

NJ Family and Youth Leadership Academy

Leading Change in Our Lives and in the Lives of Others

The *NJ Alliance* received federal funding to host the NJ Family and Youth Leadership Academy, a partnership with *Georgetown University* and *Youth MOVE National*. Beginning September, FSOs, Youth Partnerships and other organizations will make nominations based on the criteria below. Beginning in late October 2013, the first Leadership class will begin. Each year only 40 caregivers, 8 of which must be fathers/male caregivers, and 25 youth and young adults will be accepted. *This is a prestigious opportunity to become Leadership Alumni and lead lasting change in New Jersey and across the nation!*

Optimal candidate would include someone who:

- is a youth/young adult ages 16-28 with mental, behavioral or substance abuse needs OR a primary caregiver of a youth/young adult with mental or substance abuse needs
- personal experience in one of NJ's systems including: Juvenile Justice, DCP&P (formerly DYFS), System of Care (CMO), Special Education, Family Success Centers, School-based Services
- comfort with and access to a phone, internet and computer
- can commit to 2 hours per month on the phone and a total of 4 in-person meetings for 10 months
- is an advocate with the desire to learn about leadership AND make change upon graduation

What to expect:

- monthly conference calls with other families or youth AND (4) full-day training days in person in the Monmouth/Middlesex areas
- activities to work on in between monthly calls independently OR with support
- coaching to better understand your leadership style and how that might help or hinder leadership in your life and community
- focusing on a leadership challenge in your life, community, system
- upon graduation, working to tackle your leadership challenge with on-going support from the Faculty and Alumni Network.



Highlights:

- First of its type in the nation
- Partnership with Georgetown University and Youth MOVE National
- Modeled after prestigious Georgetown Leadership Academy (only 50 participants per year)
- Youth, family and technical assistance developers and facilitators will become Faculty
- Capacity to deliver in Spanish
- For all system-involved families and youth (nominations from Alliance Board-special ed, child welfare, substance abuse, JJC and co-occurring, FSOs and YPs etc.
- (3) 1-year cohorts of 40 family members and 25 youth/young adults
- Longitudinal data collection process embedded (individual and peer outcomes)

Criteria and Selection:

- Youth and Family Tracks (20% must be fathers/male caregivers)
- Family leaders in each of the 21 counties must be represented (as compared to 15 vicinages)
- Involvement of each system must be represented
- Previous or current DCF/JJC involvement
- Electronic nomination process each September

Process/Modality:

- 12-month commitment, monthly conference calls/web-based discussions (with organizational support)
- Each participant will receive a Leadership Coach to tackle a leadership challenge (Faculty of Academy)
- Quarterly in-person meetings (with organizational support)
- Final in-person meeting is a celebration and graduation
- Each graduate returns to nominating organization to tackle his/her leadership challenge (with organizational support)

Only FSOs, Youth Partnerships, SPAN and Village Wrap can nominate at this time...

For youth track, Youth Partnerships or youth from SPAN and Village Wrap can make the nominations

Please nominate here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DXF8WPB>

By making the nomination, you are pledging your support for the nominee.

Nominations will be accepted until October 5, 2013.