



PRESS RELEASE

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### **NM Youth Deserve a “HIFY” High-Five for Training Efforts**

ALBUQUERQUE---Some 65 youth of the YEAH (Youth Empowerment Advocacy Heroes) Coalition completed a leadership training this weekend in Albuquerque. Trainers from Health Initiatives for Youth (HIFY), located in the San Francisco Bay Area, presented information on effective advocacy techniques by fusing social education with responsibility and linking youth/adult partnership ideas.

YEAH members came from all across New Mexico for the training. The YEAH Coalition is a statewide youth advocacy coalition composed of community and school groups that advocate against the use of tobacco among New Mexican youth. The training was organized by Youth Link, a program of New Mexico Voices for Children.

HIFY’s interactive training exercises and activities focused on leadership, peer-to-peer mentoring, teambuilding activities, and improving presentation styles. During the retreat, the youth acquired the skills, confidence and motivation to return to their communities and put what they learned into action.

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*New Mexico Voices for Children is a nonpartisan, non-profit organization advocating for policies to improve the health and well being of New Mexico’s children, families, and communities. 2340 Alamo St SE, Suite 120, Albuquerque, NM 87106-3523; 505-244-9505 (p); [www.nmvoices.org](http://www.nmvoices.org)*