

Dear Healthy Maine Partnership Youth Advocacy Program staff,

Here's the info you need to make the most of MYAN's website & online community!

How Can MYAN's Site Help HMP YAPs?

In addition to many other great features on our site (including info about our events, tons of web links on different topics, inspiring stories and more) there is a **“networking group” specific to HMP YAPs— one stop shopping** for YAP support with:

- An **update blog** that will be the **primary place MYAN highlights documents, advocacy opportunities, youth leadership opportunities, grants, etc.** that are of specific interest to YAPs. (All in one location for you!)
- An **events calendar** to highlight events & trainings that can support your work.
- **Discussion forums** where you can **share ideas, discuss challenges** & more.
- A collection of **HMP YAP related documents** easily accessible to you, which will continue to grow with other documents that become available. (This is where to find the most updated version of the Need to Know Guide and the Youth Activity Resource Guide, among others.)
- A **photo gallery** where you can share photos of your HMP YAP work
- A **directory of all other members** of the group so you can contact each other easily
- **Bulk messaging & email**, so you can all contact each other easily with announcements or updates that don't fit in the forums.

MYAN will be transitioning into primarily using the HMP YAP group for communications, which frees up some inbox space! **You can truly take ownership of how helpful the HMP YAP group is**—the more people register & use it, the more helpful it will be.

Who Should Register as Part of MYAN's Network?

We are hoping that the **YAP Coordinator (or whoever coordinates your HMP's youth involvement) from every HMP** will register. Other staff and youth can absolutely register as well. The MYAN online community is open to all youth and adults, and we encourage you to spread the word about this networking tool. An added benefit of registering is you'll be able to access & update your contact information & other profile details without having to contact us.

Additionally, we're **hoping that the YAP Coordinator** (or other appropriate staff who oversees YAP work) **from every HMP will also join the online HMP YAP networking group** so it can truly be a representative community for YAP-related work!

How to Register on the Site AND Join the HMP YAP Networking Group (2 separate steps)

1. **Register as a member of the MYAN network in general** by going to www.myan.org and clicking register in the green bar underneath the header. Even if you've been part of MYAN's network in the past, if you haven't registered on our new site since it launched in October 2009, we need you to register through the new site.
 - a. Once you've completed the process you'll get an email to confirm that you've submitted your registration and then a 2nd email letting you know once your registration has been approved.
2. Once you've been approved, **Log In**
3. Hover over **Network & Connect** in the site menu on the left. A submenu will pop out. Click on **Statewide Networks & Clubs** and another submenu will pop out. Click on **HMP Youth Advocacy Program (YAP)**. Alternatively, go straight to <http://www.myan.org/group/YAPs>.
4. Once on the homepage of that group, click on **Join Group** in the light purple bar at the top (no further info is request from you when you click this).
5. **Explore!**