep for a lifetime.”
- “By the end of the week, ANYTOWN became my ideal community... my family.”
- “ANYTOWN was the most unique and empowering learning experience of my life.”
- “I haven’t been everywhere in my life, but ANYTOWN took me to different places with the stories told and the experiences shared.”
- “ANYTOWN gave me the courage to voice my opinions and help stop the injustice I saw every day around me.”

## Benefits of ANYTOWN?

ANYTOWN Delegates will:

- Have an opportunity to express themselves and share their individual experiences.
- Meet, talk, and play with a VERY diverse group of youth from Connecticut and Western Massachusetts.
- Learn how to have a positive view of self and others.
- Learn to understand and appreciate individual differences.
- Improve leadership, communication, peace-building, and conflict resolution skills.
- Enhance trust, respect, and understanding of diverse peoples and experiences.
- Learn about social justice and how to make change in their schools and communities.
- Be listened to and more importantly, *be heard*.
- Make **true** friends in a short time.

## Who Should Apply?

- Youth age 15 to 18 currently living in Connecticut or Western Massachusetts.
- Youth who are leaders in their schools or want to know how to become a leader.
- Youth who want to work to create an inclusive, just, and accepting community.
- Youth who are interested in exploring their own social identities and biases.
- Youth interested in developing skills in activism and leadership.

TO DOWNLOAD AN APPLICATION LOG ONTO: [WWW.NCCJ.ORG](http://WWW.NCCJ.ORG)

## APPLY EARLY!

Applications Available February ‘12



## How much does it Cost?

**The cost of ANYTOWN is \$500.** There is a \$25.00 registration fee that will be applied to the \$500 tuition. While the full cost of ANYTOWN is \$1,500 per delegate, the NCCJ covers much of the cost through grant funding and other contributions.

**Full and partial scholarships are available. All interested teens should apply regardless of financial situation!**

### For More Information, Contact:

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