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802.257.0361 ■ youthservicesinc.org ■ A United Way Agency ■ *Transforming Lives, Inspiring Futures*

Frequently Asked Questions for *Can Windham County Dance?* 2019 Event

Many thanks for your willingness to sign on as one of Youth Services' celebrity dancers (or instructors) for our gala on April 27 at SIT. You are part of an impressive line-up of dancers who will entertain the guests and raise funds to ensure we have a strong safety net for local young people in crisis.

This is only our second year with celebrity dancers as our gala theme so we are in some ways figuring it out as we go along, with your advice! So, let us know if you have questions, concerns or suggestions.

COMP TICKETS: You will have a complementary registration for the dinner. If you'd rather pay for your ticket, that purchase will be considered as a 100% tax deductible donation to Youth Services and help towards the fundraising goal you set!

RESERVATIONS: Please invite your friends and family to come cheer you on! Each round table can hold up to eight guests and if the group is larger, call us at (802) 257-0361 as we can put two or more tables of your fans near each other. Additional tickets are available on-line for purchase with a credit card at youthservicesinc.org/gala and we expect this to be a sold out event so are recommending that folks get their tickets early. Tickets can be purchased with no service fee if made by check or cash at Youth Services 9-4:30 M-F. If seats are still available, the latest we can add numbers is April 10, though we often have last minute cancelations so tell friends to check to see if there is a waiting list.

PEER-to-PEER FUNDRAISING: A default fundraising webpage will be set up for you at youth-services-dance.causevox.com which you can edit and customize your website with a password we will give you. Using this makes it easy to send email appeals or make social media posts to your contact list. It is especially effective to add a note, sharing your motivations to help Youth Services with your supporters. We have set fundraising goals to fall between \$1,000 and \$2,000 per celebrity, but feel free to increase this (or let us know to increase it) if you are feeling more ambitious or decrease it if you see \$1,000 as too ambitious. If you are unable to make the changes you want, let Youth Services know by emailing nanci.leitch@youthservicesinc.org so we can do them for you.

OLD FASHION FUNDRAISING OPTION: We can mail you (or e-mail you) a hardcopy pledge sign-up sheet to circulate at your convenience with friends family, office, and school. This is a great way to collect cash or checks on the spot and avoid the service fees the website adds on. Any contributor of \$85 or more will receive a ticket to the evening, if desired. Please use this method, in addition to the webpage, as yet another way to sell tickets and raise funds for this worthwhile cause!

CORPORATE SPONSORS: An easy way to reach your fundraising goal is to ask local business owners to sponsor you at the \$350-\$5,000 level. Sponsorship receives complementary gala or golf tourney registrations and drink tickets as well as visibility in the gala program and at \$500 and up at Youth Services events throughout the year. (See chart)

COSTUMES/FANCY DRESS: We encourage you to wear something special for your performance so think about it ahead of time. Often inexpensive dance costumes can be ordered on-line or maybe something can be borrowed from a friend or a dance school (or deep in your memory chest).

REHEARSAL TIME: Saturday morning of April 27 is when the dance floor will be in place at SIT, in the center of the seating tables, and available for a dry run. As we get closer, we will circulate a rehearsal sign-up sheet once we know when the DJ can join you there. We are still looking for a DJ to donate their services, if you have any ideas!

MUSIC: You should edit and share by April 10 the music you'd like to use for your performance; it shouldn't run longer than 3 minutes. If you need help with this, let us know.

MC: The MC will be introducing you to the audience, right before your performance. We'll be asking you for a short professional bio and/or humorous notes from each dancer, and fun facts about your dance background or lack thereof. While we are not billing this as a competition per se, there will be trophies awarded and a prize for most funds raised by celebrity dancers.

GREEN ROOM: We will have a room at SIT available for you to store changes of clothes, apply make-up, do hair before your performance, etc... Feel free to invite assistance. If you know of a hairdresser or make-up artist who will help at no charge, let us know. There are bathrooms nearby for changing if privacy is needed.

PERFORMANCE ORDER: We will be announcing the line-up of performances (between 7-8 pm) ahead of time and let you know.

Other questions or suggestions? Email Nanci.Leitch@youthservicesinc.org or call (802) 257-0361 x 147