



The DREAM Program, Inc.
P.O. Box 361
Winooski, VT 05404
(802) 655-9015 tel
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www.dreamprogram.org



Franklin St. DREAM Update June 2008

Greetings from DREAM! Here is a summary of the exciting events and developments that occurred during the month of June. Franklin St. DREAM currently consists of 15 children, and 13 mentors from the University of Vermont. DREAM mentors range from freshmen to seniors at UVM, and children range from the ages of 5 to 14. Currently, there are 12 mentor-matched kids in the program and 3 unmatched. 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.

During the summer months, DREAM's structure changes to better accommodate the children and families of our housing communities – programming occurs throughout the week and is open to all children in the community ages 4 and up. This summer it is estimated that 15 children will participate regularly in DREAM programming from Franklin St. As the summer swings into full gear, DREAM will be here to update you on our Summer Interns, summer programming and trips, and Camp DREAM!

DREAM Summer Interns – “D-Unit”

The DREAM Summer Interns have had two planning retreats together at Camp DREAM. These retreats included participating in Vermont's annual “Kid's Day Parade,” training, orientation, and time for interns to get to know each other and make plans for summertime collaboration between the communities. A number of inter-community events and trips are in the works for this summer – including a trip to the beach in Kennebunk, Maine!

This summer kicked off on Monday, June 17th with a series of community celebrations including barbecues, ice cream socials, and burrito making, where interns had a chance to introduce themselves, talk with parents and children about summer plans, and sign kids up for a summer of DREAMing. At Franklin St. this event was incredibly well attended and met with much enthusiasm! This summer's Franklin St. intern, Alicia Jacobs, spoke with many parents, signed new kids up for the summer, and was thrilled with the turn out.

Along with the opening celebrations, the interns got together during kick off week for driving tours of the Burlington, Milton, Barre, and Windsor areas. The interns piled into a car and traveled around seeing a plethora of fun places to take children and meeting some of the community partners of DREAM – including: Shelburne Farms, Oakledge Park, Sandbar Park, Ethan Allen Homestead, Myer's Bagels, and Mt. Philo. Alicia is pumped for the summer and ready to explore Chittenden County with the Franklin St. children.



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The first week of summer programming has included outdoor games, friendship bracelet making, a trip to Echo, and the beach. Alicia is excited to blend community programming (involving children and families) with trips and adventures around the state! A number of local partners have stepped forward this summer to partner with DREAM's summer interns including: the Burlington Sailing Center, Burlington Parks and Recreation Summer Program, and The Campaign to End Childhood Hunger. We're thrilled to be working with such an incredible group of partners and to provide such amazing programming options to our children this summer.

Camp DREAM

Camp DREAM sessions have been set for summer 2008 and they include a number of events, projects, and "guest rock stars." This summer, DREAM children will be invited to develop Camp archways tend to Camp DREAM's bunnies and chickens, plant an organic garden, work at The Farm Between (a local CSA farm in Cambridge, VT), tube on the "Mighty Lamoille River," and experience the out-of-doors with DREAM mentors and staff.

This summer's Camp Staff includes three UVM DREAM mentors (Alex Torres, Jenna Mawhinney, and Phil Ortego), a DREAM mentor from Middlebury College (Melissa Hirsch), and Leah Mawhinney from Maine. Each of these summer staff members have worked alongside DREAM's full-time staff to plan and prepare for the upcoming six weeks of Camp that will begin on June 24th. Camp sessions will be 3-5 days long (3 days for 8/9 year olds, and 5 days for children 10+) and scheduled by age and gender of children. Children received invitations and details about their Camp sessions during the month of May and June, and the Franklin St. community has been filled with anticipation! This year 12 Franklin St. children have been invited to attend Camp DREAM. One Franklin St. child has already gone to Camp DREAM for the 8-9 year old Boys and Girls sessions. We're thrilled to see how our fifth year of summer camp unfolds!

DREAM Central Office

- *The Camp DREAM Tree House*

The long awaited, 3 years in progress, Camp DREAM tree house is finally finished! A group of VYCC members, along with other DREAM staff members, and friends of DREAM (dubbed the "Elite Tree House Team") completed the project this month. The tree house sleeps 16 people, is about 30ft in height, and has a fire pole! DREAM offers a huge thank you to all those who were involved in this extensive and amazing project.

- *Hiring*

The DREAM Central Office is hiring! We are currently looking for a Camp Director, Camp Land and Facilities Manager, and Program Empowerment Directors. Check out the full job descriptions at: <http://www.dreamprogram.org/resources/jobs.htm>. All interested applicants are asked to send a letter of interest and resume to recruit@dreamprogram.org.



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Current DREAM Contacts Working with Franklin St.:

The office staff and interns working with Franklin St. often change during the summer. For your convenience, here is an updated list of who in DREAM will be working closest with the Franklin St. local program this summer:

Alicia Jacobs (DREAM Intern)
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Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions, comments, or ideas. We'd love to hear from you!

Keep DREAMing!
Liz Haag
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