



## 2025-2026 PROGRAM INFORMATION & APPLICATION

### NEW HAVEN MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL



- Leadership       Projects
- Life Skills       Meetings
- Networking       Fun
- Team Building       Public Speaking
- Youth Voice       Media Interviews
- Get Involved       Giving Back

We're New Haven - "We Lead"





City of New Haven  
P.O. Box 570  
815 Lincoln Highway East  
(260) 748-7070  
[www.newhaven.in.gov](http://www.newhaven.in.gov)



## MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (MYAC)

**We are looking for high school students!** Do you want a chance to have your voice heard and make a difference in your community? Or do you just want to hang out, meet some great people, share food and have a great time? Check out the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council and learn how you can become more involved in the community, learn team building skills and have fun.

Since 2002, the New Haven Mayor's Youth Advisory Council has worked with young people who want to make a difference in the community. The MYAC organization actively participates in planning activities and opportunities for youth in and around New Haven that raise awareness of youth-related issues. MYAC also works with local officials in local government. MYAC provides a sense of purpose and offers a unique opportunity for young people. This is the place for the government and the community to get some feedback, opinions, and concerns from young people to make this community even better.

This *non-profit and non-political organization* offers leadership training and life skills that can be used as a foundation for success, including ***teamwork, organization, individuality, responsibility, decision making, networking, creativity, and public speaking skills***. By offering a balance of interaction with government officials and allowing young people to give back to the community through community service projects, members benefit from positive youth development. This provides a youth voice in the community along with the skills that are necessary to become leaders. MYAC was created to build successful partnerships together for one common goal - ***positive youth development for our youth of today and future leaders of tomorrow!***

Youth Advisory Councils and Commissions have been established in cities throughout the United States to work in conjunction with local government authorities. These Councils and Commissions consist of young adults who are dedicated to their community and selected by their peers to represent their communities. Youth Advisory Councils have been designed to provide an opportunity for young adults to get involved in local government affairs. MYAC members will advise the Mayor and meet with City Council members pertaining to issues that will benefit youth.

The MYAC organization is offered to students who live in New Haven or attend New Haven High School.

We are always looking for more young people to get involved and make a difference. ***Apply today!***

Respectfully,

Steve McMichael  
Mayor  
City of New Haven

Craig Dellinger  
President  
City Council

Deb-Anne Smith  
Program Director  
New Haven Mayor's Office



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## MISSION STATEMENT

The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council shall provide a voice for the young adults of our community allowing the opportunity to address issues and concerns that affect them directly and offering solutions to local government officials through participation and community involvement.

## PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- Leadership Development
- Life Skills Training
- Networking & Teambuilding
- Community Service

## WHY GET INVOLVED?

The Mayor's Youth Advisory Council is established for those young adults who simply want to make a change that will benefit their peers and who are willing to make a serious commitment to this organization. Other reasons to get involved include:

- Gain leadership and life skills
- Open doors for opportunities with local government
- Potential internship for Youth Council members to work with various City departments on projects
- Build mutual respect between local government and young adults
- Serve as advisors to the Mayor and City Council on issues that affect our youth
- Work toward a better knowledge of local government

## IS THIS FOR NEW HAVEN STUDENTS ONLY?

The MYAC organization is offered to students who live in New Haven or attend New Haven High School.

## TO APPLY:

1. Complete an application (type or neatly print).
2. Application requires a signature from the student.
3. A Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form and signature is required from a parent/legal guardian for participation in this program if an applicant is under the age of 18.
4. An Adult Recommendation Form is required for **all** applicants (**Note: Other than a parent, adult recommendations may include a professor, teacher, guidance counselor, coach, guardian, relative, instructor, minister or other adult mentor.**)
5. All portions of this application need to be answered for applicant to be considered.

## INTERVIEW

Once a completed application is received, it will be reviewed by the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Committee and an interview process will begin with the Mayor and Youth Director.

## MEETINGS

Youth Advisors will help administer the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, but the Youth Advisory Council meetings will be conducted by its members. Youth Advisory Council meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. Meetings will generally be held at New Haven City Hall located at 815 Lincoln Highway East in New Haven.

## **STATE OF THE YOUTH ADDRESS (Public Speaking)**

A member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council shall present a "State of the Youth Address" prior to the New Haven Mayor's State of the City Address which is held each year. The purpose of the State of the Youth Address is to report on the concerns, issues, future goals, and desires of this organization, while offering suggestions and recommendations necessary to achieve those goals.

## **ANNUAL YOUTH FORUM (Leadership)**

The Annual Mayor's Youth Council "Youth Forum" is an excellent educational opportunity offered to young people throughout the region. This Youth Forum is hosted each year by a different Youth Council and held in their community. This event is facilitated by young people to enhance their leadership skills and allows teens to network with other youth councils in the region.

The conference offers leadership development, life skills training and legislative education and an opportunity to learn from other youth councils. This regional event was initiated and produced by the New Haven Mayor's Office in 2022 along with planning, input and assistance from the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council. Although New Haven served as the first "host" city for this event, it gives other cities an opportunity to plan and host this conference in the future.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS (Civic Engagement - Volunteering)**

The MYAC organization participates in various projects that benefit the community and its residents. Participating in community service projects offers young people a way to give back to the community and promotes civic engagement responsibilities in young people.

