



YFPI Newsletter

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 3

JULY 2015

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:



- **Youth Firesetting Intervention Repository & Evaluation System YFIRES** is now live. [Click here](#) to view the preliminary page.
- **Check out our updated website:** New materials continue to be added and YFPI will be located under fire prevention education and services. Check us out regularly. www.fire.state.mn.us

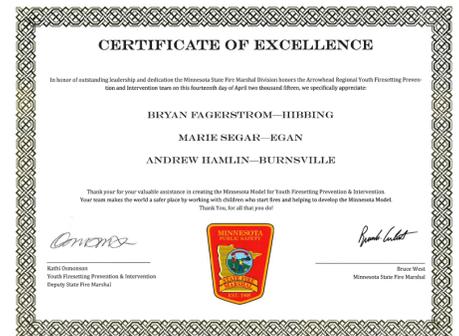
From the State YFPI Coordinator

A special shout-out to Dakota County Program Managers Andy Hamline and Marie Segar, and to Hibbing area Program Manager Bryan Fagerstrom, who received awards at the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Conference in April.

These folks have gone above-and-beyond in helping to create the “Minnesota Model 2.2,” updated in June with assessment forms, marketing materials, educational tools and ideas, and supporting resources.

The Dakota County Program, where every fire department in the county is participating, currently reports a 100% success rate. This means that after the 6, 12 and 24 month follow-ups, no recidivism was reported in any of the children who went through their program.

Bryan Fagerstrom currently covers the entire Arrowhead Region and is bringing his multi-discipline team together beautifully. Bryan covers a very large area and, his efforts to get the program advertised are paying off with more youth-firesetting cases reported. Bryan is a charter member of this effort. He was part of the first Core Team who reviewed existing YFPI programs throughout the state and helped update materials for the original Minnesota Model.



2015 YFPI advisory meeting schedule

Most meetings are from 10 a.m. to noon, with training possibly available after lunch.

July 30 & 31 Bemidji Program Manager meeting — see insert

Aug. 11
Maple Grove

Oct. 13
Maple Grove

Dec. 8
St. Paul in conjunction with the Minnesota Fire & Injury Prevention group!

Specialist / Program Manager training November 5&6 / 7&8

Youth Fire Intervention Team (YFIT)

There is progress to report on the Youth Fire Intervention Team:

We are on track to visit in person with every Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association (MSFCA) Regional Director and identify a qualified (or potential) program manager in each region. We hope to complete this task by the end of July. The identified program managers are encouraged to attend the first annual YFPI / YFIT conference — a list of speakers is included here.

In August, field meetings take place with program managers to be sure they're prepared. The State Fire Marshal Division (SFMD) will help locate partners in mental health, social services and other disciplines that build a well-rounded team.

In September, we'll identify any remaining work to be done on Minnesota Model 2.2. The SFMD will strive to have everything in

place for a YFIT unveiling at the MSFCA Conference in Duluth this October.

Fire Chiefs at the conference will find information packets available on YFIT Standard Operating Guidelines and procedures to follow when they identify a youth-set fire. The State Duty Officer will activate YFIT just as they would a FAST. This initiative will make the DO a one-stop-shop for the Minnesota fire service

If you've ever considered becoming a YFIT program manager, now is the time to step up!

Some of our regions are large enough to require more than one program manager, and in fact, some metro areas will have a program manager in each county. Your skills and your dedication to stopping youth firesetting are needed right now.

The State Fire Marshal Division is offering a combination YFPI Spe-

Upcoming Training

What: YFPI Specialist and Program Manager Class

When: Nov. 5 & 6 and Nov. 7 & 8

Where: Waseca

To register: visit sfm.dps.mn.gov

[cialist and Program Manager class](#) Nov.5 & 6 and again on Nov. 7 & 8 in Waseca.

To register, visit the State Fire Marshal Website. For more information contact kathi.osmonson@state.mn.us or call 651-201-7220.

More information about the Youth Fire Intervention Team is online [click here](#)



Now is the time to step up if you have ever considered becoming a YFIT Program Manager in your region.



**First Annual
YFPI / YFIT Program Managers Conference
July 30 & 31, 2015
Bemidji Fire Department**

MEET THE PRESENTERS:

Dr. David Kolko

Our keynote speaker is a professor of psychiatry, psychology, pediatrics, and clinical and translational science at the University of Pittsburgh. He is recognized as one of the world's experts in the field of youth firesetting. Over nearly four decades he has lectured on this subject around the world, published several books and produced important research documents on youth firesetting.

