



Fresh Lifelines for Youth

Alameda County Youth Advisory Council

Updates and Recruitment Plan

AGENDA

1. YAC Overview
2. YAC Launch + Training Phase
3. Council Member Focus
4. ACPD
5. Next Steps!
6. Q&A



"I didn't know that you can
change stuff that goes on in
Juvenile Hall and on Probation"

- Youth Focus group participant

Overview

The **Youth Advisory Council (YAC)** serves to increase the involvement of youth voice in the Alameda County juvenile justice system through an organized infrastructure that aids youth in developing their leadership and advocacy skills.

The YAC is centering youths' lived experiences and needs in order to inform and serve in an advisory capacity to the JJDC and in partnership with probation and collaborative community partners to improve and shape the overall juvenile justice system.

The Vision

The vision of the YAC is to promote long-term, sustainable change in two key ways:

- 1) The YAC will help support the JJDPDC as well as work directly with Probation to target system challenges and the underlying factors that are at the root of community needs – with a focus on the juvenile justice system. This holistic approach – which seeks to alter social, economic, political, and educational conditions for youth – has the potential to create more sustainable change than do more traditional, “individual-level” strategies.
- 2) By involving young people as agents of positive change in their communities, the YAC will cultivate the next generation of leaders across the juvenile justice systemic change. Through their experience as youth leaders in this advisory capacity, young people can develop an ethic of service and community engagement and build the skills and relationships they need to be community leaders in the future.

The Councilmembers

Facilitators & Adult Allies

- Fresh Lifelines for Youth holds the contract to pilot and facilitate the YAC
- The Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission will serve as a key partner to the YAC
- Probation Staff will support the YAC and work as a partner with the YAC to co create systems change solutions
- Community Partners will work in collaboration with FLY in support of the YAC's work to improve the juvenile justice system

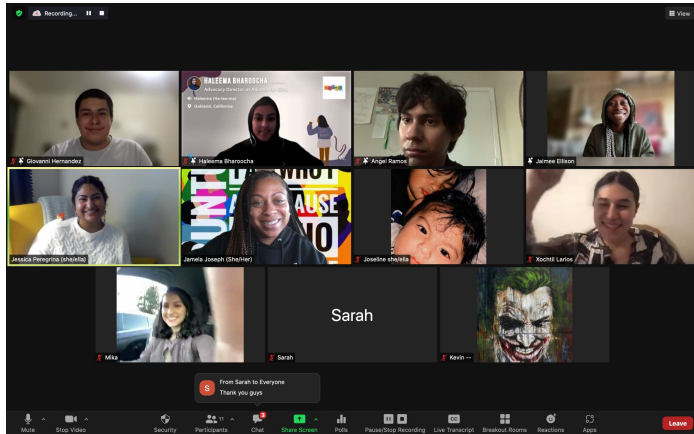
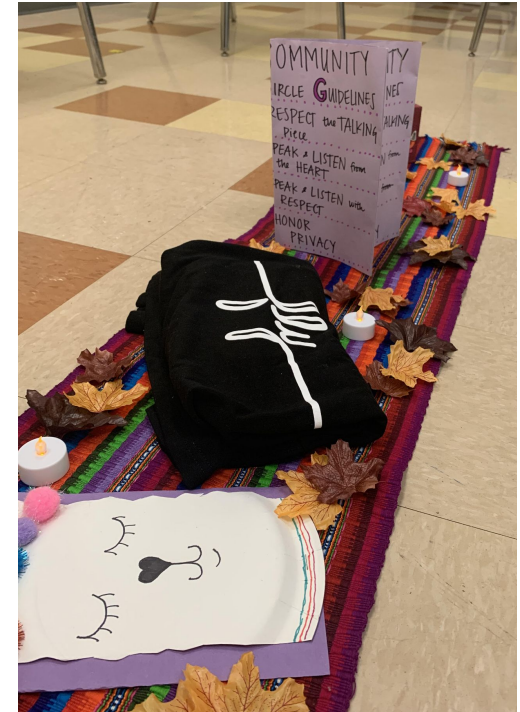
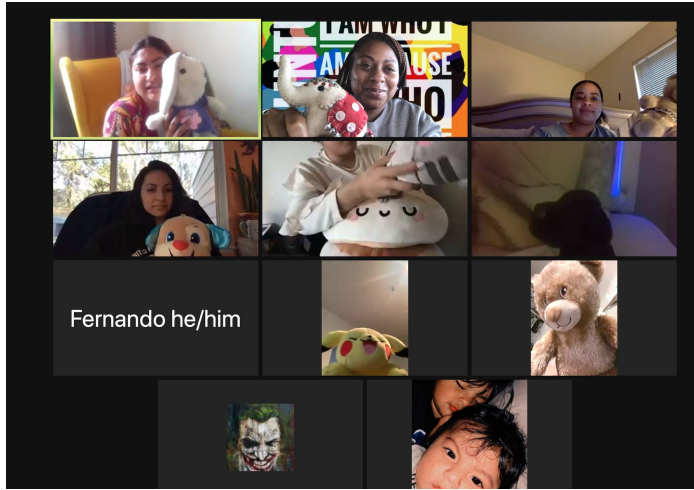
Youth Advisory Council

