

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



**ITEM: 2.19
(ID # 15495)**

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, June 22, 2021

FROM : Riverside County Youth Commission:

SUBJECT: RIVERSIDE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION: Riverside County Youth Commission's 2020-2021 Annual Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors receive and file the Riverside County Youth Commission Annual Report for the 2020-2021 term, as required by Resolutions 98-032 the Youth Commission By-Laws (Article XIII).

ACTION:

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Jeffries and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez, and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: June 22, 2021
xc: YAC

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board

By 
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

BACKGROUND:

Summary

One of the directives of the Board of Supervisors is the requirement to submit an annual report. This report is designed to be a compilation of the activities and accomplishments of the Riverside County Youth Commission and its comprising five Youth Advisory Councils.

The Commission consists of high school students throughout the county who provide advice, assistance, and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors and county departments. Members anticipate the educational, recreational, and cultural needs of youth and work to ensure the coordination of community resources to improve the quality of life in Riverside County.

The Commission and Youth Advisory Councils would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their continued support, insight, and commitment by appointing the commission to continue to be a voice for the youth in Riverside County.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

Together, the five Youth Advisory Councils dedicated 5,591 hours of community service during the 2020-2021 council year. If those students were paid California's minimum wage of \$13.00/hour, they donated the equivalent of \$77,363 in free services to their communities. The website "Independentsector.org" places a value of \$28.54 per hour of volunteer work. Using this figure, members donated nearly \$169,841.54 this year. While in reality, it is not possible to place a dollar value on the services they provide, it is important to understand that they are accomplishing real goals, learning incredibly valuable life lessons, and making Riverside County a better place for all.

ATTACHMENT: 2020-2021 Annual Report



RIVERSIDE COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION
Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



Riverside County Youth Commission Collaborations for the 2020-2021 Council Year

The Youth Commission collaborates with many organizations to support community members throughout the county. By joining the efforts of all five Youth Advisory Councils, the Youth Commission is able to make a larger impact on the community and the organizations we work with. The Commissioners from each of the five Youth Advisory Councils sit on the Youth Commission Board to represent and make collaborative decisions on behalf of all the Councils. Below is a list of organizations that the Youth Commission decided to collaborate with for the 2020-2021 council year.

• RUHS Public Health: “Know the Signs” and “Be Wise” Distracted Driving

This is the third year that the Youth Commission has collaborated with the RUHS TSAP Program. The students are trained on teen suicide awareness, warning signs and how to safely connect struggling teens to appropriate adults for help. After the students have completed the training, they are asked to conduct two campaigns throughout the school year in an effort to bring awareness to the issues of teen suicide and provide resources to the community. Our Youth Advisory Councils hosted “Know the Signs” workshops which were presented by TSAPP Staff to help educate the community during Suicide Prevention Week in September 2020. In partnership with CA Office of Traffic Safety and Riverside University Health System-Public Health, the Commission was provided with a virtual training on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. Details on how each YAC Completed their campaigns are listed in their individual district report below.

• Masks are Medicine

Riverside County officials formed a community action plan to reverse the trend in rising cases and stop the spread of COVID-19. Riverside County officials distributed over 10 million masks as part of the “Masks are Medicine” campaign that included a pledge. Members of all five councils participated in the pledge campaign by taking photos and creating flyers to post on YAC social media pages to encourage the public to wear masks.

• Youth Community Corps

Thirty Youth Commission members had the opportunity to help their community while gaining paid work experience by participating in the Riverside County Youth Community Corps program. Youth Community Corps was funded by the Cares Act for COVID-19 community relief. In partnership with the County's Youth Opportunity Centers, our members worked a total of 2,160 hours to provide support to their communities.

• DPSS Foster Youth Graduation Basket Fundraiser

The Youth Commission partnered with the Riverside County Department of Social Services to provide funding, materials, or gift baskets for foster youth who graduated this 2021 school year.

Each district raised funds or donated items in order to create a gift basket filled with college or apartment room essentials.

- **Santa's Helpers Hotline**

This year, the Youth Commission decided to put together a Holiday event in order to spread joy over the isolated holidays. "Santa's Helpers Hotline" was a three-day event that each of the five councils were able to participate in. Over 300 children registered and anxiously wanted to receive a call from one of Santa's Elves, also known as the Youth Commission's council members. From December 21st to 23rd, council members cheerily called their students and asked what they wanted for Christmas by distinguishing their voices as Santa's elves. Each council member shared how much fun they had keeping the Christmas spirit alive. Santa's Hotline was a great way to spread holiday cheer and will now be an annual event for the Youth Commission.

- **Holiday Virtual Book Reading**

In addition to the Santa's Helpers Hotline, each district selected a student to read a holiday book in their most festive, holiday outfit. This video was geared toward children in order to close the digital divide by reading them an engaging story via YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram.

- **Annual Youth Retreat**

The 2020-2021 Youth Commission kicked off the school year with the Annual Youth Retreat. This event is intended to prepare, excite, and train the council members for the upcoming school year. The 22nd Annual Youth Retreat was a virtual pleasure. The day consisted of two different topics including YAC 101 which was presented by Fourth District YAC Coordinator, Samantha Montano, and Brown Act/ Parliamentary Procedures presented by County Counsel's Sarah Moore. Members also had the opportunity to ask a YAC alumni panel questions about lessons learned and their experiences during their time in the program. The students participated in team building break out rooms via Zoom which gave them the opportunity to interact with county-wide council members. Overall, it was a successful and fun event that prepared students for their upcoming Youth Advisory Council year.