Jerrod Brown, MA, MA, MS

Mr. Brown is the treatment director for Pathways Counseling Center, Inc., where professional staff provides programs and services that benefit individuals affected by mental illness and addiction. He is the founder and CEO of the American Institute for the Advancement of Forensic Studies and director of the Concordia University graduate program in Forensic Mental Health.

Michael Flanagan

Mr. Flanagan is an instructor for the Illinois Fire Safety Alliance Youth Firesetter Intervention program. He led the development of an Illinois Firesetter Intervention program and consults on curriculum development for the Dublin Institute of Technology with the Irish Fire Service. He is a 24-year fire-service veteran with experience in suppression, investigation and public education.

Theresa Zikmund

Executive Director, Minnesota State Certification Board.

Patricia Jones

After interning with the Burn Institute of San Diego, Ms. Jones recently defended her doctoral dissertation at the California School of Forensic Studies Alliant International University. Her dissertation is on the effectiveness of FEMA assessment tools. She will elaborate on her findings to assist the YFIT in deciding which tool we should be using.

Registration: Contact Kathi Osmonson at 651-201-7220 or kathi.osmonson@state.mn.us

YFIRES is a reality!

The Youth Firesetting Intervention Repository & Evaluation System held their summit meeting and performed a soft launch the week of July 6.

The International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) began the project in early 2012 with the goal of creating a national database and making it accessible to all the disciplines involved in youth firesetting.

During the initial meeting, the executive team admitted that they didn't think it could be done. Three years later, the database is real and the website is live.

Minnesota Program Managers will now have access to enter their data for national analysis, so we will finally know what our problem really looks like, and identify complete demographics so we can evaluate our effectiveness and target

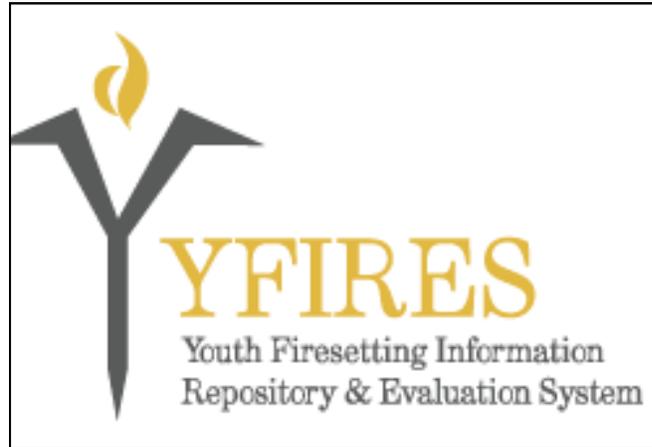
our high-risk kids ultimately reducing then eliminating the problem of youth set fires.

There are 19 mandatory data fields: age and grade at time of incident; gender, race or origin; family type; zip-code (the only identifier); referred by; previous firesetting/and how many times; day of week/time of day; incident location; ignition source; item first ignited; were others involved; and final disposition of the case. These come with a data dictionary for consistency.

Additional fields are available for total case management and various privacy settings are in place.

If a name is entered, only the person entering the information and their program manager has access to that information.

YFIRES experienced a "soft" launch because so many great ideas were



generated during the meeting, there is more work to do.

The room was full of subject matter experts including world-renowned psychiatrists, district attorneys, probation officers, and representatives from the International Fire Service Training Association, National Association of State Fire Marshals, International Association of Arson Investigators, National Fire Protection Association), Burn Centers, fire departments and the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division.

The YFIRES executive committee made two full

days of presentations, including an in-depth history of youth firesetting from the first documentation in the 1800's through this project's completion.

Steering committee members, most of whom committed time and energy to guide this project along, also made comments.

Stakeholders like the Minnesota State Fire Marshal Division helped to test the system over the last two years by entering data and providing feedback on first- and second-draft software.

Thanks for all that you do!



State Fire Marshal Division Youth Firesetting Prevention and Intervention Program

445 Minnesota St., Suite 145

St. Paul, MN 55101-5145

Phone: 651-201-7220

YFPI helpline: 1-800-500-8897

E-mail: kathi.osmonson@state.mn.us