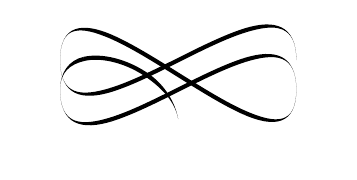
**Happy New Year, Everyone!**

YTIA is very grateful for everyone who participated in our activities in 2017. Check out the pictures we posted on our website: [www.ytia.org](http://www.ytia.org). We hope that this year will be full of as many fun activities and that you will subscribe to this newsletter by ensuring that your information (name and email address) is current and that you encourage other youths in care to sign up. We want to make sure that you take advantage of every opportunity available to you through YTIA as well as through CPS.



**Upcoming Events/Deadlines:**

1. YTIA “Be Young Scholarship”
   * YTIA is pleased to again offer the “**Be Young Scholarship**” for youths entering their first year of college (and longer if you stay in college and apply in subsequent years).
   * Applications will be accepted from January 1, 2018 through May 31, 2018 so regardless of when you are accepted to college or vocational school you will still have the opportunity to be awarded a scholarship. Go to the link on our website ([www.ytia.org](http://www.ytia.org)), print the application, provide a short letter of recommendation from someone other than your caseworker (since they have so much to do already), and mail it in to us. As soon as a decision is made on your application, you will be notified.
   * *Even a small scholarship can help pay bills or buy a book. Get your application in as soon as you get your acceptance letter from college or vocational school!* Go to our website, [www.ytia.org](http://www.ytia.org) for the link to the application and criteriafor selection.
2. Our 7th Annual “**Sweet-Heart Dinner/Dance**” is scheduled for Friday, February 16th from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at IBC Medical Center, located at 8650 Fredericksburg Rd. Please “Save this Date”. Those of you who have attended in the past know that this is a really fun event with food, games, prizes, and lots of dancing! All PAL-age (ages 15 and older) youths and their families are invited to attend this free event.
3. “**Youth Explosion 2018**” will be here before you know it. It will be held on Wednesday, July 11, 2018 at the beautiful Whitley Conference Center located on the campus of the Oblate School of Theology (where it has been held for the past three years). Please “Save the Date” for this very informative and fun event that is open to all teenagers (13 to 19 years of age). Further details will be sent as we get closer to this event.
4. There will be lots of other opportunities to fellowship and have fun during 2018, including the PAL Graduation Dinner (in May) hosted in part by YTIA, and volunteering throughout the year, so stay in touch.
5. Finally, for this edition, for those of you who are looking for a job, please check out our Facebook page. We post job openings regularly (as well as pictures from our activities). “Like” us so that you can continue to receive our posts.

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**Follow YTIA on Facebook. *Watch our Facebook page for job opportunities.***

**Share your thoughts with us about our Facebook page. Or, “like” us on Facebook.**

**And, if you are doing something particularly interesting, share it with us.**

**We can be reached through our website (**[**www.ytia.org**](http://www.ytia.org)**; just send us a “contact”),**

**or on the phone (210) 256-1888, or via email at** [**ytia2009@gmail.com**](mailto:ytia2009@gmail.com)**.**