- **Annual Youth in Government Day**

Youth in Government Day is an event where students are paired with County Employees based on their interests and career aspirations for a day of job shadowing. The students get to see firsthand what a day in the life of a county employee is like. This allows them to see if their career interests are right for them and open their eyes to other careers they may not have considered before. The 22nd Youth in Government Day was an enormous success. It was held completely virtually and allowed students from all districts to shadow mentors from county departments they may be interested in learning more about. The students were able to view introduction videos from mentors that gave an overview of their educational and professional career paths and current county positions. They were then paired accordingly for small group Zoom mentoring sessions.

● **Annual Youth Summit**

Youth Summit is a youth conference held annually that is completely sponsored and put on by the Youth Commission. High schools from throughout the County are invited to attend the event where we have several speakers discuss topics that are important to today's youth. Due to COVID-19, Youth Summit was a two-day virtual event held on Zoom. Every year, the Youth Commission votes on which topics they feel are affecting youth today and would like to see discussed at our Youth Summit. This year, the Commissioners decided on mental health: self-care, COVID-19 and general health/safety, and LGBTQ+ advocacy and awareness. We also reached out to community partners and county programs to create a two-minute promotion video for the students for our virtual exhibitor booth. We would like to thank all of our speakers for sponsoring the event and planning to speak on these topics.

- Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance and Riverside University Health System - Injury Prevention Services - LGBTQ+ Advocacy and Awareness
- James Woods "Dat Yoga Dude" – Mental Health: Self Care
- Riverside University Health System - Public Health – COVID-19 and General Health/Safety

Riverside County First District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2020-2021

The First District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a representative student body of members who attend high school within the First District of Riverside County represented by Supervisor Kevin Jeffries. The First District is comprised of various cities such as: Riverside, Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and Wildomar, and unincorporated communities including Woodcrest, Lake Mathews, Mead Valley, Temescal Valley, Good Hope, Lakeland Village, El Cariso, Meadowbrook, La Cresta, and DeLuz. Our Youth Advisory Council is composed of students from over 20 high schools across the First District. As a team we strive to give back to our community by participating in outreach and community service projects within our district.

In order to achieve our 2020-2021 goals, the Council formed three committees. Each committee worked to coordinate and volunteer at events which were related to their goals.

- **Mental Health/Homelessness**

The Mental Health/Homelessness committee created a goal to help as many students as possible and community members suffering through the stressors of the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the council attended a training in order to make them Mandated Reporters and then created a "Mental Health Check-in" hotline for any Riverside County student to sign in and talk about what is on their mind, from one student to another. This committee also hosted a donation drive around the holidays for those suffering from food insecurity or lack of toys for their children. The council also attends the "Children's Committee" once every month in partnership with Riverside Unified Health Services - Behavioral Health, in order to learn about more mental health resources they can share to the community.

- **Youth Engagement**

Youth engagement committee members made a goal this year to virtually help students and youth in Riverside County and ensure young students have appropriate resources to make a difference in their community. Members of the council coordinated the Department of Social Services Foster Youth Baskets by calling local department stores and retiring teachers for donations as foster youth students attend college or move into an apartment.

- **Senior Citizens**

The Senior Citizens committee was dedicated to alleviating the isolation so many elders were facing during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members of the council created and coordinated an event titled, "Love Letters to Seniors" where any individual in the community could fill out a google form with the address and a nice note to a special senior citizen and the council would hand write a letter and mail it to that respective, isolated senior citizen.

Due to COVID-19 precautions set forth by the state of California, almost all of YAC's projects, webinars, and community outreach took place digitally. In order to make this digital year as impactful as possible, YAC dedicated each month to a certain theme with assigned webinars and social media campaigns respective to the theme. Below are the listed YAC events, collaborations, and webinars.

- **Monthly Webinars – October 2020 - May 2021**

Due to COVID-19, the first district council held many of our community collaborations, service projects, outreach, and campaigns digitally. However, the council took advantage of the digital divide by dedicating every month to an important topic. For example, November was Native American History Month, February was African American History Month, March was Women's History Month and May was Asian American and Pacific Islander Awareness Month. These dedicated months allowed the council to learn and empathize with different minorities by participating in educational webinars and creating service projects like social media campaigns or food drives to local reservations. The council was offered more than 2,000 hours of webinars and community service projects to learn about minority communities and how students can create change among their schools and community.

- **Youth Retreat – August 7, 2020**

The 22nd Annual Youth Retreat was a virtual blast. Youth Retreat was created to prepare the new and returning council members for the year to come. The day consisted of two different speakers including YAC 101 which was presented by Fourth District YAC Coordinator, Samantha Montano, and Brown Act/ Parliamentary Procedures presented by County Counsel's Sarah Moore. Members also had the opportunity to ask YAC alumni questions about lessons learned and their experiences during their time in the program. The students participated in team building break out rooms via Zoom which gave them a chance to interact with their fellow council members and the council members from other districts as well.

- **Masks are Medicine – August 2020**

Riverside County officials formed a community action plan to reverse the trend in rising cases and stop the spread of COVID-19. Riverside County officials distributed over 10 million masks as part of a new "Masks are Medicine" campaign that includes a pledge. Members of the council participated in the pledge campaign by taking photos and creating flyers to post on YAC social media to advocate the public to wear masks.

- **"Be Wiser" Distracted Driving Training – September 18th - 29th, 2020**

Partnership with CA Office of Traffic Safety and Riverside University Health System-Public Health to provide a short virtual training on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. The council members completed the training and promoted social media messaging regarding safe driving practices, completed a post survey, and received a certificate upon completion.

