In New York, our children have a system devoted entirely to positive youth development for all youth. The Youth Bureau system embodies the definition of youth development as an ongoing process in which children and adolescents seek ways to meet their personal and social needs, building skills and competencies that allow them to be successful and function effectively in their daily lives. Youth development recognized the potential which youth people possess and builds upon their strengths for success in the future.

**Association of New York State Youth Bureaus**

Founded in 1971, the Association of New York State Youth Bureaus (ANYSYB) has over 200 members representing Youth Bureaus, Youth Boards, not-for-profit youth service organizations, and municipalities throughout New York State. The ANYSYB is built on a regional structure, with each of the regions represented on the Board of Directors.

The ANYSYB works to promote the physical, emotional, and social well-being of youth and families in New York State through a unified, statewide network of youth service programs and professionals.

The ANYSYB works to support and strengthen its member youth bureaus and local youth bureau contract agencies through a comprehensive training program. Supported by a grant from the New York State Office of Children and Family Services, training covers a wide range of topics including best practices, monitoring and evaluation, youth bureau operations, and staff development. Local, regional, and state-wide events are held throughout the year in addition to the Association’s annual conference.

The ANYSYB is also committed to advocating for our children and informing state elected officials and policy makers. Our mission can best be accomplished when all Youth Bureaus and the individuals and organizations they represent participate actively in our advocacy efforts. The Association provides a unified planning and advocacy network for its members and affiliates using a team approach to strengthen youth development initiatives.

**MISSION**

The Association of New York State Youth Bureaus (ANYSYB) is a unified statewide resource and support system that professionally develops and advocates for local Youth Bureaus.

A youth bureau is an agency created by Counties and Cities, or a Town or Village with a total population of 20,000 or more, for the purpose of planning, coordinating, and supplementing the activities of public, private, and religious agencies devoted to the welfare and protection of youth. Currently, there are 105 youth bureaus in New York. They all assist in making ‘Local Decisions for Local Programs’. In 2009, Youth Bureaus throughout New York provided programs and services to more than two million youth - thus reaching almost half of the youth population in the state, under the age of 21. These programs varied in focus, ranging from employment training, drug prevention, runaway programs, and recreation activities to name a few.