

TO:

NOVI PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

COMMISSION

FROM:

RANDY AULER, CPRP, DIRECTOR, NOVI PARKS,

RECREATION & CULTURAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: PARK DEPARTMENT UPDATE

DATE:

JANUARY 12, 2010

Please note for your review the following events, programs, and Park Department business which has been shared with City Council. Also attached are two magazine articles you might find of interest.



cityofnovi.org

TO:

CLAY PEARSON, CITY MANAGER

FROM:

RANDY AULER, CPRP, DIRECTOR PARKS, RECREATION &

CULTURAL SERVICES

SUBJECT: PARK MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

DATE:

DECEMBER 18, 2009

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Park Maintenance Standards define what the expected conditions of the park and park amenities should be and provide an objective assessment of the park and park amenity conditions. Staff created the park maintenance standards based upon community expectations and available human and equipment resources. The Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission approved the standards at their December 10, 2009 meeting. The parks will be evaluated frequently to measure quality and identify any trends that may require additional attention. Initial evaluations will be performed by Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission and staff. In January 2010, the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Commission and staff will receive training on how to evaluate the parks based upon the standards.

Attached are the Park Maintenance Standards, the evaluation tool and evaluation summary. The following provides a brief explanation of each document.



TO:

RANDY AULER, DIRECTOR OF PARKS, RECREATION

AND CULTURAL SERVICES

FROM:

NANCY COWAN, SUPERINTENDENT OF RECREATION

SUBJECT: PROGRAM REGISTRATIONS

DATE:

DECEMBER 18, 2009

The statistics below include information gathered from CLASS (recreation registration software) regarding registrations in program categories, leagues and Point of Sale (POS) registrations. POS registrations include drop-in program registrations, senior special event ticket sales, amusement park ticket sales and other "door sales". Many of the older adult / senior registrations occur in the POS category due to the nature of the programs and the number of drop-in activities.

The time period used in this comparison is January 1 - December 15, in 2008 and 2009 respectively. The total amount of money collected over all registration categories in 2009 is up by approximately \$61,000. Internet registration increased in 2009 by 11% with 40% of all registrations taking place online, compared to only 29% in 2008. The total number of registrations completed in 2009 is down slightly, all of which is accounted for in theatre ticket sales. In January - April of 2008, theatre ticket sales were included under POS. In May of 2008 this process was upgraded to an online system, Tix.com, therefore the sales no longer are included under POS.

This comparison shows some of the positive strides the Recreation Team took in 2009. The goal is to continually strive to improve in 2010, even with the economy and other factors taken into account.

2008

	Front Desk	Internet	Total Reg.	Total \$
Program Registrations				
Adult	9	76	85	\$3,894.00
Family / All Ages	140	554	694	\$12,824.25
Performing Arts	258	225	483	\$58,036.35
Senior	143	7	150	\$6,313.52
Young Adult	0	4	4	\$20.00
Youth	331	581	912	\$111,865.13
Misc.	4	24	28	\$808.00
Total Program Registrations	885	1471	2356	\$193,761.25
League Registrations	1389	1234	2623	\$327,038.50
Point of Sale (POS) Registrations*	4258	N/A	4258	\$284,043.98
Totals	6532	2705	9237	\$804,843.73

^{*}Jan-Apr 2008 POS includes theatre ticket sales, In May 2008 theatre ticket sales moved online via Tix.com.

	Front Desk	Internet	Total Reg.	Total \$
Program Registrations				
Adult	73	189	262	\$12,375.00
Family / All Ages	172	714	886	\$23,833.50
Performing Arts	280	176	456	\$53,621.61
Senior	214	14	228	\$8,530.00
Young Adult	10	31	41	\$2,012.00
Youth	270	498	768	\$98,715.40
Misc.	39	11	50	\$ 2,870.00
Total Program Registrations	1058	1633	2691	\$201,957.51
League Registrations	911	1889	2800	\$366,836.50
Point of Sale (POS) Registrations*	3408	N/A	3408	\$297,066.71
Totals	5377	3522	8899	\$865,860.72

[&]quot;Jan-Apr 2008 POS includes theatre ticket sales. In May 2008 theatre ticket sales moved online via Tix.com.



