

Bowling fundraiser returns in March



Many people have had a lot of fun at the annual Believe in Youth Bowl-A-Rama, formerly Bowl for Kids' Sake, raising funds for the Youth Mentoring of the Southern Tier organization. [PROVIDED/THE LEADER]

Youth Bowl-A-Rama, formerly Bowl for Kids' Sake, slated at Crystal Laes

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CORNING - Believe in Youth Bowl-A-Rama, formerly Bowl for Kids' Sake, will be held March 24 at Crystal Lanes.

It's the biggest annual fundraiser for Youth Mentoring of the Southern Tier, formerly Big Brothers Big Sisters.

Angela Button, program coordinator of Youth Mentoring, said teams of five bowlers commit to soliciting

funds from friends and family members on behalf of the youth organization.

"I've taken part in this event for the past five years," said Chrystal Dow, of Corning. "It's a lot of fun. It's really a great time, with great people for the wonderful cause, children."

Button said there are two times teams can bowl at the event, noon-2 p.m. and 2:30-4:30 p.m., at Crystal Lanes,

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During the Believe in Youth Bowl-A-Rama, bowlers can enjoy two games of bowling, raffle baskets, door prizes, 50/50 drawings and food. [PROVIDED/THE LEADER]



Believe in Youth Bowl-A-Rama, formerly Bowl for Kids' Sake, is the largest fundraiser for Youth Mentoring of the Southern Tier, a site-based mentoring program that meets once a week at a designated location. [PROVIDED/THE LEADER]

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11749 E. Corning Road.

“We ask that bowlers try to bring in at least \$60 – or \$300 per team,” Button said. “All of the money raised stays local to support our programs in Steuben and Chemung counties. This is our largest fundraiser and we count on the success of this event to operate our programs throughout the year.”

Button said last year’s bowling event raised about \$32,000 and the goal for this year’s Believe in Youth Bowl-A-Rama is \$35,000.

“We always want to do a little better than we did the year before,” Button said. “That’s our goal. Many local businesses sponsor the event or sponsor a team of employees to bowl as a team-building event.”

Teams can register at <http://believeinyouth-bowl-a-rama.com>.

Registration is open now through February 24.

Button said funds can be raised through the event website by creating an online donation page and sending the link via social media, or funds can be collected in person and brought directly to the event. The event, though under another name, has been held for about the past 15 years, Button said. On the day of the event, bowlers turn in their money and enjoy two games of bowling, raffle baskets, door prizes, 50/50 drawings and food.

Youth Mentoring of the Southern Tier is a site-based mentoring program that meets once a week at a designated location in Corning, Elmira and other locations. Mentors are thoroughly screened including background and reference checks. During each hour-long program, mentors and mentees participate in fun and enriching activities facilitated by the site coordinators.