

About bou

Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited (**bou**) was organized in 1985 by a group of community members, school leaders and parents to find ways to address the problem of underage use of alcohol and other drugs. Our name came in response to the teen complaint of having “nothing to do.” In fact, organizers believed teens have many choices before them. There are **unlimited opportunities** available that our youth will find--especially if nudged by caring adults.

Over time, **bou** evolved into a not-for-profit funding source for prevention education and youth activities in our community. Our ongoing purposes are to encourage young people residing in the Town of Bethlehem or attending school in the Bethlehem Central School District to realize their full potential through available educational and career opportunities and to prevent alcohol use and other risky behaviors.

We fund grants for:

- Promoting safe & healthy activities for youth
- Prevention education
- Disseminating information via guest speakers, panels & workshops

- Providing educational, career & employment resources for youth and/or their parents

Past grants have supported a variety of activities for children from preschool age through adolescence. **bou** funds are raised through donations and special fund-raising events. For the academic year 2014-2015, BOU awarded over \$3,500 in grants. The organization also provides family activities, including the annual Bethlehem Community Spelling Bee, bou’s major fundraiser, and Talking with Your Teen.

Each year **bou** donates money to the Senior Celebration Committee bringing an alcohol-free evening to our graduating seniors in June. **bou** also sponsors a panel of returning BC graduates to speak with our Junior and Senior students about life at college and making the right choices in their new environments.

Recent bou grants

BC Physical Education Dept. Color Dash 5K
BCMS Costume Ball
Bethlehem Youth Court training
BCHS Girls Night Out
BC Kids Vote Too
5th Grade “Survivor” Day at Town Park
Bethlehem Senior Celebration

Please support bou and help make a difference!

Your donations will help bou to continue its good works for the children and youth of Bethlehem. Please mail this form and your check (payable to bou) to:

bou, PO Box 492, Delmar, NY 12054

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Do you have students currently enrolled in school, K-12? yes no If yes, please list school(s): _____

Do you have suggested topics/issues for bou consideration? yes no. Please specify _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities!

How to apply for funding

Grant application forms can be obtained online at:

<http://www.bethlehemschools.org/community/bou/>

Completed grant applications must be e-mailed to the Chair of the Grant Committee (see below) at least two weeks prior to the next board meeting. The **bou** board's monthly meeting dates are listed on the Bethlehem Central School District calendar. The **bou** board evaluates requests based on consistency with goals, cost effectiveness, and available alternative funding. An evaluation is required of each funded grant. For more information or to submit an application, please contact the Chair of the Grant Committee:

Christine Porter, cporter@bcsd.neric.org

**Bethlehem Opportunities
Unlimited**

PO Box 492

Delmar, NY 12054

<http://www.bethlehemschools.org/community/bou/>

Email: boubethlehem@gmail.com
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bou

Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited

**community volunteers
dedicated to promoting
safe and healthy
activities for our youth
and prevention education
for our community**

2015-2016