

# YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL LEADERSHIP CURRICULUM

OBJECTIVE: TO ESTABLISH A STRONG FOUNDATION IN THE YAC PARTICIPANTS SO THEY CAN BECOME EFFECTIVE LEADERS IN THE COMMUNITY WHEN THEY FINISH THE PROGRAM

## SEPTEMBER

Objective: To introduce the leadership curriculum to the participants. Review syllabus.

First lesson: Defining Leadership.

Discussion questions:

What is a leader?

Who are examples of leaders?

What characteristics does a leader have? What makes an effective leader?

Activity: Watch TED Talk on global citizenship (e-mail link to Skype students before the meeting).

Assignment: Research a leader you admire. What has he or she accomplished? How did he or she become successful? Be prepared to discuss what makes this person a good leader at the next meeting.

## OCTOBER

Objective: To establish teamwork.

First: Discuss leaders from last meeting.

Leading questions:

If you were putting together a team, what qualities would you look for in the people you chose?

What role are you most comfortable filling on a team?

Activity: Establish teamwork rules. Examples: Respect each other, no interrupting, communicate, etc.

Activity: Create mission statement for YAC

## NOVEMBER

Objective: To develop conflict resolution skills.

Guest speaker: Mediation

Assignment: Prepare a 5 minute presentation on the dangers of distracted driving.

Presentation tips:

Don't read directly from the PowerPoint

Use handouts - a visual to take away

Use images, not just text

Make a presentation you would want to see

In Your Community: Establish a mediation center at your school for conflict resolution.

## DECEMBER

Objective: To improve presentation skills.

Activity: The students give their presentations on distracted driving. Each student will get written feedback from the audience.

In Your Community: Give your presentation at your school or at community events. Or use your new skills to present on other topics you care about. Use your presentation to persuade others to care about your issue.

## JANUARY

Objective: To learn budgeting skills

Activity: Students will work together to create budget for April event, researching costs for entertainment, catering, rentals, décor, etc.

In Your Community: Use your budgeting skills to help plan events at school, or for other organizations you care about.

## FEBRUARY

Objective: To learn basic fundraising principles.

Guest Speaker: Fundraising Expert

Assignment: Use techniques learned to reach out to companies for donations for April event.

In Your Community: You can use fundraising skills to find sponsors for school and community activities, or to encourage others to participate in canned food drives, clothing drives, etc.

## MARCH

Objective: To empower students to practice advocacy.

Guest Speaker:

In Your Community: Write to your City Council member about issues you care about. Try to get a face-to-face meeting and discuss what is currently being done to address your issue and what could be done.

Note: Bring your resume to the next meeting, enough copies for everyone. Dress for a job interview.

## APRIL

Objective: To develop interview skills.

Activity 1: Look over 2-3 resumes as a group and provide feedback on formatting, content, etc.

Activity 2: Mock job interviews with 3-4 students. Select students to be the interviewers and the candidates. Provide interviewers with lists of interview questions. Provide feedback on professional attire, body language, etc.

## MAY

Objective: To gain a better understanding of self-awareness.

Survey

Discussion questions:

What have you learned over this course?

What lessons have been the most valuable?

In what ways can you use these lessons to create the changes you want to see in the world?

Activity: Journaling assignment. What have you learned about yourself over this course? How can you better relate to others as a result of this course? What contributions have you made to the group? What contributions have other members made to the group? How do you feel you have grown over this course? What growth have you seen in the group overall?

## JUNE

Graduation Party – distribute certificates of completion, go over any final questions, provide contact information for letters of recommendation.