- **Youth Community Corps – October - December 2020**

Ten council members participated in the Youth Community Corps internship for 12 weeks from October till the end of the year. These council members completed 15 hours per week of community service projects with services like webinars, community outreach, social media campaigns and environmental clean ups.

- **Youth in Government Day – October 26th - 30th, 2020**

The 22nd Youth in Government Day was an enormous success. It was held completely virtually and allowed students from all districts to shadow mentors from county departments they may be interested in learning more about. The students were able to view introduction videos from mentors that gave an overview of their educational and professional career paths and current county positions. They were then paired accordingly for small group Zoom mentoring sessions.

- **Know The Signs "Suicide Prevention" – November 13, 2020**

Partnership with Riverside University Health System- Public Health to provide a suicide prevention presentation on three key messages. The council members participated in a social marketing campaign to educate on recognizing the warning signs of suicide, how to find the words to have a direct conversation with someone in crisis, and where to find professional help and resources.

- **Christmas Reading – December 18, 2020**

First District's Youth Engagement Committee Chair, Katherine Wilson, recorded a video reading of a holiday favorite, "The Night Before Christmas", which was posted to the Youth Commission's YouTube channel to spread holiday cheer.

- **Santa's Helpers Hotline – December 21st - 23rd, 2020**

Over 300 children registered and received a call from one of Santa's elves. All of our First District YAC students participated by disguising their voices as Santa's elves and making calls to children throughout Riverside County. Each council member shared how much fun they had keeping the Christmas spirit alive. Santa's Hotline was a great way to spread holiday cheer and will now be an annual event for the Youth Commission.

- **Spark of Love Toy Drive – December 2020**

The First District Youth Advisory Council donated gifts to underprivileged children in our region via the Spark of Love Toy Drive. The Riverside County Board of Supervisors joined the Riverside County Fire Department in hosting the Spark of Love Toy Drive.

- **Mandated Reporter Training by Hope Collaborative – February 3, 2021**

Council members attended a 2 hour Mandated Reporter training put on by Hope Collaborative. After completion of the training, each member was given a certificate for their role as a Mandated Reporter in the state of California. This certificate allows the council members to be a resource to their peers and community when someone is in crisis or needs to seek professional help and resources.

- **Keep Riverside Clean & Beautiful**

In partnership, council members volunteered in community beautification projects within the City of Riverside. Throughout the year, the students participated in hands-on stewardship with litter prevention at local parks and neighborhoods.

- **Riverside County Teen Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program (TSAPP) – December 7th - 11th 2020**

Partnership with Riverside University Health System- Public Health, Injury Prevention Services to provide a self-care training to increase awareness on the issue of teen suicide and increase youth's knowledge on resiliency and protective factors. The council members participated in a social media campaign to promote positive youth development by empowering students to act as a resource for their peers in seeking mental health services.

- **Mead Valley Breakfast with Santa – December 12, 2020**

Breakfast with Santa has been a successful and well-loved event each year around the holidays. This event provides the local community with free breakfast and a photo-op with Santa. Council members assisted at all booths ensuring a smooth-running event for all involved. The students also volunteered by making the pancakes and serving breakfast to the families who participated.

- **Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance and Adversary Childhood Experiences Training – January 14th - 28th, 2021**

These presentations put on by Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance and Riverside University Health System - Public Health, Injury Prevention Services are geared towards LGBTQ+ youth and youth of color in the community to help them learn about adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and strategies to build their resiliency. The council members participated in a social media campaign to promote positive youth development within the LGTBQ+ community by empowering students to act as a resource for their peers in seeking mental health services.

- **Zoom Discussions – January - March 2021**

First District's council members participated in numerous Zoom discussions hosted by many of the other YAC councils. Zoom discussions consist of presentations regarding topics important to our council members followed by an open discussion. Some topics that were discussed include

LGBTQ+, Environmental Awareness, Indigenous People, History of Activism, and Black History Month.

- **United Way of the Inland Valleys Financial Literacy Academy – February/ March 2021**

First District YAC members participated in a six-week financial literacy training instructed by Cordell Thomas of United Way of the Inland Valleys. This six-week training provided an introduction to credit, banking, checking accounts, savings accounts, home/apartment rentals, car purchasing, etc.

- **Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center – March - May 2021**

Partnership with Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center to learn about topics such as sexual harassment, boundaries, consent and more information regarding teen dating especially how to spot the signs of sexual violence. The council members attended a one-hour workshop every Monday for 13 weeks in order to empower students in their dating experience and support survivors of sexual assault.

- **Youth Summit – April 16th - 17th, 2021**

Youth Summit is a youth conference held annually where several speakers discuss topics that are important to today's youth. This year's event was held completely virtually via Zoom. The First District YAC members enjoyed presentations on Mental Health/Self Care by James Woods, LGBTQ+ Advocacy & Awareness by Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance, and Covid-19 Health and Safety by RUHS-PH.

- **DPSS Foster Youth Graduation Basket Fundraiser – April/ May 2021**

The Youth Engagement committee within the council led this project by creating donation flyers and templates for students to ask their local department stores and retiring teachers for donations. Council members donated boxes full of apartment, school, and essential items for college foster students.

-----**Summary of the Year**-----

Goals for the 2020-2021 YAC Term:

- Youth Engagement Outreach
- Senior Citizen Outreach
- Mental Health/ Homelessness Outreach

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 1863 projects, webinars, workshops and training as well as dedicated 2,830.5 hours of community service to the First District of Riverside County. YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

The First District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Riverside County Second District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2020-2021

The Second District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a representative student body of members who attend high school within the Second District of Riverside County. Communities within the Second District include: a portion of the City of Riverside, the City of Corona, the City of Norco, the City of Eastvale, and the City of Jurupa Valley. In addition, the Second District includes the unincorporated communities of Coronita, El Cerrito, Highgrove, and Home Gardens.

