

CITY OF DES MOINES YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL REPORT



SUMMARY

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WHO IS THE YAB?

The first Youth Advisory Board for the City of Des Moines was established July 18, 2005, and later became inactive.

With a renewed interest in incorporating youth voices in the city, the Youth Advisory Board Task Force (YABTF) was created in the winter of 2021. The YABTF consisted of 12 youth, aged 14-24 from all over Des Moines.

The YABTF were asked to: review the existing YAB ordinance, research best practices from other boards, and to make recommendations for the renewed board.

The YABTF held bi-weekly meetings from June through October of 2021. In this time, they collaborated with many similar boards and task forces across the nation to learn about their duties and how they approach the work.

The current Des Moines Youth Advisory Board (YAB) was re-established January 24, 2022. A total of 14 youth in our community were appointed to serve on the board.

YAB is tasked to coordinate with and advise the City's departments, boards, and commissions about issues concerning youth in the city. The board works with local agencies as needed and when deemed appropriate by the board to deliver services to youth and to advise youth of service providers. In addition, the board oversees in a responsible manner all programs and events sponsored by the board. Part of the boards' duties is to deliver an annual report.

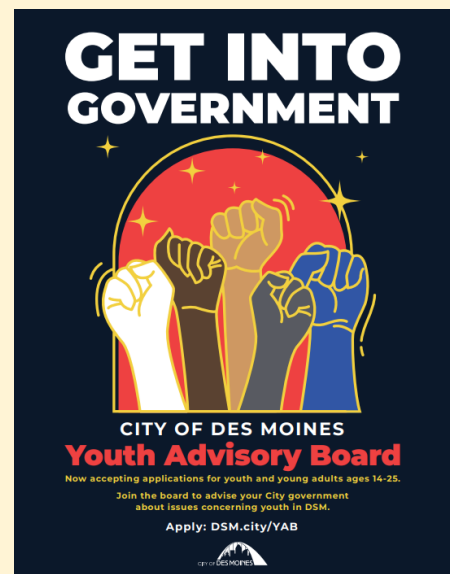
By ordinance they are responsible to create and share an annual report in August of each year to inform the public of board progress, and regularly share information on decisions, events, and efforts led by the board.

OUR WHY

Purpose



We are the City of Des Moines Youth Advisory Board. We're advocating for youth issues to be addressed and amplifying the voices of young people at a city level. We want to include youth in the decision-making process at all levels, by providing our input and recommendations alongside our peers in the community. Our goal is to identify issues that the youth of Des Moines face, by utilizing engagement efforts to create solutions. Through this work, we connect youth and non-youth to: create action within the city government, inspire youth to care about their potential & advancement, and introduce ways to celebrate youth and their accomplishments.



Mission

Our mission is to be a voice for youth in local government and to create a positive environment where youth can be more involved. Our hope is that we foster a greater sense of belonging, where we meet the needs and promote equity for youth in our community.

MEETINGS

REGULAR

January 19, 2023

February 21, 2023

March 21, 2023

April 18, 2023

July 20, 2023

SPECIAL

July 11, 2023

July 13, 2023

August 3, 2023

August 8, 2023

August 10, 2023

MEETING INFO

YAB meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM

WHAT WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED SO FAR...

Although the YAB has only served half of our total one-year term, we have passionately collaborated to identify issues in the community to address. Through a series of community dialogues, the YAB assessed issues and challenges faced by youth in Des Moines as well as ideas for solutions. Each of the six community dialogues were based on a specific topic below:



**Economic
Opportunities**



**Climate &
Environment**



**Mental
Health**



**Community
Safety & Health**



**Housing &
Homelessness**



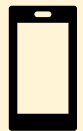
**LGBTQIA+
Experience**

OUR 2023

PRIORITIES

Visibility and Engagement with Des Moines Youth

- Utilize social media more.
- Create YAB account.



Fairness in Juvenile Justice System

- Work with City departments to remove participation barriers in the second chance program.
- Include more culturally relevant diversion tactics.



Houselessness

- Host resource fairs for houseless youth.
- Connect houseless youth with service providers.



Belonging

- Beautification projects using public art.
- Relevant and youth-friendly activities and opportunities.



Economic Opportunities

- Youth Apprenticeship Program at City of Des Moines.





**WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT!**