



New York State
Office of Children & Family Services

Contact: Public Information Office 518-402-3130

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

News

Date: June 18, 2012

BIKE DONATION MAKES DIFFERENCE AT YOUTH FACILITIES

Residents of four upstate juvenile justice facilities operated by the New York State Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) will soon have refurbished bicycles to ride. They are being donated by Community Bikes in Hamilton (Madison County) which refurbishes and “upcycles” unused bicycles to those who need them.

Thirty mountain bikes and helmets are slated for Finger Lakes Residential Center (Lansing, NY), Industry Residential Center (Rush, NY), Lansing Residential Center (Lansing, NY) and Youth Leadership Academy (South Kortright, NY). The bikes will be used at the nonsecure and limited secure state facilities to encourage healthy recreation and as incentives for positive behavior.

According to Gladys Carrión, Commissioner of OCFS, “This is an example of how partnering with the community can create positive results. We are so grateful to Community Bikes for donating these bikes. In addition to providing our residents with recreational opportunities, these bikes show our youth that people care about them and demonstrate the important concepts of recycling and re-use.” Community Bikes coordinator Chuck Fox said, “We are very grateful to the people and organization who donate their unused bicycles. They truly make a difference in peoples’ lives. We are pleased to be able to offer these bikes to these youth.”

Community Bikes is a not-for-profit organization created to collect donated bicycles from the community and refurbish and provide bikes to children and adults who need transportation or just for fun. The organization held its annual Bike Day in April with 321 bikes placed with families. For more information about donating bikes, visit communitybikes.org