To: Randy Auler

Cc:

From: Kris Barnes

Date: 12/24/09

RE: Skate with Santa at the Novi Ice Arena

To: Magse lity
Counci Marker

On Sunday, December 20th, the Novi Ice Arena hosted our annual Skate with Santa public skate. Every year, Santa makes an appearance at our public skate from 3-5pm to skate with the customers to holiday themed music. We had a guess the candy in the jar game and awarded the prize to the person with the closest guess. We also raffled off some free skating passes to those in attendance.

We had a total of 177 people join us this year for the Santa Skate bringing in \$750 in open skating revenue. We also rented a total of 105 pairs of skates for a total of \$305 in rental revenue. Overall, it was another great event and the people that joined us for the skate had a lot of fun.

There are four pictures from the event on the second page.





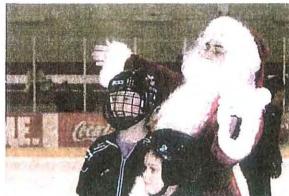
Santa with some kids during our Skate with Santa



Santa skating with some goodies for the kids



Santa posing with more skaters for pictures





Memorandum

To: Randy Auler

Cc:

From: Kris Barnes

Date: 11/16/09

RE: Manon Rheaume Invitational Tournament

To: Mayor & City
Council Manbos

From November 12th through November 15th, the Novi Ice Arena along with Suburban Ice – Farmington Hills and the Farmington Hills Ice Arena hosted a Tier I girls hockey tournament. The tourney was sponsored by former NHL goalie and Olympic goaltender Manon Rheaume. The tournament proceeds were donated to the Manon Rheaume Foundation, which is charity that helps female hockey players in both the U.S. and Canada. There were four divisions of teams (12U, 14U, 16U and 19U) from all over the United States and Canada. 32 total teams played a guaranteed total 4 games (more if they made the Championship Game) and most if not all teams played at least one game at the Novi Ice Arena. Out of a total of 70 games, 33 were played at the Novi Ice Arena. Games started Thursday night at the Novi Ice Arena and concluded Sunday with all four divisions' championship games at our ice arena as well.

The tournament participants contributed to the local economy by booking rooms in local hotels and visiting many local restaurants for meals. The Sheraton Novi hosted the Tournament Banquet Friday night. There was a silent auction, autographs, raffles and guest speakers during the dinner. Concessions sales for the weekend totaled \$3,300 and the tournament played a major factor in that number (we still had some regular programming throughout the weekend that contributed to that total as well). The teams and families booked rooms at the Sheraton Novi along with hotels in Livonia and Farmington Hills. A detailed report including the number of rooms sold and revenue totals will be issued to us in a couple of months.

We received many compliments throughout the weekend. The visitors like the arena and appreciated the warmer viewing areas from the main lobby. The location of this arena with regards to hotels and the other arenas used for the tournament was close. Travel for the teams was kept to a minimum. We provided announcers for most of the games to play music during stoppages in action as well as in between games. This added a different and special atmosphere to the games that they wouldn't get during a normal game.

We are planning on hosting this event again next year. We expect the positive word of mouth to travel and hope to grow the number of teams from 32. The Ice Arena can accommodate more games for next year and will plan to book more games if possible.

Some pictures from the tournament are on the following page.





Manon Rheaume Invitational Tournament Photos





In-Net Camera - Added for this tournament



Little Caesars 16U Champions



London (Ontario) 14U Champions



Pittsburgh 12U Champions



Los Angeles 19U Champions





Operated by Suburban Sports Group



To: Randy Auler

CC:

From: Kris Barnes Date: 11/24/09

RE: Metro Invitational High School Hockey Showcase

11/25/09
10. May 11 1/3 / (aux. 11 Marses)

On November 20 and 21, the Novi Ice Arena hosted the Metro Invitational. The Metro is a high school hockey showcase that launches the hockey season. There were 10 teams from all over the State participating. The teams that joined us this year were: Novi, Northville, South Lyon, Livonia Stevenson, Livonia Churchill, Grand Rapids Catholic Central, Wyandotte Roosevelt, Rochester United, Farmington Hills Flyers and Lake Orion. Each team played two games total, one on Friday and one on Saturday. Novi, Stevenson and Northville went 2-0, South Lyon, Churchill, Farmington Hills and Grand Rapids CC all went 1-1, while Wyandotte, Rochester and Lake Orion finished 0-2.