- 10-12 Alameda County Youth
- 17-25 years old
- Currently and formerly system involved
- Council Members will be paid

Working Group Snapshot

- 4 working groups between February and April 2022
 - 3 WGs at the facilities (Unit 3, Unit 6 and Camp)
 - 1 WG in the community
 - 27 youth engaged
- Youth were paid \$25/hr
- Through the working groups youth created:
 - Mission, vision and values of the YAC
 - Expectations for councilmembers
 - Brainstormed titles for council members
 - Term length
 - Trainings to prioritize
 - Approved the recruitment plan, and
 - Gave feedback on YAC launch plan

YAC Development in Action!



YAC Mission and Vision

Vision

The Youth Advisory Council envisions a community in which youth who are system impacted have access to housing, food security, mental health services, and job placements that provide a livable wage and a pathway to education in order to support their personal growth and healing process.

Mission

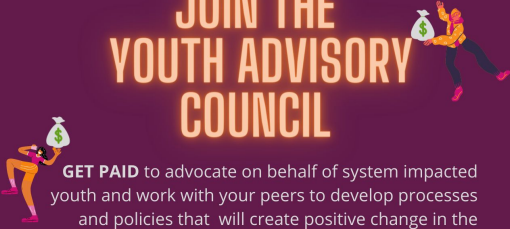
The Youth Advisory Council's mission is to end youth incarceration and prevent recidivism* by leaning into the power and expertise of youth who are system impacted and as advocates who will center youths needs, prioritize the voices of those incarcerated and collaborate with the community to co-create systems change.

Recidivism: term used to describe when a person is rearrested, reconvicted or returned to prison

YAC Recruitment 2022

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING A FOUNDING MEMBER OF THE
ALAMEDA COUNTY YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (YAC)?

JOIN THE YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



GET PAID to advocate on behalf of system impacted youth and work with your peers to develop processes and policies that will create positive change in the Juvenile Justice system!

AS A COUNCILMEMBER, YOU WILL BE :

- Engaging in trainings to build leadership, advocacy and public speaking skills
- Meeting monthly with other council members
- Facilitating focus groups w/ incarcerated youth

Need to be currently or formerly system impacted

GET PAID \$25/HR!

Ages: 17-25

Fill out Interest Form
by 5/6/22:
BIT.LY/YACFORM

Facilitated by:  Fresh Lifelines for Youth

Process for potential YAC candidates:

- Youth will turn in Interest Form by 11:59PM on May 6th.
 - Interest form is brief and only meant to ensure candidates meet requirements
- Then, youth will set up an interview with FLY YAC staff and youth participant from the YAC working groups between May 11th-20th.
- Youth will be notified of acceptance on May 30th.
 - Youth from the facility working groups will be supporting us in the selection process

The Youth Advisory Council



- Launched the YAC in early June with:
 - 11 youth who are system impacted
 - 8 youth who have been directly impacted by the carceral system (either have been on probation and/or incarcerated)
 - Ages-17-25
 - 1 year terms
- Currently in training phase
 - 3 months of trainings focus on political education, policy and organizing and building communication skills

Next Steps...

Projects!

In collaboration with ACPD:

- Meet with ACPD to brainstorm and define 1-2 major projects that will positively impact the daily lives of youth who are currently incarcerated
- Work in collaboration with ACPD, JJDPC and community members to support these changes

Systems Change:

- Be in support of or against a bill that is affecting system impacted youth at the local or state level
- Work with community members and local organizations to mobilize and organize



Community Launch

September 16, 2022 at Peralta Hacienda
YAC will host an event to celebrate the beginning of the YAC + network with orgs and youth advocates who are doing similar work