

ISSUE: 3

TURN IT  
AROUND

# TURN IT AROUND YOUTH GROUP MARCH NEWSLETTER



## This Month in Turn It Around:

Each month, *Turn It Around*, has an overall theme for our weekly meetings. For the month of March, we will be discussing the negative effects of substance use. Our goal is to reduce substance use/misuse and to protect the health, safety, and quality of life for all, especially youth by giving them the tools and education needed to make informed decisions.

With St. Patrick's Day right around the corner, many of our youth will be peer pressured into trying substances they wouldn't necessarily be tempted to. *Turn It Around* will combat this peer pressure by having the youth participate in educational workshops and activities that prepare and equip the youth to avoid such risky behaviors. By role-playing similar situations that the youth may be facing in their everyday lives, we hope to give them the confidence to say no to substance use and continue on a path of success and health.



## Upcoming Events:

It's our pleasure to announce that *Turn It Around* has received the **Love Your Block Grant!** This grant will allow us to revitalize a neighborhood park to create a "Peace Park" dedicated to loved ones loss to community violence, substance use, and any other reason they are no longer with us on earth. We will keep you all updated as this project moves forward.

## Youth Council:

This month our youth will prepare speeches and campaign for themselves to be voted into the *Turn It Around* Youth Council. The positions open to our youth are President, Vice President, Secretary, Event Coordinator, Communication Officer and 5 Committee Members. Make sure to follow us on social media to watch the youth present and announce the winners!

## Calendar Sale:

Our two youth who won the Calendar Sale Contest, for selling the most calendars and making the most money for *Turn It Around*, are Casey Maloy & Mohammed Faraj. The reward for their hard work is a fancy dinner at a neighborhood restaurant! Now that the contest is over, 2018 *Turn It Around* Calendars are only \$5.00. Get yours before their gone and help support our youth group!



## 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.

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## Last Month in February:

During the month of February, *Turn It Around* focused on realistic relationships, sexual health, and what it means to take care of yourself both physically and emotionally.

Our goal was to provide the youth with tools to identify whether or not what they hear on the radio or see on TV is, in fact, a true representation of an ideal relationship and to give them the skills to form lasting and meaningful relationships in their own lives while protecting themselves.

*Turn It Around* also started volunteering at the Boston Rescue Mission in downtown Boston. We hope this will become a routine visit since the kids had such a meaningful time.



(Casey, Ibrahim, Melvin Jr., Andrew & Oumar)

## 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

## February's Youth of the Month:

Oumar Balde is our February *Turn It Around* Youth of the Month." Oumar is a reserved young man who brings positive energy to any environment. Although, he doesn't always have much to say, when he does, it's insightful and kind."



-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.

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