



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CONTACT:** Robin Foster  
(607) 962-3148  
[fosterr@familyservicesociety.org](mailto:fosterr@familyservicesociety.org)

## **LAURA RICHARDSON HOUGHTON YOUTH CENTER OFFERS LOCAL YOUTH A SUMMER OF SAFE AND FUN PROGRAMMING**

CORNING, NY – June 30, 2014 – As school lets out for the summer, the Laura Richardson Houghton Corning Youth Center, located at 79 Flint Avenue, is ready to offer local youth a variety of free activities and programming to help them stay safe and busy this summer.

Opening at 11:00am each weekday and closing at 7:00pm, the Center offers youth ages 8-18 the chance to participate in a variety of activities under the direction of Caitlin McConville, the center's newly appointed coordinator, and a team of dedicated staff members. During the summer, supervised outdoor games like basketball, frisbee, dodgeball, and flag football are especially popular, as are regularly scheduled trips to the Stewart Park pool. Youth also enjoy a variety of indoor activities at the Center including daily arts and crafts activities in the well-stocked art room, ping pong and pool, movie days, video game challenges, board game tournaments, access to a supervised, fully equipped computer lab, and creative hands-on cooking projects led by Food Service Manager, Mary Lou Stead. Special Teen Nights are offered to youth ages 13-18 from 7:00pm-9:00pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Each day the Kid's Café program provides children with free meals and snacks.

The Youth Center is also excited to be a participant in the Garden of Fire program, a local collaborative effort between the Rockwell Museum, Tanglewood Nature Center, 171 Cedar Arts Center, the ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes, CareFirst, Corning Salvation Army, Hornell Area Concern for Youth, and the Addison Youth Center. The Garden of Fire program involves youth in activities related to gardening and science, art making, and a culminating community celebration of the children's work. Examples of the specific activities include mini workshops on clay bowl making, printmaking using vegetables, drumming, and the cycle of life.

For more information, please contact the Youth Center at 936-4116.

*The Laura Richardson Houghton Corning Youth Center (formerly known as the Corning Area Youth Center) is a free after-school drop-in facility for youth ages 8-18 located on Flint Ave. in Corning. The Youth Center offers a safe, nurturing atmosphere for local youth. The center is a program of Family Service Society, Inc. and a United Way community funded partner. For more information, call 936-4116.*