

Alumni DREAM

Brief overview of our Articles:

- New Staff
- DREAM expanding
- Alumni Reunion Opportunities
- Alumni Org Officer info

DREAM

Welcome New DREAM Staffers (you got some crazy fun shoes to fill)

Ashleigh Ellsworth-Keller, Camp DREAM Director

Hello DREAM Alumni! I am super excited to be a part of DREAM as the new Camp DREAM Director and to play a role in this amazing thing called CAMP!

I just moved to beautiful Vermont from Flagstaff, Arizona (where it snows!), where I just finished a Master's in Sustainable Communities from Northern Arizona University. Prior to that I lived in North & South Carolina (but I ain't no Southern belle!). I graduated from Wake

Forest University in North Carolina in 2001. I love experiencing life in different parts of the country because I want to have a better understanding of the diversity of America. And now I'm much closer to the Appalachian Trail than I was in Arizona. Bring on the snow.



Camp, for me, is a magical place. There are so many

different types of camps all over the world but I think that anyone who loves camp understands this magic. I was a camper, counselor, and area director at two camps in North Carolina for several years, and I understand that camp is a place where identity is formed, true friendships are found, and kids can build their relationship to the land. Camp DREAM, while very different than the camps I'm familiar with, has all these qualities too. I want to perpetuate and enhance the experience of college students and kids at camp and help make it a place where all DREAMers feel like home.

Steve Addison, Land & Facilities Manager

I was a member of the Elm Street DREAM program at the University of Vermont. One of my biggest regrets was not putting in as much time as I should have; I was involved with too many organizations. I noticed the impact DREAM was having on our kids and wanted to be a part of that. I am excited to continue encouraging DREAM's mentees & challenging them to experience camp.

At the Ben & Jerry's office, I do a little bit of everything. I still get to hang out on Fridays with a

DREAM program, which is really exciting. I work with DREAM's new camp director to plan camp work days and generate ideas for camp. I am hoping to spend a lot of time at camp improving the facilities and my repertoire of skills. I have never used a stone oven to make pizza and I am psyched! The camp is a fabulous place that needs to grow in a healthy way so DREAM campers will have it forever.



In a few weeks, camp will be inviting DREAM families to explore and experience Camp DREAM on Fall Family Day. The office will be giving tours, helping with canoes, inviting families to help out on a work project, playing their kid's favorite camp games, or playing a round of Frisbee golf. I am excited to be a part of the planning for DREAMSTOCK because I was never able to make it, so it is going to be quite a weekend. All of the DREAM events, the future of camp, and the DREAM lifestyle will be one of the best experiences of my life.



**Joshua Warren,
Program Empowerment
Director**

Hello DREAM Alumni and Friends! My name is Joshua Warren and I am a new Program Empowerment Director with The DREAM Program. Over the past few years I have worn a few different hats within The DREAM Program, including Champlain College mentor, Camp DREAM Iron Chef, and President of the Alumni Org., and I am very excited to now be working in the DREAM office full time.

As a recent graduate of Bridgewater

State College, I am very excited to be coming on board with the DREAM Program as the organization set's its sights on expansion, to southern Vermont, and beyond! This year I will be working with a team of DREAMers to open a satellite office in Bennington, Vermont, as well as help to establish and support new local programs that will partner Green Mountain College and Bennington College with near by housing communities.

Beyond this year's southern Vermont expansion, DREAM is starting to

look further south towards Boston, Massachusetts for the fall of '09. With this big move comes a lot of excitement as DREAM will be both celebrating its 10th birthday and expanding out of state in the same year!

So, if you find yourself in the Bennington or Poultney area and you want to relive your college years hanging out with amazing children, or if you want to chat about DREAM's expansion feel free to e-mail me at josh@dreamprogram.org, I'd love to hear from you!

Did you know??

*DREAM Alumni now includes mentees from the program over 18 years old??
How cool is that?!*

DREAMING

By Daniel Shearer

The Central Office continues to bring DREAM to new colleges and communities. This year, new programs in southern Vermont will be supported by a satellite office in Bennington. We plan to open an office in Boston in 2009 and keep right on growing.

To spearhead this expansion, we are combining our two Burlington area offices in one office that we intend to purchase. Our donated spaces have served us well through our initial growth, but it is time to own an office that provides adequate room for staff, storage, and meetings. We found an awesome option in the former Winooski Library building. It meets our needs, is accessible, and is very close to many of our families and mentors. The city is excited to have us move in and we are negotiating an agreement to slowly purchase the building over five years, avoiding taking on debt.

To raise the funds to move in, we initiated



the Open Door Campaign, asking our donors to give their economic stimulus to this cause. The idea came from Dartmouth '01 Alum Jeff Kinkaid and has generated a good fund for us to make necessary improvements before moving in. Jesse Foote, also from the '01 class, has offered his LEED Certification skills to help us make the best environmental choices as we upgrade the building.

If a contract works out, we look to move in this spring and we look forward to your visits! Don't expect a cubicle maze when you come by. It will be the same old atmosphere where you can say hi to everyone at the same time and join us every day for family lunch.

CAN YOU FEEL THE ENERGY

by Erin Caswell

Nine former and current DREAM founders, mentors, Board members and staff gathered together for a mini reunion in the desert of Nevada for a gathering known as Burningman. It was a wild setting for the assorted crew, but one that all will remember for a lifetime. Too many crazy details to include here, but ask any of us if you want more information.



DREAMers:

Mike Foote, Daniel Shearer, Erin Caswell, Jesse Foote, Paul Biggs, Chad Butt, Pete Land, Jon Potter, Jen Lazar

PARTY TIME,

Inspired to create your own mini reunion or DREAM gathering? Sweet! There is no better time than now. Let the alumni org help connect or reconnect you to other DREAMers from your program or in your area.

And of course we need creative and energetic DREAM alumni that want to help keep the spirit of DREAM alive by helping build the alumni community. Like to plan parties or events? Like to chat with new people and reconnect with old friends? Then you are perfect for one of the alumni community committees! Email alumni@dreamprogram.org to find out more and stay connected to that fabulous DREAM energy & spirit!

Some fun information and important dates coming up in DREAM:

*DREAMSTOCK, October 25th & 26th - Annual event for all mentors to gather at Camp DREAM to play games, eat food, meet other mentors and enjoy some workshops!

*DREAM currently has 12 running programs throughout Vermont!

*Move over youtube, DREAM now has podcasts. New videos every two weeks to keep Alumni and supporters up on the latest happenings. Check it out at: <http://www.dreamprogram.org/dreamcast/>

DREAM Trivia:

*How many former mentees are currently enrolled in education programs beyond High School??

First 5 people to email alumni@dreamprogram.org with correct answer will receive some DREAM gear!

Keep DREAMin'

Are you still DREAMing big?

Let's hear about you and what you are up to!

We want to know if you got a new job, located somewhere else, think you beat the hotdog eating world record, whatever...just let us let others know what you are doing these days.

Email: alumni@dreamprogram.org

Alumni Board

Josh Warren, President, Champlain 06

Dave Anderson, VP Dartmouth 04

Jon Potter, Treasurer, Dartmouth 01

Erin Caswell, Secretary Champlain 06



DREAM ON!!