In order to achieve our 2020-2021 goals, the Council formed three committees. Each committee worked to coordinate and volunteer at events which were related to their goals.

- **Outreach**

Outreach committee members made a goal this year to coordinate events in-person and virtually to ensure the youth in Riverside County have the appropriate resources to make a difference in their community. Members of the council partnered with county departments and other local organizations to better assist Riverside County by volunteering at food/toy drives, helping the elderly, and much more.

- **Wellness**

The Wellness committee has primarily focused on mental health, suicide prevention, and fitness. Each member has contributed by working on social media campaigns to promote coping methods for youth who are struggling mentally during COVID-19. Students have attended workshops to increase understanding and respond appropriately to sensitive matters and spread knowledge to their peers.

- **Environmentalism**

The Environmentalism committee members aim to clean up, maintain and improve the environmental well-being of their communities. The students are dedicated to providing assistance with community clean-ups, promoting environmentally friendly practices, and volunteering at the local community garden.

Listed below are the key projects the 2020-2021 Second District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) accomplished throughout the year.

- **“Be Wiser” Distracted Driving Training – August 25, 2020**

Partnership with CA Office of Traffic Safety and Riverside University Health System-Public Health to provide a short virtual training on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. The council members completed the training and promoted social media messaging regarding safe driving practices, completed a post survey, and received a certificate upon completion.

- **Masks are Medicine – September 9, 2020**

Riverside County officials formed a community action plan to reverse the trend in rising cases and stop the spread of COVID-19. Riverside County officials distributed over 10 million masks as part of a “Masks are Medicine” campaign that includes a pledge. Members of the council participated in the pledge campaign by taking photos and creating flyers to post on YAC social media to advocate the public to wear masks.

- **Student Leadership Conference – September 9, 2020**

Council members attended a virtual conference designed for high school and college students hosted by The Riverside Latino Network. The conference theme was Activate Your Power: The Intersectionality of Education, Political Equity, And Wellness. A series of workshops were provided that aligned with the theme, including Civic Engagement, Yoga & Wellness, Social Justice Activism, Financial Aid, and more.

- **Know The Signs "Suicide Prevention" – September 30, 2020**

Partnership with the Riverside University Health System- Public Health to provide a suicide prevention presentation on three key messages. The council members participated in a social marketing campaign to educate on recognizing the warning signs of suicide, how to find the words to have a direct conversation with someone in crisis, and where to find professional help and resources.

- **City of Corona “Halloweekend Treat Trail” – October 24, 2020**

The City of Corona hosted a Halloween event for the public to attend a drive thru trunk or treat experience with COVID-19 modifications. The council members decorated a trunk and booth and dressed up to make it fun for the passer-by. For this outreach event, members from the community took photos and enjoyed the entertainment as the students interacted from a distance.

- **Keep Riverside Clean & Beautiful – October 24, 2020**

In partnership, council members volunteered in community beautification projects within the City of Riverside. Throughout the year, the students participated in hands-on stewardship with litter prevention at local parks and neighborhoods.

- **Youth Connect – October 29, 2020**

The Rubidoux Youth Opportunity Center hosted a resource fair to the public to apply for COVID-19 Rental Assistance & Homeless Services for youth. The council members assisted by setting up a vendor table for Supervisor Spiegel and spoke to youth about joining YAC to serve the community.

- **Riverside County Teen Suicide Awareness and Prevention Program (TSAPP) – November 23, 2020**

Partnership with the Riverside University Health System- Public Health, Injury Prevention Services to provide a self-care training to increase awareness on the issue of teen suicide and increase youth's knowledge on resiliency and protective factors. The council members participated in a social media campaign to promote positive youth development by empowering students to act as a resource for their peers in seeking mental health services.

- **Huerta Del Valle – December 5, 2020**

Students volunteered at the local community garden by growing organic crops to encourage sustainable production and distribution by providing nutritious and fresh food through farming. The council worked towards advocating for community empowerment and health by creating meaningful work, building lasting skills, and developing strong relationships.

- **Riverside Latino Network – December 9, 2020**

In partnership with the Riverside Latino Network, the students assisted with their annual Nuestra Navidad Event. Some of the tasks the council members helped with included moderating the virtual platform, navigating tech issues, setting up itinerary, live-streaming items for auction, and creating a recognition video for board members.

- **Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center – December 22, 2020**

Council members attended a series of weekly classes that include topics such as boundaries, bullying and harassment, roots of oppression, sexual harassment, social media, stress/anxiety/coping, teen dating violence, and trauma.

-----**Summary of the Year**-----

Goals for the 2020-2021 YAC term:

- The Second District YAC would like to focus on the concern of outreach, wellness, and environmentalism within its jurisdiction.
- The council would like to plan more events and projects in regard to improving the quality of life of the youth in Riverside County.

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 107 projects and dedicated 920 hours of community service to the Second District of Riverside County. YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year.

The Second District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Riverside County Third District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2020-2021

The Third District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a representative student body composed of students from high schools in Temecula, Murrieta, Hemet, and San Jacinto. The council provides recommendations on youth-related issues to the Board of Supervisors by anticipating the educational, recreational and cultural needs of youth. YAC collaborates with organizations to host meaningful events that the community will benefit from. We strive to give back by participating in outreach and community service projects in the third district and throughout Riverside County.