### **Return completed forms to:**

New Haven Mayor's Office  
P.O. Box 570  
815 Lincoln Highway East  
New Haven, IN 46774

### **For more information, contact:**

Deb-Anne Smith  
Program Director  
(260) 748-7072  
[dsmith@NewHaven.IN.Gov](mailto:dsmith@NewHaven.IN.Gov)



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## **MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL**

### **MEMBER APPLICATION**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home# \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Cell# \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_

Current Year of School:    **9**    **10**    **11**    **12**

The MYAC organization is offered to students who live in New Haven, attend New Haven High School or East Allen University.

**Why do you want to serve on the Mayors Youth Advisory Council (MYAC)?**

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**What are the two (2) most important issues that affect you, your friends, and your family?**

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Select one of these issues and explain what you, residents, and city agencies can do to help these issues.**

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**What leadership skills and characteristics do you see in yourself that you can bring to MYAC?**

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**What other talents/gifts would you bring to MYAC?**

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**What would you like to learn from MYAC?**

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**What leadership skills would you like to develop in yourself? (Select all that apply)**

Team building       Decision Making       Community Involvement  
 Public Speaking       Creativity       Organization  
 Serve on City Council       Responsibility       Other \_\_\_\_\_

**MYAC MEETINGS**

Attendance from our members is very important to the MYAC organization. Are you able to make a commitment to attend the majority of the meetings? (Circle one)    Yes or No

(If no, please explain):

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The MYAC organization meets twice a month at City Hall. Meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at 5:30 p.m. MYAC members who are employed do not work on these Monday nights. Are you involved in any activities that would make it difficult for you to attend meetings and events? (i.e., sports, church, band, plays/musicals, babysitting, etc.)    (Circle one)    Yes or No

(If yes, please explain):

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Will you have transportation to all of the MYAC meetings and events?    (Circle one)    Yes or No

If yes, who will provide your transportation? \_\_\_\_\_ Self      \_\_\_\_\_ Parent(s)      \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

How did you learn about MYAC?

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Are you willing to make a commitment to the MYAC organization?

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Printed Name of Applicant

Date

Signature



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## **CITY OF NEW HAVEN** **MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL PERMISSION SLIP**

I give permission for \_\_\_\_\_ to seek a position as a member and representative of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council.

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Signature

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Printed Name of Parent/Legal Guardian

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Date

### **Permission for Photography**

I certify that I am the parent, or a legal guardian of the minor listed below.

In consideration of my child seeking a position as a member and representative of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, I grant to the City of New Haven, Indiana ("City") the absolute and irrevocable right and unrestricted permission concerning any photographs of the minor which may be taken by the City or a subcontractor to the City or in which the minor may be included with others, to use, reuse, publish, and republish the photographs in whole or in part, individually or in connection with other material, in any and all media now or hereafter known, including the internet, and for any purpose whatsoever, specifically including illustration, promotion, and advertising, without restriction as to alteration; and to use the name of the minor in connection with the photographs if it so chooses. I release and discharge the City from any and all claims and demands that may arise out of or in connection with the use of the photographs, including without limitation any and all claims for libel or violation of any right of publicity or privacy. This authorization and release shall also inure to the benefit of the heirs, legal representatives, licensees, and assigns of the City, as well as the person(s) for which it took the photographs. I am a legally competent adult and am the parent or legal guardian of the minor listed below. I have read this document and fully understand its contents. This release shall be binding upon me and my heirs, legal representatives, and assigns.

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Printed Name of Minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name of Parent or Legal Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature

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Date

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## **Parent/Guardian Recommendation Form**

(Form must be completed by applicant's parent or guardian and returned with the Application)  
[If you need additional space, please add another page]

**Applicant's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/guardian Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your relationship to applicant** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternate Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**(IMPORTANT:** Please review all Mayor's Youth Advisory Council application information and objectives with the applicant.)

**Are you and your family willing to support the applicant's involvement in the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Program? (circle one)** Yes  No

**Why do you feel the applicant would be a good candidate for the MYAC Program?**

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**Please describe the leadership potential and motivation you see in the applicant?**

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**What level of commitment has the applicant demonstrated at home, school and in other organizations?**

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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your Recommendation!  
**Please return this form with the Application**



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## **“Youth of Today.....Leaders for Tomorrow”**

## Adult Recommendation Form

(Form must be completed adult not related to applicant and returned with application)  
[If you need additional space, please add another page]

**Applicant's Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Your Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Title** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization** \_\_\_\_\_

**How do you know applicant?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alternate Phone** \_\_\_\_\_

**Why do you feel the applicant would be a good candidate for the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Program?**

**Why do you feel the applicant would be a good candidate for the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Program?**

**Please describe the leadership potential and motivation you see in the applicant?**

**How much support does the applicant have from his or her family to be involved in a program such as the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council?**

### **What level of commitment has the applicant demonstrated to project and programs?**

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Signature

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Date

**Thank you for your Recommendation. Please email, drop off or mail this form to:**

**Mail:** Mayor's Youth Advisory Council, Office of the Mayor  
P.O. Box 570, 815 Lincoln Highway East, New Haven, IN 46774