

“It is MY TURN to shine and make a difference in my own life.”

“MY TURN helped me get into college and find a new job.”

“MY TURN never gave up on me.”

“MY TURN is like the bright light at the end of the tunnel.”

Youth Voices



*for Opportunity
and Success*

Who We Are

MY TURN, founded in 1984 in Massachusetts, is a community-based, private, non-profit youth development agency dedicated to working with in-school and out-of-school youth, ages 14 to 21 years, who are at a crossroad in their young lives.

“MY TURN enables its young clients to take a turn in the road that will lead them to satisfying and productive careers.”

David S. Ford, *Executive Director*
RICHARD AND SUSAN SMITH
FAMILY FOUNDATION

“MY TURN’s entrepreneurial leadership and its commitment to delivering the highest quality services to youth have impressed us consistently. EMCF is proud to have MY TURN in its national youth development portfolio.”

Jamie McAuliffe, *Portfolio Manager*
EDNA McCONNELL CLARK FOUNDATION

What We Do

MY TURN’s mission is to assist youth with the identification and development of their skills, goals and self-confidence through education and career exploration, employment training and post-secondary planning in collaboration with partnering organizations.



With Whom

MY TURN has a long history of working with employers, community-based organizations, schools and institutions of higher learning, public agencies, professional associations, faith-based organizations and families. Our partners play a critical role in providing education, work-based learning experiences and jobs to our youth.

“Jordan Hospital enthusiastically works with MY TURN in their continued efforts to serve the area’s most at-risk youth. We are excited to partner with MY TURN to provide work-based learning experiences and employment opportunities for youth.”

Russell Avera
Vice President of Clinical and Support Services
JORDAN HOSPITAL

MY TURN operates and serves youth in more than a dozen cities in the Northeast. Please check our website or call our central office for information about our locations.

To Learn More About Us

Call us at 508-580-2659

Or check our website: www.my-turn.org



for Opportunity and Success

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www.my-turn.org



MY TURN breaks the cycle of poverty and under-achievement in a young person's life with three core programs.

1 Connecting to College programs for in-school youth

HERO, the Higher Education Readiness Opportunities program, and STEP, the School Training and Education Preparation program, prepare first generation college-bound students for success in college.

These nationally recognized and award-winning programs guide students through a curriculum designed to help students develop skills and orientation for long-term academic and career success; plan for college; and ensure a smooth transition between the high school and college experiences.

MY TURN partners with area colleges and universities and matches the skills, needs, and interests of students with more than 100 institutions of higher learning.

The second youngest of ten children, MARIA FERNANDES, a STEP graduate, was the first in her family to finish high school and enroll in college. After graduating from Stonehill College with a degree in Criminal Justice, Maria entered the human services field. She now works with MY TURN youth in Brockton and expects to pursue an advanced degree in law or counseling.

MY TURN graduate 2001

“Wheaton College students, in their mentoring relationships with HERO and STEP participants, report they've learned far more than they've contributed. They have learned about the transformative power of a college education, about the distance our nation must continue to travel to create equity AND equality in schooling and society.”

Daniel Golden, Ph.D.
WHEATON COLLEGE

2 Connecting to Work programs for in-school youth

School-to-Work and Career Connections equip high school students who choose to enter a career immediately or shortly after graduating from high school with the skills and confidence necessary to enter a job, a training program or college.

Students are guided through a curriculum that helps them gain the professional and interpersonal skills and tools necessary to succeed in a post-secondary program and the work place.

MY TURN stays abreast of industry trends and partners with businesses to match work-based learning opportunities and jobs with a student's interests and skills.

RICK PETTIFORD wasn't sure if he wanted to go to college after graduating from high school, but he did know that he wanted to be prepared for work. MY TURN gave Rick the support and guidance he needed to get a career-building job while earning an associate's degree in business management at Massasoit Community College. Today, Rick is a very successful, top grossing sales representative for Horizon Beverages where he has worked for more than 14 years.

MY TURN graduate 1986

“Stop & Shop partners with MY TURN to provide education and job opportunities for youth. We are excited to have a success story here at Stop & Shop—a MY TURN youth who is a great worker, always on time, very polite and likable.”

Sharon Raposa
STOP & SHOP SUPERMARKET

3 Reconnecting Out-of-School Youth

High school dropouts are the fastest growing population of unemployed workers in the U.S.

MY TURN helps youth, 16 to 21 years of age, develop strategies and tools and gain practical life skills and work experience needed to overcome obstacles and barriers to employment.

MY TURN finds and works with employers who can provide young adults with work-based learning experiences and permanent jobs as well as the mentoring, supervision and on-going training these youth require to succeed in the work place.

LESLIE SENECHAL was a teenage mother and high school dropout who, wanting to be a good role model for her daughter, worked hard to earn her G.E.D. and develop viable job skills. A job shadow arranged by a MY TURN advisor sparked Leslie's interest in automotive mechanics, leading her to complete a course of study in the automotive field. Today, Leslie is employed as a service advisor at a top new car dealership.

MY TURN graduate 2005

“The efforts that are put forth by the staff at MY TURN are immeasurable for our clientele. MY TURN's resilience and passion for the betterment of our community is noted in the accomplishments of the individuals with whom they work.”

Tristan Cafferty
Apprehension Officer/Gang Unit
DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

MY TURN students were/are currently attending:

Babson College; Bentley College; Boston College; Berkley School of Music; Barry University; Bridgewater State College; Bay State College; Baltimore County Community College; Bristol Community College; Brockton Hospital (RN Program); Clark Atlanta University; Curry College; Dean College; Fisher College; Framingham State College; Howard University; ITT Technical Institute; Johnson & Wales University; Long Island University; Mass Bay Community College; Massasoit Community College; Morehouse University; Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Mt. Ida College; Newbury College; Northeastern University; Pine Manor College; Quincy College; Suffolk University; St. Joseph's College; Stonehill College; Tuskegee; UMASS Amherst; UMASS Boston; UMASS Dartmouth; Universal Technical Institute

A sampling of where MY TURN youth are employed:

The American Red Cross; A.C. Moore; Bank of America; Bob's Furniture Stores; Boston Market; Bay Pointe Nursing; CVS; Cape Cod Café; Composite Modules; Brockton Hospital; Brook's Pharmacy; Catholic Medical Center; Crowne Plaza Hotel; Charlton Hospital; Catholic Charities; Dick's Sporting Goods; Dunkin' Donuts; EB Games; Fraternal Order of Police; Fitchburg Credit Union; Friendly's; Good Samaritan Hospital; Green Briar Nursing Home; Harvey Industries; Holiday Inn; Kohl's; Langdon Place Retirement Home; Market Basket; MSPCA Animal Shelter; MY TURN, Inc.; Nashua Athletic Club; Nashua Audi Dealership; National Lumber; NH Veterans Medical Center; Price Rite Grocery Store; Paramount Cleaners; Panera Bread; Payless Shoes; Rivier College; Reliable Truss Co.; Sears; St. Joseph's Hospital; Shaw's; Stop & Shop; Self Help, Inc; Town Fair Tire; Tello's; TJ MAXX