

Mission

The Bridgeport Area Youth Ministry, Inc. (BAYM) is a non-profit youth organization established in 1990. Our mission is to provide a safe environment for urban young people to develop life and work skills. BAYM's activities are aimed at building positive character as well as igniting an entrepreneurial spirit. BAYM offers an alternative approach to traditional programs for our next generation of workers-- Bridgeport's youth-- and gives them reasons to stay in Bridgeport, to work in Bridgeport, and to be responsible citizens.

Focus

The focal point of BAYM's work is The Industrial Youth Center Project located at Connecticut Avenue and Logan Street in Bridgeport, Connecticut. BAYM's unique programs are designed to enable inner-city teenagers to discover their talents, and exercise them in a real business setting.

Programs

Learn to Work

BAYM's work experience program prepares young people for the world of business. *Learn to Work* projects are centered on the renovation of the Industrial Youth Center complex. Teenage employees form good work habits and learn about business from professional contractors and entrepreneurs.

Computer Genesis

BAYM's *Computer Genesis* program is an interdisciplinary technology training program for teenagers. Young people learn all aspects of PC technology from repair and manufacturing to network administration and customer service. Courses include the following:

Introduction to Computers

BAYM's *Computer Genesis* Introduction to Computers course teaches young people to use and troubleshoot computers. It consists of two phases designed to guide students from basic PC literacy and technician skills, to an introduction to the world of business and job readiness skills. Upon completion students are awarded with a PC.



Junior WebMaster

BAYM's *Computer Genesis* Junior WebMaster Class teaches students how to create Web pages and post them to the Internet. Participants learn how to write HTML code, manipulate graphics, create links, and publish Web Sites. Students are awarded a one year Internet hosting service upon course completion.

WRAN

BAYM's WRAN program is a two-day per week after-school program that offers unique enrichment opportunities for eligible technology students. Participants receive 160 hours of training in wiring, repair, networking, and software applications. This program is currently available to eligible participants identified by The Workplace, Inc.

Wilderness & Outdoor

BAYM's *Wilderness & Outdoor* alternative recreational program offers seasonal camping and canoeing trips to inner-city young people. These outings give participants the opportunity to see life from a different perspective. Teenagers hike, fish, canoe, engage in dialogue on moral issues, and develop communication and life skills in the camping environment.

Accomplishments

- ✚ Awarded \$380,000 in HUD Grants
 - ✚ Completed Phase I, II and III construction and renovation of 30,000 square foot Industrial Youth Center complex
 - ✚ Received HUD Community Development Award for outstanding service and contributions
 - ✚ Received an Honorable Mention for The 2001 SBC/SNET National Telecommunications Partnership Award
 - ✚ Received 2002 Workplace Award for hosting Technology Training Programs
 - ✚ Provided 680 teenagers with PCs upon completion of BAYM's *Computer Genesis* program
 - ✚ Provided training for 300 young people in BAYM's *Learn to Work* program
 - ✚ Provided *Wilderness & Outdoor* camping experiences for over twelve hundred young people
 - ✚ Provided 200 computers to non-profit organizations, churches, and local residents
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How You Can Help By

- ✚ Donating Pentium II (200 MHz or Higher PCs)
- ✚ Assisting in our *Learn to Work*, *Computer Genesis*, and *Wilderness & Outdoor* Programs
- ✚ Sponsoring a *Computer Genesis* student
- ✚ Speaking at a *Computer Genesis* class
- ✚ Assisting in the development of programs

Board of Directors

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Staff

George Stowell
BAYM's Executive Director, is a certified trade related instructor employed by the State of Connecticut for the past fifteen years. He founded the organization and developed a strong structure and unique system for learning.

Stephen Fung
BAYM's Director of Technology and Operations has more than five years of experience in network assessment, design, ERP accounting system implementation, business process improvement and strategic business planning.

Vince Tichy
BAYM's Director of Educational Services has been developing and teaching information systems, application programs, and computer technology topics at all educational levels for more than thirty years.

Elliott Calderon
BAYM's Assistant Director of Development, was trained under the *Computer Genesis* program and has worked with the organization for over three years, providing over 300 young people with PC training.

*"You have an idea and you have a building.
There are buildings like this in cities
throughout America. This unique and
innovative program can be reproduced."*
Senator Christopher J. Dodd

*"I applaud the work that the Bridgeport Area
Youth Ministry's Industrial Youth Center is
doing to create opportunities for young adults
to become self-sufficient."*
Congressman Christopher Shays

*"We enable young people to discover their
talents and exercise them in a real business
setting."*
George Stowell, Executive Director

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