

USA YES Country Network Coordinator:
Kaitlyn D. H. Olson

Kaitlyn Olson is an exceptional young person who has been a lifelong youth and grassroots activist. A high school student at the New Roads School, Kaitlyn is the country coordinator for YES USA, as well as being the founder and youth director for Global Tribe, a program that connects young people throughout the world through meaningful service-based projects (<http://www.globaltribenet.org/>). Her commitment to youth empowerment is manifested through the kinds of projects that she has chosen to involve herself with.

She has been a participant in events like *The Young People's Congress*, a two week summit of youth leaders, in Hawaii in 2000; *The Millennium World Peace Summit*, at the United Nations in New York in 2001; *The Women Religious and Spiritual Leader's Peace Summit* at the UN in Geneva in 2003; and she spent the summer of 2005 in El Salvador as part of Putney's Global Awareness in Action Program at Yale University.

Kaitlyn's work has been focused on raising awareness and funds for causes that are close to her heart. She has been a dedicated campaigner for the rights of children and youth, for issues such as HIV/AIDS prevention, and the provision of basic facilities like clean water in developing regions around the world. She is also an 11th grader and an inspiration to her peers. Though she started the YES USA chapter only six months back, she is making her presence felt and we are looking forward to hearing her presentation on 'Empowering Youth to Create Sustainable Livelihoods' in the upcoming *YES Kenya Summit*.

