

Parent / Guardians Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Does it cost anything to attend FYI?

NO, participation at FYI is free of charge. We are a non-profit organization dedicated to serving the community. If there is ever a small fee for a special activity, you will be notified in advance.

Is my child required to attend FYI every day?

NO, this program is voluntary. Your child can come to FYI as often as they wish. The more hours they spend at FYI, however, the more rewarding an experience they will have.

What time should my child arrive at FYI and what time will they leave?

FYI welcomes students beginning at 2:30, when they will be offered a meal and supervised free-time. Our activities begin at 4:00, so students should arrive no later than 3:45 in order to participate. The program ends at 6:00. Please be here at 6:00 to pick up your child, unless they have permission to walk home alone.

What exactly does my child do at FYI?

The focus of FYI's program is to help young people develop leadership skills mainly through community service activities. In addition, we offer educational enrichment, homework help, and a variety of arts, sports, games and other fun activities.

Where will my child be doing these activities?

On some days, your child will be here in our building, participating in any of a variety of fun activities. On most other days, your child will be all around Washington Heights, doing community service projects like gardening, painting over graffiti, and other positive activities. Sometimes, we do leave the area for a service activity. We will notify you and require a permission slip for any trips or events outside of our normal hours.

What about days when school is closed or there is a half-day?

We normally offer "reverse days" when there is no school. On a reverse day, your child can come to FYI from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. On half-days, we open our doors at 2:30; we are not able to receive students any earlier.

Does FYI offer any meals or snacks?

YES, we serve a healthy supper between 2:30 – 3:45. Students who arrive late (usually high school students who travel), will get their meal as a "grab & go" from 3:45 – 4:00.

Who supervises my child at FYI?

Youth are always supervised by an adult staff member, or an adult social work intern.

Can I visit or call FYI anytime or do I need to make an appointment?

YES, you can call or visit us anytime. If you need to talk with one of our staff members or the Program Director about a particular issue, however, it would be better to call ahead and make an appointment to make sure we can give you enough time with us.

Can I bring in my child's Yellow Card (Health Record) instead of the medical form in this packet?

YES! Bring in your yellow card and we will make a copy of it here in the office.