Listed below are key projects that the Third District Youth Advisory Council of 2020-2021 accomplished throughout the year. The council would like to thank the community for their constant support and dedication to the youth in Riverside County.

- **San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus – January/ February 2020**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council received specific volunteer training in order to work with the campus animals. Upon completion of the training, they had the pleasure of volunteering on multiple days at the San Jacinto Valley Animal Campus. They visited the campus on four occasions and walked and socialized over twenty dogs each time. The students had a great time interacting with the animals.

- **Adopt-a-School – March 4, 2020**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council adopted Cawston Elementary School in March of 2020. Covid-19 posed many challenges for the council in terms of volunteering with the children, however, we are very excited to begin fundraising for needed school supplies and volunteering our time when needed for the next school year.

- **RUHS Know the Signs Suicide Prevention Training – March 2020**

For the 2020-2021 YAC year, the Youth Commission participated in the Riverside University Health System's - Know the Signs Suicide Prevention Training. The council held campaigns to spread positive messages about teen health and wellness and to educate the community about teen suicide and its risk factors. We posted roughly 20 motivational reminders and resources from RUHS's Teen Help Card. We enjoyed this project greatly and look forward to participating next year.

- **Safe Routes to School Distracted Driving Training – May 5, 2020**

The Youth Commission Collaborated with Safe Routes to School to promote safe teen driving in Riverside County. Upon completion of a safe driver training, third district held a distracted driving campaign on social media to educate and show support of preventing distracted driving accidents amongst teens.

- **Youth Retreat – August 7, 2020**

The 22nd Annual Youth Retreat was a virtual blast. Youth Retreat was created to prepare the new and returning council members for the year to come. The day consisted of two different speakers including YAC 101 which was presented by Fourth District YAC Coordinator, Samantha Montano, and Brown Act/ Parliamentary Procedures presented by County Counsel's Sarah Moore. Members also had the opportunity to ask YAC alumni questions about lessons learned and their experiences during their time in the program. The students participated in team building break out rooms via Zoom which gave them a chance to interact with their fellow council members and the council members from other districts as well.

- **Masks are Medicine Campaign – August 2020**

The Youth Commission created a Covid-19 social media campaign to recognize the situation that we are all going through and to encourage community members to stay safe. The campaign included video montages of students encouraging the stay-at-home order and maintaining social distancing as well as wearing face masks when out in the community. Council members provided ideas of positive ways to stay busy while in quarantine such as reading, art, movies, providing favorite book and movie recommendations, etc. The students enjoyed being able to practice community service still while at home.

- **Youth Community Corps – August/ September 2020**

The Third District council members had the opportunity to contribute to a community response to Covid-19 by interning at local nonprofits throughout Riverside County. They assisted community-based organizations supplying vital resources and services during the pandemic.

- **Youth in Government Day – October 26 - 30th, 2020**

The 22nd Youth in Government Day was an enormous success. It was held completely virtually and allowed students from all districts to shadow mentors from county departments they may be interested in learning more about. The students were able to view introduction videos from mentors that gave an overview of their educational and professional career paths and current county positions. They were then paired accordingly for small group Zoom mentoring sessions.

- **Christmas Reading – December 18, 2020**

Third District's Co-Commissioner, Olivia Lee, recorded a video reading of a holiday favorite, "The Night Before Christmas", which was posted to the Youth Commission's YouTube channel to spread holiday cheer.

- **Santa's Helpers Hotline – December 21 - 23rd, 2020**

Over 300 children registered and received a call from one of Santa's elves. Eleven of our Third District YAC students participated by disguising their voices as Santa's elves and making calls to children throughout Riverside County. Each council member shared how much fun they had

keeping the Christmas spirit alive. Santa's Hotline was a great way to spread holiday cheer and will now be an annual event for the Youth Commission.

- **Spark of Love Toy Drive – December 2020**

The Third District Youth Advisory Council donated gifts to underprivileged children in our region via the Spark of Love Toy Drive. The Riverside County Board of Supervisors joined the Riverside County Fire Department in hosting the Spark of Love Toy Drive.

- **Zoom Discussions – January - March 2021**

Third District's council members participated in numerous Zoom discussions hosted by many of the other YAC councils. Zoom discussions consist of presentations regarding topics important to our council members followed by an open discussion. Some topics that were discussed include LGBTQ+, Environmental Awareness, Indigenous People, History of Activism, and Black History Month.

- **United Way of the Inland Valleys Financial Literacy Academy – February/ March 2021**

Third District YAC members participated in a six-week financial literacy training instructed by Cordell Thomas of United Way of the Inland Valleys. This six-week training provided an introduction to credit, banking, checking accounts, savings accounts, home/apartment rentals, car purchasing, etc.

- **Youth Summit – April 16 - 17th, 2021**

Youth Summit is a youth conference held annually where several speakers discuss topics that are important to today's youth. This year's event was held completely virtually via Zoom. The Third District YAC members enjoyed presentations on Mental Health/Self Care by James Woods, LGBTQ+ Advocacy & Awareness by Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance, and Covid-19 Health and Safety by RUHS-PH.

- **DPSS Foster Youth Graduation Basket Fundraiser – April/ May 2021**

The council fundraised by selling Krispy Kreme gift cards to family, friends, and community members. They raised \$250 and purchased items including a tablet, wireless headphones, and an Amazon Echo Dot for a DPSS foster youth's high school graduation basket.

