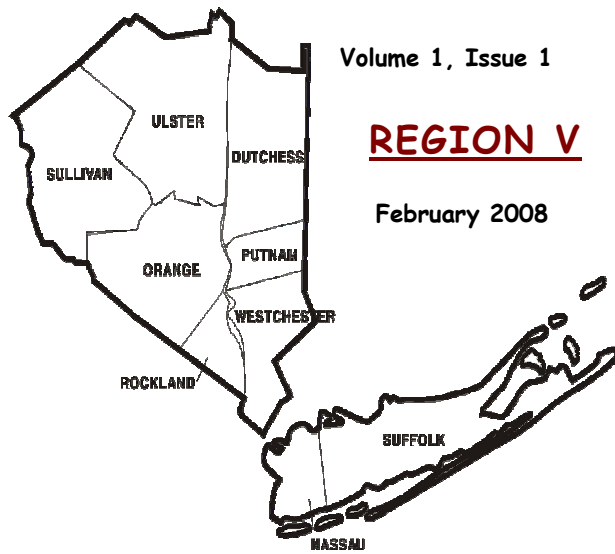




REGION V  
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**REGION V**

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**Mid-Hudson group—Youth of Mid-Hudson (YOMH)**



The Mid-Hudson group was started at a new location in November 2007. We had a great turn out at our first meeting. Thanks to Naomi at JBFCS at Hawthorne Cedar Knolls for hosting the meeting. Feb. 19th—Feb. 21st was the winter retreat attended by our youth leader, Wilson and YIP mentor (staff) Esperanza of the Mid-

Hudson YIP group. We are very proud of Wilson for attending the winter retreat and a “thank you” to Esperanza in supporting Wilson.

The retreat was in Corning, NY and was attended by approximately 60 youth, staff, mentors, OCFS staff, and ASRN YIP advisors. A few of the topics discussed were: Sibling Video, Permanency planning “Getting Solid”, Need to Know Series, planning Foster Care Month activities, YIP policies and procedures and other Leadership activities.

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**Long Island group—Adolescent Leaders Of Tomorrow (ALOT)**

ALOT is attended by a few agencies on a consistent basis. The youth are interested, vibrant, and enthusiastic about improving foster care by educating everyone involved in the foster care system.

Farel and Larry were our Youth Leaders representing Long Island at the Winter Retreat with their YIP mentor (staff) Cathy and Elaine. “Thank you” to Cathy and Elaine for supporting Farel and Larry.



Farel is a certified All-American and he presented with his fellow youth from other regions of NYS YIP, “Getting Solid”, a powerpoint presentation on permanency planning. We are very proud of Farel and Larry for participating at the Winter retreat.

**Special points of interest:**

- Handbooks are available to be picked up.
- May is Foster Care Month
- Tuesday, July 1, 2008 Speak Out at Stony Point, Rockland County, NY

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