

Keynote Speaker



James Morton
President & CEO
YMCA of Greater Boston

James O'S. Morton is the 13th President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Boston. James joined the Greater Boston Y in 2015 after serving at YMCAs in Hartford, CT and Springfield, MA. Prior to joining the YMCA of Greater Boston, James served as President and CEO of the YMCA of Greater Hartford where the Y experienced double digit growth in contributions; developed innovative programming; improved the membership engagement experience; and built many collaborative relationships. He led a successful \$15 million capital campaign and launched a new strategic plan to guide the work of the organization. He also has a deep personal and professional connection to work force development and education having served as a leader to two work force development agencies and was an educator in the Springfield, MA public school system.

James earned a Bachelor of Arts in sociology from the University of Wisconsin and a Juris Doctorate from Northeastern University School of Law. He is a current member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, serves on the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Board of Elementary and Secondary Education and is a trustee of Springfield College. In addition, he has served on numerous YMCA of the USA committees and task forces around brand management, executive leadership and multiculturalism.

James has a compelling personal history that exemplifies the positive impact that the Y makes. With an African-American father and mother of Irish descent, James laughingly often introduces himself as "Black Irish" and his background and personality provide him with a unique ability to forge meaningful connections with everyone that he meets. James is a world class runner and continues to run competitively. In 2008, James was the national Master's champion and #2 in the world of the 800 meter in his age bracket.

Location

**Baystate Health Education
Conference Center
361 Whitney Avenue
Holyoke, MA 01040**

Directions

From the Massachusetts Turnpike:

Take exit 4; then follow signs to 1-91 N towards Holyoke. Take exit 15, Lower Westfield Rd/Ingleside. Turn left off the exit ramp. Go about .2 miles to the 2nd set of lights and take a left onto Homestead Ave/Whitney Ave. Go .2miles. The entrance to the conference center will be on the right.

From Connecticut and Points South:

Take 1-91 N towards Holyoke. Take exit 15, Lower Westfield Rd/Ingleside. Turn left off the exit ramp. Go about .2 miles to the 2nd set of lights and take a left onto Homestead Ave/Whitney Ave. Go .2miles. The entrance to the conference center will be on the right.

From Vermont and Points North:

Take 1-91 S to exit 15 (lower Westfield Rd/Ingleside). Turn right off the exit ramp. Turn left at the lights onto Homestead Ave/Whitney Avenue. Go .2 miles. The entrance to the conference center will be on the right.

**Parking and entrance located in the 2nd
half of the parking lot. There is ample
parking and parking is free.**

May 1, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

YEAH! NETWORK!

Youth Empowerment Adolescent Health Network

NINTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

POWER OF COMMUNITY:
**"How an Interconnected
Community will transform the
Health and Prosperity of
Youth"**

#WEHAVEAVOICE

Workshops led by Local, State, and
National Presenters.

Keynote Address:

**"The Power of Collective Action is
Collective Impact"**

James O'S Morton
President & CEO
YMCA of GREATER BOSTON

*****This is a free event but registration is required.
The conference will be held at the Baystate Health
Education Center, Holyoke, MA**

Registration

Registration will close on
April 22nd

Your registration information can be submitted by mail, fax, phone, web, or email.

The YEAH! Network can be reached by:

Address

c/o Partners For A Healthier Community, Inc.
140 High Street
Springfield, MA 01105

Phone

413.794.2807

Fax

413.794.1451

Website

www.yeahnetwork.org

Blog

<http://yeahnetwork.blogspot.com>

Email

conference@yeahnetwork.org

Target Audience:

Youth, Parents, Youth Serving Organizations, Educators, Policy Makers and Medical Providers serving youth, Social Service Organizations, Faith Leaders, Funders and Community Members interested in improving the health and prosperity of youth.

Goal of Conference:

The YEAH! Network annual conference focuses on a central theme that drives the work of the coalition throughout the year. The YEAH! Network 9th annual conference will focus on how we leverage the power of community to transform the sexual health of youth. The structure of the conference is designed to achieve the following goals.

Inform- To provide new information or new perspective on strategies to improve the health and prosperity of youth.

Empower- Workshops that provide opportunity to build skills and community capacity for change in adolescent sexual health.

Engage- Highlight opportunities for participants to implement strategies in programming, clinical services, policy and community engagement that will improve the sexual health of teens in Hampden County.