This event was able stimulate the local economy in a couple of different ways. The Grand Rapids team and family will be staying overnight Friday night and the Arena will be receiving \$15 per room from the hotel as revenue for booking with them. Final room totals will be given in a couple of weeks, but we estimate that 15-25 rooms were booked. We partnered with Buffalo Wild Wings of Novi to provide food for the teams for both days. We also handed out coupons to the teams and people in attendance to visit the Novi Buffalo Wild Wings store and get \$5 off. The Novi Ice Arena will be collecting gate revenue for the event. Last year we collected \$6,400 at the gate. We improved on that number this year and collected over \$8,100. Concessions sales for the weekend totaled over \$2,400.

We provided the teams and players with a gift again this year. This year we gave away a Metro Invitational tshirt. We also partnered with the pro shop, HockeyDeals.com to give gift cards to the teams to use in the store. Meals from Buffalo Wild Wings were provided to the teams free of charge as well. The feedback from the coaches and the teams was again very positive. Most teams are planning on coming back next year.



TO:

RANDY AULER, NOVI PARKS, DIRECTOR

FROM:

DEREK SMITH, NOVI PARKS, RECREATION SUPERVISOR

SUBJECT: 2011 AMATEUR SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

DATE:

NOVEMBER 20, 2009

In June of 2009, the Novi Parks Recreation and Cultural Services Department submitted a bid for the 2011 Amateur Softball Association's Girls' 14 Class B Fast Pitch Northern National Tournament.

The Amateur Softball Association (ASA) announced Tuesday, November 10, 2009 the sites for the 2011 National Championships as part of the 2009 - 78th Annual ASA Council meeting in Reno, Nevada, Over 100 cities were awarded National Championships for the 2011 season. The City of Novi Michigan was awarded the 2011 ASA Girls' 14 Class B Fast Pitch Northern National Tournament.

ASA Girls' 14 Class B Fast Pitch Northern National Tournament registers teams from many states including Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, Ohio, Indiana and has also brought teams from as far as Pennsylvania, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. In 2009, the tournament was held in Overland Park, Kansas and the 2010 tournament will be held in Terre Haute, Indiana. The 2011 tournament scheduled for Novi is projected to bring over 3,000 people to the community, booking an estimated 750 hotel rooms for a minimum of 4 nights each, stimulating local hotel business with \$400,000. Local businesses can also expect patronage revenues estimated at over \$275,000 in food purchases and over \$25,000 in gasoline. The 2011 National ASA Tournament will be a great benefit to the department and the community by supporting healthy active lifestyles, fostering a community sense of pride, and promoting economic stewardship.



2009 Snowcreature Art Project

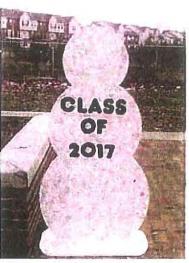


cityofnovi.org

Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services (PRCS) partnered with Novi Meadows and Home Depot to bring a fun, festive snowcreature art project to the City this winter. The result of this partnership is 20 one of a kind snowcreature masterpieces which lined the Electric Light Parade route at Ringing in the Holidays on December 4, 2009. The snowcreatures are on display at the Novi Civic Center from December 7, 2009 - January 22, 2010. The PRCS is planning a similar art project for the Memorial Day Parade.



Campos, Goin and Grim Team



Novi Meadows 5th graders signed the "Class of 2017" snowcreature.



Cosman and Sobran Team



Carothers, Ruiz and Vollmer Team



McDonald, Peronis and Bishop Team



Mrs. B's Class



January 4, 2010

CITY COUNCIL

Mayor David B. Landry

Mayor Pro Tem Bob Gatt

Terry K. Margolis

Andrew Mutch

Kathy Crawford

Dave Staudt

Justin Fischer

City Manager Clay J. Pearson

Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director Randy Auler Daniel M. Jones, CSM General Manager

Twelve Oaks 27500 Novi Road

Novi, MI 48377

Dear Mr. Jones: Dan

On behalf of the City of Novi, thank you for your generous gift of \$1,500 to the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services department. This donation, as well as your previous support and attendance at the department's programs and events is sincerely appreciated.