-----**Summary of the Year**-----

Goals for the 2020-2021 YAC Term:

1. Homelessness Outreach
2. Special Needs Awareness
3. Mental Health Awareness

Total number of community service projects and hours:

The Third District Youth Advisory Council's 25 members completed 15 projects and dedicated a total of 629 hours of community service to the Third District of Riverside County. Overall, YAC members excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year and would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their support along the way.

Riverside County Fourth District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2020-2021

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a representative student body of members who attend high schools within the Fourth District of Riverside County represented by Supervisor V. Manuel Perez. The Fourth District is comprised of the beautiful cities of Blythe, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs and Rancho Mirage. Our Youth Advisory Council is composed of students from high schools across the Fourth District. As a team we strive to give back to our community by participating in outreach and community service projects within our district.

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic and the safety restrictions, the Fourth District held most of our service events and projects virtually and participated in many trainings, webinars and virtual presentations. Our goal this year was to be able to educate ourselves on important topics, share our knowledge with the community and bring awareness to important issues facing our communities. Below is a list of service projects, webinar series and virtual training we participated in during the 2020-2021 council year.

- **Youth Retreat – August 7, 2020**

The 22nd Annual Youth Retreat was a virtual blast. Youth Retreat was created to prepare the new and returning council members for the year to come. The day consisted of two different speakers including YAC 101 which was presented by Fourth District YAC Coordinator, Samantha Montano, and Brown Act/ Parliamentary Procedures presented by County Counsel's Sarah Moore. Members also had the opportunity to ask YAC alumni questions about lessons learned and their experiences during their time in the program.

- **Riverside Latino Network Leadership Conference – September 12, 2020**

This was a virtual Leadership Conference covering the intersectionality of education, political equity, and wellness. This was a four-hour event and the 4th District had 7 YAC members in attendance who were able to share the information and knowledge with the other council members.

- **Be Wiser Virtual Training, RUHS PH – September 18, 2020**

The 4th District YAC students participated in a training with RUHS Public Health Injury Prevention Services Department and the CA Office of Traffic Safety for a "Be Wise, Distracted Driving" workshop. Students were provided with a virtual training on the dangers of impaired and distracted driving. They followed this training up with a virtual campaign as seen below.

- **Know the Signs Training, RUHS PH – September 30, 2020**

The RUHS TSAPP program provided a "Know the Signs" training to the 4th District YAC students which discussed suicide prevention and awareness and how to spot the signs in your friends or family who may be struggling with suicidal ideations.

- **Distracted Driving Campaign, RUHS PH – September 22nd – 29th, 2020**

After training with RUHS, students created PSA videos about Distracted, Drugged, Drowsy, and Drunk Driving in which they learned about during their virtual training. These videos were posted to our district's social media sites in order to reach out to other youth and community members in our area. Numerous flyers were also posted throughout social media and students shared these postings to help promote the valuable information they learned during this project.

- **Masks are Medicine Campaign, Riverside County Public Health – October 9, 2020**

Youth Commission students took the online pledge and campaigned with Riverside County Public Health by taking a photo with a "Masks are Medicine" sign and posting it on the YAC Social Media sites. This campaign was designed by the Riverside County PH team to help get the word out about the importance of mask wearing and social distancing to our Riverside County community members. Our students also encouraged their family, friends and peers to take the pledge.

- **Teacher Appreciation Week – October 13th – 16th, 2020**

The Fourth District wanted to show appreciation for their teachers by hosting a Social Media Campaign on their YAC Instagram. Students submitted a teacher and created a graphic to showcase and thank their teacher for their support and dedication to their students during such a challenging time.

- **Martha's Village – October 22, 2020**

YAC members in collaboration with the Youth Community Corps program attended an orientation with Martha's Village in order to volunteer throughout the rest of the council year. Students will be able to schedule hours to attend on their own and in collaboration with the YCC internship that many are participating in.

- **Boo Bash – October 24, 2020**

Fourth District hosted a virtual game night as a way to destress during the difficulties of distance learning for our YAC students and we opened it up for other councils and students to join in with us. The event was a great way to support bonding and encourage self-care by taking time to do something fun and hang out with their peers.

- **Webinar Series – October 2020**

The 4th District students had the opportunity to participate in several educational webinars during the month of October. These webinars were aimed at learning about difficult topics they may not learn about in the classroom and encourage a discussion, dialogue and opportunities to share this learned information via highlights on social media. October webinar titles are listed below:

- The Color of Law Webinar
- The Power of Indian Sovereignty

- Indigenous Peoples History
- Civics, Community, and how the Youth can inspire Change, three-day Digital Discussion
- Indigenous People Zoom Discussion hosted by the 4th District YAC
- The Power of Free Speech
- The Power of Symbols, Monuments and Flags
- The Power of People and the Courts
- The Power of Movements: The struggle to pass the 19th Amendment and Beyond
- The Power of Voting: The Electoral College, Gerrymandering, and Suppression
- 91st Anniversary of the Stock Market Crash
- Discussion on Racism, Civil Disobedience and Racial Justice

● **US Presidential Election Day Notes – November 3, 2020**

District 4 YAC students were encouraged to watch the Presidential Election news and online coverage and take unbiased, nonpartisan notes on what events were transpiring throughout the night. They wrote down questions they had, comments and items they would like to further discuss during the Voter Zoom Discussion that was taking place later that day.

● **Voter 101 Zoom Discussion – November 3, 2020**

Fourth District hosted an open zoom discussion where they invited the public to learn about voting 101. This discussion included time for YAC students to share their notes, comments and questions they had from watching the news coverage throughout the day.