Conversations: Why Should I Attend?

In the evolving health and social sectors, creating strong linkages and interconnectedness between various community partners (including youth and parents) is key to improving the health concerns that require integrated, comprehensive systems of care to not only address health problems but also the social factors that influence health outcomes. Over the years, the YEAH! Network and multiple community partners in health, education and social services, public policy, youth leaders and parents and various community advocates have worked together to address disparities in adolescent sexual health. The conversation at this conference will go beyond discussions of partnerships. This year, we will focus the conversation on how each of our work links to other partners creating the potential for a more formal "system of care" to reduce teen birth rates and improve the sexual health of youth in our region. Please join us and learn about the strength of our community partners and strategies we can implement together to create a coordinated, interconnected system of care for youth.

Conference Schedule

10:00 A.M.

REGISTRATION/CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

10:15 A.M.

WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS

10:45 A.M.

BRINGING EVERYONE TOGETHER COLLECTIVELY

12:00 P.M. - 1:15 P.M.

MORNING WORKSHOPS

1:30 P.M.

LUNCH & NETWORKING

2:15 P.M. - 3:15 P.M.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

3:30 P.M.

JAMES O'S MORTON, KEYNOTE SPEAKER

4:45 P.M.

YOUTH PRESENTATIONS

5:15 P.M.

- PRESENTATIONS AND AWARDS

CLOSING REMARKS

MORNING WORKSHOPS

A1. Let's Be Honest: Communication in Families that Keeps Kids Healthy

Presenter: Mindy Craver

Kids have questions about their bodies, puberty, relationships and sexual decision making. Research shows that they want to get answers from their parents/trusted adults in their lives. Help them make the right choices. Be prepared with this fun, thought provoking interactive workshop which will provide parents with strategies for responding to their children's hard-to-answer questions as well as techniques for talking about sexual health issues in a skilled knowledgeable and comfortable manner. Let's Be Honest is a workshop for parents and other caregivers of adolescents designed to help them learn how to create a comfortable environment of trust for talking about sex and sexuality.

A2: Everyone's Responsibility: How can Communities take action to prevent Child Sexual Abuse?

Presenter: Dr. Stephen Boos, Baystate Health

Sexual abuse prevention efforts have focused on making children responsible for protecting themselves. What about us adults? This workshop will discuss how adults can play their part in making our community and youth serving organizations safe for children.

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS

B1. Shifting Culture and Reaching Young People through Social Media

Presenter: Natasha Vianna, Mass Alliance on Teen Pregnancy

Young people of color are using social media platforms to engage with each other on the issues impacting their lives. In this workshop, we will discuss how adults and allies can authentically engage in those dialogues and help shape effective culture-shifting conversations within those platforms. Workshop attendees will walk away with a new understanding of social media activism and how to build trusting relationships with isolated and marginalized young people in their communities

B2. Engaging Youth to Create a Healthier World for all of us!

Presenters: John Engle, James Lightfoot, III

Workshop will engage participants in strategies in engaging youth as partners in program design, inform participants in the use of strategies to convene and support young men and women as well as empower participants to support youth in their program as valuable assets in the development of strong youth focused programs and initiatives.

B3: Keeping Your Family Safe from Abuse

Presenter: Dr. Stephen Boos, Baystate Health

What can a parent do to help protect their child from sexual abuse? What can a parent do to help their child protect themselves? What should a parent do when they think someone might have abused their child? We will address these difficult questions, and others that you may have at this workshop.

A special thank you to all the presenters who will be leading a workshop for the 9th Annual YEAH! Network Conference:

**Dr. Stephen Boos
Baystate Health**

**Mindy Craver
Planned Parenthood League
of Massachusetts**

**John Engle
Healthy Men and Boys Network**

**James Lightfoot III
Mass Alliance on Teen Pregnancy**

**Natasha Vianna
Mass Alliance on Teen Pregnancy**

and to our Keynote Speaker

**James Morton,
President & CEO of the YMCA of
Greater Boston**

Register for the YEAH! Network's May 1, 2015 conference

Name:

Email:

Phone:

Organization:

A Workshop:

B Workshop:

Are you planning to have lunch with us? Yes _____ No _____

Mail:

c/o Partners For A Healthier Community, Inc.

140 High Street

Springfield, MA 01105



Youth Empowerment Adolescent Health Network