Your commitment as a partner of the Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services department truly enables the organization to advance towards our mission of "creating community through People, Parks, and Programs", and continues to make Novi a great place to live, work, play and shop.

Thanks again for your generous support and wish you much continued success.

Sincerely,

Randy Auler, CPRP

Director

Novi Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services

City of Novi 45175 W. Ten Mile Road Novi, Michigan 48375 248.347.0400 248.347.3286 fax

TWELVE OAKS

December 29, 2009

Mr. Randy Auler, Director City of Novi Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services 45175 West Ten Mile Road Novi, MI 48375

Dear Mr. Auler:

Enclosed please find a contribution from Twelve Oaks Mall. This check comes with our appreciation for the extraordinary parks and recreational services that our community is fortunate to have available.

Kindly acknowledge this charitable contribution with your signature on the enclosed form and return it to us. A self-addressed, stamped envelope is included for your convenience.

We also wish to extend sincere wishes for a very Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

TWELVE OAKS MALL

Daniel M. Jones, CSM General Manager

DMJ/Ic

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Clay Pearson, City Manager

TWELVE OAKS

December 29, 2009

Novi Parks 45175 W. Ten Mile Road Novi, MI 48375

To Whom It May Concern:

Under Internal Revenue Code Section 170(f)(8), a charitable contribution of \$250 or more is tax deductible only if the donee provides the donor with an acknowledgment. The acknowledgment must set forth the amount of cash or a description of property contributed and a good faith estimate of the value of any goods or services, which the donor received in exchange for the contribution. If no goods or services were given in exchange, the acknowledgment must so state.

In addition, Internal Revenue Code Section 6115(a) requires that a charity disclose the value of goods and services provided when it receives a contribution in excess of \$75, which is partly a donation and partly in consideration for goods or services provided by the charitable organization (e.g., books, meals, golf outings).

Twelve Oaks Mall has made a charitable contribution to your organization as follows:

Date: 12/25/2009

Amount (or description of property): \$1,500- Check #212560 Description of goods or services received in exchange: None Value of goods or services received in exchange; None

If the above is in accordance with your understanding please sign a copy of this letter or fax to (248) 348-9411. A self-stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

If you have any questions with regards to the above, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Cassandra Roberts
Financial Assistant
Twelve Oaks Mall

We acknowledge that we received the charitable contribution in accordance with the above information.

Signature

Randy Auter Disactor of Parks Recreation - Custural Security

RESEARCH UPDATE

Health and the Outdoors

Exploring the mechanics behind a generally held belief: Play in the out of doors is a good thing.



Others, less so. For example: Outdoor recreation contributes to a happy, healthier lifestyle.

On the surface, the truth behind this statement would appear to be quite obvious. Outdoor recreation—hiking, biking, kayaking, running, and so forth—are all components that naturally contribute to a healthier physical specimen.

In his research paper "Outdoor Recreation, Health, and Wellness: Understanding and Enhancing the Relationship," author Geoffrey Godbey, professor emeritus in the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management at Penn State University and a well-known expert and writer on the topics of leisure time, parks, tourism, and health, examines how being outside in natural surroundings may improve health and how outdoor physical activities benefit participants.

But beyond the basics, Godbey looks at the variables that affect participation in outdoor activities, considering the projected demographic changes that will affect policymaking in this arena. The findings of this literature review, the author posits, point to potential new directions for outdoor recreation policy, as well as new policy questions to be explored.

Heady stuff, to be sure. But it all begins with a few basic tenets of commonly accepted fact.

A Nation Overweight

First and foremost, the physical fitness of children in America has declined while waistlines have ballooned. According to Godbey's research, approximately 8 million U.S. children are overweight; obesity rates have doubled for children ages 6–11, and tripled for adolescents ages 12–19 across the past 20 years. Today, 13 percent of

children and 14 percent of adolescents are significantly overweight.

