

# TURN IT AROUND

# TURN IT AROUND YOUTH GROUP MAY NEWSLETTER



## This Month in Turn It Around:

Each month, *Turn It Around*, has an overall theme for our weekly meetings. For the month of May, we will be learning about community and what it means to be a part of a neighborhood. We will discuss who our neighbors are and our responsibility to them and the environment around us. Our goal is to tackle the topics of accountability, respect, littering, and relationship building in hopes to build a more united Charlestown community.



## Upcoming Events:

The 5th Annual Balloon Release is to remember and celebrate the precious life of Steven Jones who lost his life at the young age of 21 in a senseless act of gun violence here in Charlestown on May 7th 2013. Steven was attempting to break up a fight in the community when he was tragically shot and killed. Each year on the anniversary of his death, his friends and family gather together to remember his life and support one another as they release balloons in his memory. This year's balloon release will take place at Eden Street Park on May 7th at 5:30pm in front of the park bench that bears Jones' name.

## 4th Annual Turn It Around Basketball Tournament:



On Friday, April 27th, we had our pre-tournament pasta dinner at the YMCA where we discussed overcoming adversity and did an activity that encouraged teamwork and perseverance in preparation for the basketball tournament. We also had a guest speaker, Mike Chamblain, who shared his story of conquering defeat in his own life to uplift and motivate the youth who were present.

On Saturday, we held our 4th Annual Turn It Around Basketball Tournament at the Charlestown Community Center. The 3-on-3 tournament was a great time and we are so grateful for the youth who participated and those who made it out to watch the games. We encourage anyone who missed it this time around, to be there next year to share in on the fun. Please check out our social media pages (listed on page 2) for more photos of the event.



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### Last Month in April:

During the month of April, *Turn It Around*, focused on the importance of good personal hygiene habits and discussed the goal of personal hygiene which is to keep the body healthy and the environment we live and work in clean and germ-free. The group learned that good hygiene will help prevent spreading germs to other people and prevent illness. As well as, practicing proper hygiene will help keep our bodies healthy while giving us confidence.

*Turn It Around* members also received their own personal hygiene kits to provide some of the materials needed to create healthy hygiene habits. We even had a certified LPN and medical assistant join us during one of our meetings to explain the importance of hygiene and how it can improve a person's quality of life.

### Ways to get Involved:

Want to join in on the fun during one of our meetings or events? We'd love to have you! There are many opportunities for parents and guardians to get involved in *Turn It Around*. Whether you help cook, serve, clean or participate in the activities, all are invited and welcome. Please reach out to Ginaya for more information.

### Prefer Email?

To receive our Family & Friends Newsletter email instead of a paper copy, please contact Ginaya Greene Murray at [Ggreene-Murray@Partners.org](mailto:Ggreene-Murray@Partners.org) or call her directly at 617-726-6684

### April's Youth of the Month:

Ibrahim Balde is our April *Turn It Around* Youth of the Month. "Ibrahim can be found at every *Turn It Around* meeting, at every event, and is always willing to help or volunteer. He has a great personality and contributes to *Turn It Around* in many positive ways."



-Ginaya Greene Murray  
(Prevention Program  
Coordinator)

### Have Questions?

If you need assistance with your youth regarding school, job placement, risky behaviors, or anything else, please contact the Charlestown Coalition. We will be happy to help with any questions regarding you and your child.

### Find us online:

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