

State Youth Council Advisors Retreat/Youth Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 15, 2021 – 10:00am
WebEx/In Person (OSBM Training Room)

State Youth Council Advisors Present: *Felisa Hunter, Anne Little, Kaisha Brown, Theresa Mathis, Melissa Archer, Mack Murray, Jayme Waldeck, Victoria Garrett, Crystal Glover, Jackie Warner, Joni Hubble-Zeneberg, Carmen Myles*

Youth Advisory Council Members Present: *Todd, Rosendahl, Tara Sanchez, Siva Bodavula, Asmita Malakar, Savannah Goveia, Olivia Cody, John Easterling III, Nyanna Sherrod*

Other Guests: *Aaron Medina – North Carolina Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) Coordinator
David Elliott – Department of Administration, Deputy Secretary of Diversity, Inclusion and Equity
Danielle Carman – Department of Administration, NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement Executive Director
Candace Dudley – Department of Administration, NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement Program Coordinator
Anaja McClinton – Department of Administration, NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement Program Coordinator*

Meeting called to order at 10:10 am

State Office Update: Candace Dudley introduced the Department of Administration Deputy Secretary, David Elliott. Also introduced the North Carolina Council for Women and Youth Involvement Executive Director, Danielle Carman.

Candace expressed that the State Office is always available to assist Youth Councils and discussed the various partnerships that are currently happening with our FVPSA program and many councils.

Anaja McClinton spoke about continuing Movie of the Month to keep the youth connected to each other during COVID. Advisors suggested hosting game nights as well, youth and advisors all agreed that these were great ideas.

The State office introduced the idea of SYC adopting a highway in Raleigh. The highway/road is free and will have to be cleaned 4 times a year. The suggested partners to clean the road during the year are:

1. Youth Advisory Council
2. Council for Women & Youth Involvement Office Staff
3. State Youth Council (all)
4. and A local council/a volunteering council.

The Raleigh Youth Council volunteering to clean the highway once. Councils were also encouraged to clean the highway/road at any point during the year. Advisors and Youth Advisory Council expressed their thoughts and overall believes it will benefit State Youth Council in a positive way.

Raleigh Government Day was discussed, having Youth Councils come to Raleigh and tour state buildings and downtown Raleigh. This will work in conjunction with the "SYC Express", Youth Councils will ride the train, from their city/town to Raleigh, hopefully each stop will pick up other Youth Councils. There will be a subcommittee that will plan this event.

2021-2022 SYC Conference Calendar: The Service-Learning Conference was originally scheduled for Saturday September 11, 2021, but this date may change due to when councils will begin meeting. Service-Learning and Mini-Grant Conference will be held virtually with a twist. The Mini-Grant conference ideas were brought up about scoring applications beforehand. This will help to determine which applications will be debated at the conference. Debates will be held to 3 minutes maximum for pro and con. There was a discussion about training advisors on how Mini Grants are debated and how to hold pre-debates within each council before the Conference. Teambuilding Conference and Spring Convention are yet to be determined at a later date.

Peer to Peer Discussion: Advisors shared how they kept their members engaged virtually throughout COVID. Advisors also spoke about recruitment of new members and challenges through COVID. A letter will be drafted from an advisor to send to principals. This letter will be shared with all advisors to help support the efforts of recruiting.

Advisors spoke about other committees for SYC. The Advisor Training committee for the Mini-Grant Conference will be Crystal Glover, Jayme Waldeck, and Felisa Hunter. The SYC Express committee will be Kaisha Brown, Theresa Mathis, and Carmen Myles. Advisors also spoke about receiving a Chartered Letter from the State Office. There was also a discussion about hosting college tours for Youth Council members in the near future.

YAC Introductions and Welcome: Todd Rosendahl introduced himself and the council.

Survey Results: See attached PowerPoint.

Presentations: Aaron Medina (NC SADD Coordinator) spoke to advisors about creating SADD chapters within their Youth Councils. He also spoke about the various programs that he will be hosting throughout the year. Made councils aware of a Back-to-School event that he was planning in conjunction with State Youth Council on Saturday, September 18.