



The DREAM Program, Inc.
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The Highgate DREAM Update December 2008

Happy New Year from DREAM! Check out what happened in December. Remember, you can always look back at past monthly reports or other programs' reports by going to: <http://www.dreamprogram.org/about/localprograms.htm>. And please, do not hesitate to contact us with questions or ideas.

December brought holidays, celebrations and snow. Norwich students had a short month and got a chance to return home to their own communities. Programming at Highgate took place once and also moved into a planning stage looking forward towards the new year.

Highlights from this month include:

- Planning for the future of DREAM at Highgate, and
- A fun afternoon of DREAM programming.

Fridays: The core of DREAM happens every Friday when DREAM mentors meet with their partners in group and one-on-one settings. The meetings occur on college campuses, onsite at the children's homes, and at spaces around the community. This month included only one Friday of programming due to the end of the semester at Norwich:

- An afternoon spent in the community center making holiday ornaments and playing games.

Capacity Building: The mentors are constantly working on bringing new children and mentors into the program and improving the program. In December, the group met and discussed the future of their program and the steps to be taken in the Spring Semester to meet long-term goals. There were also some brief discussions with administration from Norwich to aid in creating strategies.

Camp: DREAM's beautiful 50 acre camp is a resource for everyone involved in the program. In December the pavilion begun in November was completed and preparations also began for Winter Adventure Camp (WAC). WAC happens 7 different weekends beginning in January and ending a March and offers Local Programs a chance to take advantage of traditional winter activities at Camp DREAM. It's a very exciting time of year at Camp DREAM!

Other: The DREAM office began its Annual Appeal which raises essential funds for DREAM to operate and be able to provide programming to its 13 different communities throughout Vermont. The Central Office has also started the planning for hiring summer staff. Summer staff will be hired to work throughout the summer at each of DREAM's communities as well as at Camp DREAM.



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The office is very excited for all these happenings within DREAM and for the future of DREAM at Norwich University and Highgate.

Happy New Year and keep DREAMing!

Mike Ewan
Program Empowerment Director