● **HOPE Collaborative Mandated Reporter Training – November 18, 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic child abuse has risen, in order to combat this Fourth District YAC attended a mandated reporter training and became mandated reporters. These are necessary skills and information that is beneficial to all students so they can have the basic understanding of child abuse and neglect and how to make reports of concerning observations they may encounter in any capacity of their life.

● **Self-Care Workshop, RUHS PH – November 25, 2020**

Students joined a training session entitled “Taking care of yourself and others in times of crisis” with RUHS PH Injury Prevention Services team to learn about Teens Suicide Awareness and Prevention as well as practical self-care tips and things to look out for during this difficult time where students are away from their normal routines, friends and extended family.

● **Thank You Cards to Medical Professionals – November 23rd – 25th, 2020**

The Fourth District wanted to show appreciation during the Pandemic to medical professionals by sending thank you e-cards the week of thanksgiving. It has been such a challenging time especially for our first responders and medical professionals and the students were happy to be able to take time to thank these valued members of our community.

- **Webinar Series – November 2020**

The 4th District students had the opportunity to participate in several educational webinars during the month of November. These webinars were aimed at learning about difficult topics they may not learn about in the classroom and encourage a discussion, dialogue and opportunities to share this learned information via highlights on social media. November webinar titles are listed below:

- COVID-19 in the US and Latino Communities
- Latinx History is Black History
- The Power of the Criminal Justice System
- Latinx Economic Opportunity in the Age of COVID
- Mental Health during the Pandemic, ASU
- Student Mental Health Matters
- Juneteenth, Poems about Equity vs. Equality in the age of Covid-19

- **HOPE Collaborative Child Abuse Awareness Campaign – December 7th – 11th, 2020**

Fourth District worked alongside Hope Collaborative to spread awareness on child abuse through a social media campaign via Instagram after they received their mandated reporter training.

- **HOPE Collaborative Toy Drive – December 14, 2020**

Fourth District Contributed toys to Hope Collaborative's toy drive in order to provide Christmas gifts for the foster youth in Fourth District.

- **Santa's Helpers Hotline, Youth Commission Event – December 21st – 23rd, 2020**

The Riverside County Youth Commission hosted their first ever Santa's Helpers Hotline for youth from throughout the county to be able to talk to one of "Santa's Elves". YAC members attended a Santa's Hotline training and followed up by calling children who signed up for the event. A questionnaire was completed by the children's parents so that the phone calls with the elves were customized for each child. This was a great way to help our Youth Commission be able to spread Christmas Cheer during such a difficult time.

- **Self-Care Social Media Campaign – December 14th – 19th, 2020**

Fourth District wanted to spread positive messages to the followers of our Instagram which is largely youth in the fourth district. Students posted positive messages and photos of themselves holding uplifting signs they made to help bring some positivity to our community.

- **History of Activism Open Zoom Discussion – January 8, 2021**

In honor of MLK day the Fourth District wanted to have an open zoom discussion on the history of activism. Students prepared a presentation and discussion questions, and the discussion was open to young people and YAC members from throughout the community.

- **Setting Goals in 2021 Open Zoom Discussion – January 14, 2021**

Fourth District hosted an open zoom discussion on the topic of setting goals in 2021. They presented on not only how to make goals but how to make them achievable following the SMART Goals structure.

- **Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center Workshop Series**

The Forth District partnered with the Riverside Area Rape Crisis Center to take part in a workshop series that took place from January to March 2021. Each workshop had a different theme and are listed below:

- Teen Dating Violence and Healthy Relationships - January 20, 2021
- Boundaries - January 27, 2021
- Rape Culture - February 3rd, 2021
- Sex Trafficking - February 10, 2021
- Immigrants and Sexual Violence - February 17, 2021
- Supporting Survivors of Sexual Assault - March 3, 2021

- **Virtual Tutoring Program Orientation – January 22, 2021**

Fourth District council members learned about ways they can work with a local tutoring program for elementary school students. Members attended an orientation to teach them tutoring skills and tactics.

- **RUHS & RPYA LGBTQ ACES Workshop Series – February 4th / 11th 2021**

The Fourth District participated in a zoom presentation on LGBTQ+ topics such as how to use proper pronouns and other LGBTQ+ education and advocacy. The presentation was a collaboration between RUHS PH and Rainbow Pride Youth Alliance who created this ACES program.

- **Black History Month Open Zoom Discussion – February 19, 2021**

The Fourth District YAC created a Black History Month Presentation and invited students from all over the district to attend and learn about black history month facts and topics. Open zoom discussions allow students to engage in difficult conversations, ask and answer questions and learn new facts that they may not be learning during distance learning and in school.

- **La Quinta Cove Trail Clean Up – March 13, 2021**

The Fourth District hiked the La Quinta Cove Trail to clean any trash or debris. This was one of the only in person events that we were able to participate in and the council was excited to get outdoors and do some in person activity to help their community and are looking forward to in person events next school year.

- **Women’s History Month Social Media Campaign – March 15th - 18th, 2021**

The Fourth District promoted Women's History Month through our Instagram where we posted graphics of important women in history as well as women locally who have made in impact. Students in the council reposted these graphics on their personal social media.

- **Women’s History Month Open Zoom Discussion – March 22, 2021**

Fourth District held an open zoom discussion to discuss Women's History Month. The Chair and Co-Chair of the events created a presentation on Important women history as well as important milestones women have overcome. The students had conversations about how far women have come as well as how much further they will go in the future.

- **Environmental Advocacy Open Zoom Discussion - May 2, 2021**

Fourth District held an open zoom discussion where the chair and co-chair presented on environmental advocacy. The students learned a lot about the environment including human waste and acid rain.