What does this mean? Obesity can increase the risk of bone disease and some cancers later in life and increase the risk of adult-onset, or Type 2, diabetes. In addition, says Godbey, children who are overweight before the age of 8 tend to become overweight adults.

Beyond the generally appalling physical health consequences, children today are losing touch with the natural



RESEARCH UPDATE

continued from page 29

world. Author Richard Louv's groundbreaking 2005 directive, Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children From Nature-Deficit Disorder, sent this chilling message to parents:

In terms of children's free time, green space has been replaced by "screen space"-flatscreen televisions, iPods, video games, and computer monitors.

Good-bye, free play. Hello, Xbox 360. So severe is this natural-world deficit. says Godbey, that a 2005 study by the Kaiser Family Foundation revealed that the average American child spends more than six hours each day in front of an electronic screen.

In this passage from his book, Louv identifies several of the culprits—"the cumulative impact of overdevelopment, multiplying park rules, well-meaning (and usually necessary) environmental regulations, building regulations, community covenants, and fear of litigation"-convincing children that "free-range play" is unwelcome, and that "organized sports on manicured playing fields" is the only acceptable form of outdoor recreation.

Making Necessary Changes

And here's where the really common common-sense comes into play: Children with easy accessibility to recreation facilities and programs-read, public parks and recreation-and more likely to be physically active and in better health.

A no-brainer, right? But, says Godbey, we continue to construct a physical world that inhibits play. Residential subdivisions without sidewalks and ringed with cul-de-sacs, a highly litigious and liability-anxious society, schools that seemingly have worked phys-ed and free-play time from their daily schedules.

To wit: According to Godbey's research, less than one-half of American children have a playground within walking distance of home. One-third of parents who participated in a recent Gallup poll believe their communities do not have enough playgrounds, and two-thirds believe that using a playground is a deterrent to watching television.

And, Godbey found, the problems don't stop at home. Changes in school policy-supervision, equipment, structured programs, and so forth-are putting a damper on physical activity during the school day. This is particularly true for girls, Godbey suggests.

Getting to the Answer

So, why? Why, when the majority-if not allof the research points to the fact that most Americans don't get enough of something that is so good for us, can we not seem to fix the problem?

One reason, as Godbey points out: Free play is free. In other-words, when kids are running around or shooting hoops, "they are not burning fossil fuel, not anyone's captive

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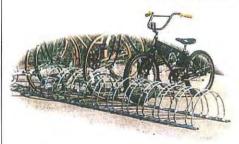


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> CIRCLE 20 ON PRODUCT INFORMATION FORM ON PAGE 74 OR VISIT US AT SALT LAKE CITY BOOTH 2429

A five-city study found that having a park within walking distance of one's home was the strongest predictor that an older person would use the park.

audience; they aren't making money for anyone."

And while several factors contribute to the overall decline in levels of physical activity, perhaps the simplest solution in helping to reverse the trend is that of spending more money for parks and recreation.

Relying upon data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Godbey shows that creating and improving recreational spaces can spark a 25 percent increase in those who exercise at least three times per week, and that the closer people live to a bikeway, the more likely they are to use it.

Godbey goes on to cite several other specific pieces of correlating data, including:

Across six cities, adolescent girls who had a higher number of parks less than a mile from home were more likely to achieve higher levels of physical activity than girls who had fewer parks near their homes.

A five-city study found that having a park within walking distance of one's home was the strongest predictor that an older person would use a park.

Adults in New York City, Baltimore, and Forsyth County, N.C., were 28 percent more likely to participate in recreation activities if there were parks and recreation facilities within five miles of home.

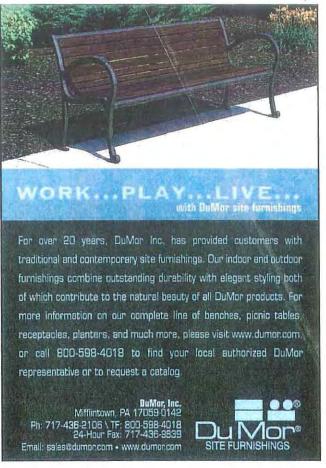
Because research reveals that the use of local park and recreation services is more frequent than visits to, say, national parks, Godbey suggests that incorporating outdoor recreation into Americans' daily routines should be a priority strategy. As the research shows, proximity to local parks, playgrounds, and other outdoor recreation resources is crucial in boosting participation rates of physical activity.

