

WHAT IS YAB?

A statewide group driven by young leaders, ages 14-22, to identify the challenges and solutions associated with being a part of the NJ Foster Care system (DCP&P, the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, formerly DYFS) in New Jersey. Look inside to find out which of the 15 YABs is closest to you and who to contact to come check us out!



YOUR
VOICE
COUNTS

WE ARE LISTENING

We are recruiting you to help make a better tomorrow so everyone can have a healthier and happier experience!

NJ STATEWIDE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARDS
To join or get information, contact:

Elizabeth C. Salerno
Transitions for Youth
The Institute for Families
Rutgers School of Social Work
973-353-2723
Esalerno@ssw.rutgers.edu



Find us on social media:
[Facebook.com/njyabs](https://www.facebook.com/njyabs)
[Twitter.com/njyabs](https://twitter.com/njyabs)
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**New Jersey Statewide
Youth Advisory Boards**

**Current and former
foster and homeless youth
creating change
in the NJ Foster
Care System!**

Why Join a Youth Advisory Board?

1. ADVOCACY

Identify and discuss challenges within the foster care system based on your experiences and get trained in real advocacy skills.

2. CREATE CHANGE

YAB leaders have the opportunity to present topics, issues, and solutions to the Department of Children and Families' Leadership!

3. SUPPORT

Surround yourself with others that have similar experiences and create a strong social network, where you can gain emotional support as well as more information about resources that may be available to you.

4. LEADERSHIP/WORK EXPERIENCE

Make money! There are paid opportunities available for YAB members. We also train our members on topics such as public speaking, which can help you build a strong future.

5. TEAMWORK EXPERIENCE

Build your team work skills by coordinating events and research on the issues that are important to you and your fellow YAB members.

6. FUN!!!

Plan your own cultural and community service trips, all while having fun at your local YAB meeting!



What a great resume builder!!



FOR YOUTH BY YOUTH

“Being a YAB member means breaking down the walls of obstruction and building a wall of hope.”

-K.D., 22

Please reach out to the coordinator in your region if you are interested in checking out a YAB meeting.

** (Please note that some counties are grouped into one board).

Northern Region

Coordinator: Colleen Lord

Phone: 973-353-2725

E-mail: clord@ssw.rutgers.edu

Youth Advisory Boards: Morris, Sussex and Passaic Counties**, Essex County, Hunterdon and Warren Counties**, Union County, Bergen and Hudson Counties**.

Central Region

Coordinator: Nishi Sheth

Phone: 848-932-8272

E-mail: nsheth@ssw.rutgers.edu

Youth Advisory Boards: Middlesex County, Monmouth County, Ocean County, Mercer County, Somerset County.

Southern Region

Coordinator: Angel Perez

Phone: 856-966-0200

E-mail: aperez@ssw.rutgers.edu

Youth Advisory Boards: Atlantic County, Burlington County, Cape May County, Camden County, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem Counties**.