

Youth Empowerment Task Force

The Youth Empowerment Task Force of Herkimer County is a group of youth in grades 7-11 focused on creating positive social change within their schools and community. The group meets each month to discuss a socially important topic and listen to guest speakers, watch educational videos, take part in related activities, and volunteer in the community. This group is a collaborative initiative of the Domestic Violence Program and the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program of Catholic Charities of Herkimer County. If you know a local teen who would be interested in joining, please text 315-868-2165.

Arbor Day Planting

The Youth Empowerment Task Force of Herkimer County planted 30 shrubs and bushes on April 26th, 2019 in celebration of Arbor Day. The plants were placed by the Ilion Fire Department and behind Catholic Charities of Herkimer County. The youth planted a variety of shrubs and flowering bushes, which were donated by the Seedling Program through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at the Saratoga Tree Nursery. Dan Welc from the Herkimer Department of Environmental Conservation attended the planting to teach the youth task force members the best practices to ensure successful transplant. These shrubs and bushes will provide a natural habitat for birds and insects as well as a source of beauty for our local community.



Above: Dan Welc of the DEC shows youth how to plant shrubs behind Catholic Charities

Right: Emily digs a hole by the Ilion Fire Department to plant a flowering shrub.



**HOTLINE
VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED!**



**VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME
FROM THE COMFORT OF
YOUR OWN HOME.
TRAINING PROVIDED.
PROGRAM STAFF AVAILABLE
24/7 FOR ASSISTANCE.**