In other words, if you provide the facilities and programs, people overwhelmingly will use them.

The bottom line is that children—and adults—need places where they can be outdoors and physically active on a regular basis, close to home. The equation appears to be fairly simple. If we provide more parks, a more physically active population will likely follow.

And, as the research makes clear, spiraling levels of physical activity is not child's play.

This article was edited by DOUGLAS VAIRA based on the research provided by GEOFFREY GODBEY, a professor emeritus in the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Management at Penn State University and a well-known expert and writer on the topics of leisure time, parks, tourism, and health. Vaira is a freelance writer based in Charles Town, West Virginia.



CIRCLE 21 ON PRODUCT INFORMATION FORM ON PAGE 74



CIRCLE 22 ON PRODUCT INFORMATION FORM ON PAGE 74

Fewer pitches equal less injury risk, orthopedic experts' report says

In order to minimize the risk of painful arm and shoulder injuries youth baseball pitchers should limit the number

and types of pitches thrown, warn or-

thopedic experts.

"Throwing a baseball is one of the fastest and most violent maneuvers that any joint in the body is subjected to. The violent and rapid motion places numerous structures in the shoulder at risk for injury," said Dr. Shane Seroyer, lead author of a new report and sports medicine fellow at Chicago's Rush University Medical Center.

According to Seroyer, if an injury does occur, the early discovery of symptoms, followed by conservative management with rest and rehabilitation, can help to decrease the need for surgery in the future.

Shoulder pain may occur during any of the six phases of throwing, which are wind-up, early cocking/stride, late cocking, acceleration, deceleration and follow-through. Shoulder pain most often originates from one of the following five sources: damaged cartilage, rotator cuff injury, abnormal

Bush-Joseph breaks down the number and type of pitches appropriate for various age groups.

- . 9 and 10 years old: no more than 50 pitches a game and 75 pitches a week
- 11 and 12 years old: no more than 75 pitches a game and 100 pitches a week
- . 13 and 14 years old: 75 pitches a game and 125 pitches a week



scapula movement, impingement and neurovascular disorders.

Injury to the cartilage (the labrum), which surrounds the shoulder joint, occurs with trauma to the shoulder joint. Labral tears are among the most common injuries for overhead throwers and generally result from the cocking and acceleration phases of overhead throwing. Cartilage also wears down with age and use.

Damage to the rotator cuff, a term given to the group of muscles and their tendons that act to stabilize the shoulder, can lead to tendonitis and muscle tears. Although one specific movement could cause injury to the rotator cuff, this type of injury is often the result of the "wear and tear" from the overhead throwing motion.

"For pitchers under 14 years old, we encourage fast ball and changeup pitches and discourage the use of a curveball to prevent injury," said Dr. Charles Bush-Joseph, sports medicine specialist at Rush and co-author of the report.

Academy for Youth Sports Administrators Sept. 9-11 in Las Vegas

An Academy for Youth Sports Administrators (AYSA) will be held just outside Las Vegas, Nev., on Sept. 9-11 at the Whitney Ranch Recreation Center. This special Academy is being held by the National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS) in conjunction with the City of Henderson.

The Academy is an intensive professional certification program that offers cutting-edge information on critical issues in youth sports today.

By attending the Academy, recreation professionals earn the coveted title of Certified Youth Sports Administrator (CYSA). To date, more than 1,800 CYSAs have completed the Academy.

> The Academy features a professional faculty who cover a wide range of important topics and issues pertaining to youth sports that significantly affect how administrators handle their job.

Some of the topics covered include youth sports philosophy, professional development, volunteer management, child abuse prevention, parent management, conflict resolution, insurance and risk management and program evaluation and marketing.

For more information email academy@nays.org or visit www.nays.org

ADMINIS