-----**Summary of the Year**-----

Goals for the 4th District 2020-2021 YAC Term:

1. Covid-19 Relief
2. Education
3. LGBTQ+ Community

Total number of community service projects and hours:

Council members delivered 57 projects, webinars, workshops and training as well as dedicated 853 hours of community service to the Fourth District of Riverside County. YAC members felt that they excelled in accomplishing their expectations and goals for the year despite the limitations due to the pandemic.

The Fourth District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support throughout the year.

Riverside County Fifth District Youth Advisory Council Annual Report 2020-2021

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) represents the Fifth District County Supervisor Jeff Hewitt. The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council is comprised of high school students from Fifth District cities such as Moreno Valley, Beaumont, Banning, Calimesa, Perris, Menifee, and unincorporated communities. YAC is primarily focused on community engagement and bridging the gap between youth voice and local representatives.

Goals for the 5th District 2020-2021 YAC Term:

- 1. Community Beautification**
- 2. Senior Citizen and Youth Outreach**
- 3. Mental Health Awareness**

Listed below are the projects the 2020-2021 Fifth District Youth Advisory Council (YAC) accomplished throughout the year:

- **Be Wiser Student Safe Driving Training – August 11, 2020**

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council participated in a one hour zoom training about the dangers and risks of distracted driving.

- **Masks are Medicine Campaign – August - October 2020**

Students took the pledge to wear masks and campaigned with Riverside County Public Health by taking a photo with a "Masks are Medicine" sign and posting it on the YAC social media sites.

- **Youth Community Corps – October - December 2020**

YAC members had the opportunity to participate in an internship where they actively engaged with the community on a weekly basis. Activities included educational webinars, posting an information blog with community resources and social media campaigns.

- **Adopt-a-Trail Cleanup – Every 2nd Saturday**

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council adopted a trail at Gilman Ranch in Banning, CA. They volunteered to clean-up the trail every second Saturday as part of their passion for a clean environment.

- **Breast Cancer Awareness Social Media Campaign – October 2020**

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness month, students advocated for the awareness and prevention of breast cancer on social media. They created posts advertising detection methods, at-risk factors, and important statistics for public viewing.

- **Native American Webinars and Campaign – October 15, 2020**

Fifth District students watched webinars about the history of oppression experienced by the Native American community. Afterwards, they proposed campaigns that future students should engage in to provide the community with support and resources.

- **Student Leadership Webinars and Campaign – October 18, 2020**

Fifth District students watched webinars about the importance of student leadership and youth voice. Afterwards, they proposed campaigns that future students should engage in to provide the community with opportunities for youth success.

- **Halloween Trick-or-Treat Drive Thru – October 31, 2020**

YAC members organized the donation of candy and toys and put together more than 50 trick-or-treat bags for children who could not trick-or-treat due to the pandemic. Parents drove their kids by, and students handed out bags to every kid who wanted one.

- **Vote Now Social Media Campaign – October/ November 3, 2020**

During the 2020 national election, YAC members utilized online tools to advocate for a higher voter turnout. They provided information about mail-in voting, pre-registration to vote, and the importance of voting.

- **Latinx Webinars and Día de los Muertos Campaign – November 1, 2020**

Fifth District participated in webinars about the cultural importance of *Latinx*. They then posted online about different ways to safely celebrate Día de Los Muertos at home during the pandemic.

- **Pre-Register to Vote Social Media Campaign – November 3rd – 10th, 2020**

After the 2020 election, YAC members created information flyers about how minors can pre-register to vote so that they can be instantly registered once they turn 18. They used this opportunity to advocate for civic engagement and youth voice.

- **Teen Suicide an Awareness Prevention Training – November 23, 2020**

Riverside University Health System provided an informative training about the importance of self-care and mental health during the pandemic.

- **Youth Community Corps Blog – October - December 2020**

Members who participated in the Youth Community Corp internship created blogs containing the information they learned through their experience as well as campaign notes and ideas.

- **Toy Drive for RUHS – December 19, 2020**

Fifth District YAC members donated toys and games to children at the pediatric ward for Christmas.

- **Self-Care Social Media Campaign – January 11th - 25th, 2021**

Fifth District Youth Advisory Council members spent two weeks posting tips for self-care and ways they take care of themselves during the pandemic.

- **Black History Month Social Media Campaign – February 1st - 28th, 2021**

In honor of Black History Month, YAC members posted flyers about prominent Black historical figures and researched social justice topics to spread awareness. They participated in a speaker series and worked together to decide important topics to discuss with their community.

- **Senior Valentines – February 14, 2021**

YAC members handcrafted valentine cards and goody bags for senior citizens housed at the Renaissance Village in Moreno Valley.

- **Synthetic Drug Training – March 30, 2021**

Fifth District members participated in an important training about the dangers of synthetic drugs.

- **Social Justice Campaign – April/ May 2021**

After participating in several trainings about social issues, YAC members chose to spread awareness about what they learned on social media. Topics included human trafficking, rape culture and teen dating violence.

- **See's Candies Fundraiser – April/ May 2021**

YAC members created a See's Candies storefront to fundraise for a Foster Youth Graduation Basket to donate to a graduating high school senior in the foster system. YAC successfully fundraised \$130 and created a college basket consisting of housing essentials and school supplies.

-----Summary of the Year-----

YAC members excelled in their accomplishments and successfully fulfilled their council goals for the year. The council completed 578 hours of community service.

The Fifth District Youth Advisory Council would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support.
