

2025-26 Youth Justice Advocate Position Description & Program Information (5.2025)

The [Young Women's Project \(YWP\)](#) is recruiting **125 Youth Justice Advocates** from all DC high schools to **work on** issue campaigns that will expand sexual health education and services, improve school safety, increase school-based mental health services, and increase youth workforce opportunities. YWP is a DC nonprofit that builds the leadership and power of young people so that they can transform DC institutions to expand rights and opportunities for DC youth. **Application is [here](#) please apply by February 2nd.**

YWP's Youth Advocate position is open to all DC Public and Charter Schools. Youth Advocates work with a team of 10-15 peers and an adult staff leader to: 1) Define annual campaign priorities; 2) Collect and analyze data; 3) Engage, educate, and mobilize youth members through training and social media; and 4) Work with DC policy makers to create and implement policies that advance youth rights and opportunities. Campaign priorities for 2022-23 include school based mental health & wellness, sexual health education & service access, school safety, and expanding youth workforce opportunities.

This position is ideal for young people who are committed to improving their communities and are ready to speak out and solve problems. It's also great preparation for a career in health, education, law, or public policy. The work combines intensive skills training and development (in research, social media, policy analysis, public speaking, and training) with peer-based team work and hands-on project development. As a youth advocate you will take on many roles – trainer, educator, social media influencer, researcher, policy developer, public speaker.

Commitment: Youth Advocates must be available 2 days a week after school from 4:15-6:45 for a minimum of 2 full semesters. **Youth Advocates are paid \$10-\$17.50 an hour depending on experience and time commitment.** For questions, please email shahad.mohieldin@youngwomensproject.org.

Application & Next Steps

Step 1: Fill out the [Youth Advocate Application here](#) – which will take 15 minutes.

Step 2: Schedule a virtual interview from **6.17-6.28**. Interviews will be in groups of 3-5 and take about 15 minutes. *We will reach out to you when we are ready to start interviews!*

Step 3: Attend a Summer Training Institute that includes 12 hours of team-based issue exploration, skills training, and peer education work. These **paid trainings** are scheduled from 4-7 the weeks of 7.19, 7.22, and 7.29.

Step 4: Work begins on 9.14.26.

Responsibilities

1. Commit to working: 2 days a week (5 hours) one in person and one virtual and for 2 full semesters
2. Educate peers through social media, classroom presentations, group training, and zoom seminars
3. Connect peers to sexual health and mental health services and resources
4. Advocate with city leaders to create and improve youth serving systems. Meet with and present testimony to DC Council and SBOE about DC problems and solutions
5. Expand and Create programs in sexual health, mental health, workforce, school safety, and other areas you are interested in!
6. Develop, educate, and mobilize a network of youth members, using email, social media, and in person
7. Build relationships and take action at your school to improve school environment, opportunities

Experience & Qualifications

- Available 2 days a week (4-6 hours) during the school year for 2 full terms
- Passion for and opinions on youth rights, improving schools, improving the lives of other young people
- Demonstrated commitment to helping your peers; making DC a better place to live
- Commitment to showing up on time, staying organized, and completing work; works well on teams and independently;
- Interest in learning and willingness to do presentations, research, outreach, social media, etc.
- Willingness to talk to friends, teachers, and others about the program and get them involved
- Willingness to use social media to engage and educate other young people

Benefits

- **Earn a Paycheck:** Youth Advocates are paid \$10-\$17.95 an hour. Youth Advocates come into our organization as level 1 staff (earning \$10 an hour) and have an opportunity to move up to L2 (earning \$17.95) within 6 months of working with us.
- **Build your Resume and College Application:** The experience, leadership, and accomplishments you will achieve as a Youth Advocate will impress on your resume and college applications. Receive assistance and training on FASFA, applying for scholarships and finding them, and writing college essays.
- **Make New Friends:** Sounds corny but everyone needs them! You will work closely with 15 team members who will have your back and support your growth and meet other young people from across the city.
- **Grow and Build Resilience!:** Build skills in research, advocacy, social media, policy, event planning, training, outreach, and other areas. Learn important life skills (financial management, communication, problem solving, organization). Get support and counseling when you need it.
- **Change Your Community:** Do work that will help other youth and improve the education system for DC youth. Become a life-long community leader and change agent!

Ø ***YJC Youth Advocates will be placed on one of two campaign teams.***

The Youth Health Educator Program (YHEP), including [40 youth](#) on the ground in 22 schools, works to reduce DC's unintended teenage pregnancy and STI rates through peer education, resource provision, and clinic referrals, working in partnership with DCPS and DC Health since 2016. Last year YHEP engaged 121 youth advocates who reached 4,500 peers and distributed 40,000 condoms, surveyed 800 youth in the [2024-25 Youth Sexual Health Survey](#), and reached 100s more through the [Virtual Sexual Education Centers](#) that provide sexual health information, resources, and services and conducted

With the overall goals of expanding mental health education and reducing stigma, the [Mental Health Campaign](#) trains, employs, and supports a cadre of 100 youth staff leaders each year (ages 14-19) from DC public and charter schools who use education, referrals, social media, and assessment to education and engage 6,500 peers and connect them to mental health services. Last year, MHC Youth Advocates educated more than 8,000 youth, [presented 42 Performance Oversight Testimonies](#) on a range of health, employment and education issues; conducted the [2024-25 Youth Mental Health Survey](#) with more than 1,000 students from 22 schools, developed their [Student On-Line Support \(SOS\)](#) virtual wellness centers also in [Spanish](#).