

Needham Youth Services
August RAY of Hope Recipient
Ali Papakyrikos



Left to right: Lisa Silverman, owner, Lisa's; Ali Papakyrikos, August RAY Recipient,
and Michelle Butman, Social Worker, Needham Youth Services

Ali Papakyrikos is a recent graduate from Needham High School who will be studying criminal justice at Westfield State University in the fall. "For as long as I can remember, I have always wanted to be able to help people," says Ali. Ali was instrumental in bringing Gabriel Bol Deng, one of the "Lost Boys" of Sudan to speak at an assembly as well as helping to raise money for his school in the Sudan. "I dream to someday to be able to travel to Africa to visit orphanages and villages and to work with younger underprivileged children." In her senior year Ali was president of the World Peace Club that raised money to benefit the victims of the earthquakes in Argentina and Chile, the earthquake and tsunami in Japan as well as money for the continuing relief efforts in Haiti. Ali is an active member of the Taxiarchae Greek Orthodox Church in Watertown where she has been involved in their youth programs and fundraising efforts. She was also on the church's basketball team where she was co-captain in her junior and senior year. In her spare time Ali loves to play basketball, sing and listen to music, as well as to hang out with her friends. Ali has three younger brothers that she feels helps her to connect with children naturally.

Watch the Needham Channel's piece on the June RAY ceremony at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HFD-4ihB84c>

NEEDHAM YOUTH SERVICES

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