



Adolescent Development Services

Management Bios

Nestor B. Ortiz, Jr.
Executive Director

Nestor Ortiz began his youth programming experience as one of the first MOSI Y.E.S. Team participants (a YouthALIVE! program). After 4 prosperous years, Nestor graduated from the program in 1996 with a better understanding of adolescent needs. He then went on to start a similar YouthALIVE! model based program at the Lowry Park Zoo. After 2 successful years there, he moved to Boston where he worked at the Boston Museum of Science and then Zoo New England. At Zoo New England he transformed a summer program of 25 teens to a year round, multi-tiered program offering continuous direct professional and personal development to over 240 teens a year. In 2002 he moved back to Tampa and started Adolescent Development Services, an agency that assists other organizations to successfully develop and implement their own high quality youth programs. In 2004 he was recruited back to Lowry Park Zoo and in addition to running Adolescent Development Services, also serves as their Department of Youth Development Director. He is in the process of completing his BA in Community Youth Development and Leadership and is also the proud father of 2 boys.