



**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA**

**Youth Task Force**

**FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 WORK PLAN**

**AND**

**2022-2023 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**TASK FORCE MEETING TIME AND PLACE:** YTF meets at 5:00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at the County Government Building located at 70 W. Hedding Street in San Jose. The YTF has been meeting remotely since August 2020 during the pandemic. The YTF started meeting in person from January 2023.

**MEMBERS:**

District One (1)	District Two (2)	District Three (3)	District Four (4)	District Five (5)
Daniel Angeles	Kiran Bogusky	Nitya Kaki	Anagha Dogiparthi	Anushka Tadikonda (Co-Chair)
Shrinand Bangalore	Naomi Lyn	Varnika Arun (Legislative Affairs Officer)	Henry Yao (Co-Chair)	
Hermylene Ketz Patricio	Grace Wang	Kushleen Kaur	Nico Fischer (Public Relations Officer)	Kendall Nord (Treasurer)
Shravya Raghava				

Approved: 11/07/2023

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

The Youth Task Force was established by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Clara to provide an opportunity for youth to have a formal role in local decision-making while assisting and advising the Board of Supervisors on matters pertaining to youth. The Youth Task Force is composed of 16 members who are appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

As a representative body of County youth, the mission of the Youth Task Force is to provide a voice for youth in the decisions and policies of government agencies and community organizations that affect the lives of young people. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are values that are included in all decision-making.

**HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:**

The Youth Task Force began in 1975 as a Youth Commission, providing voice and leadership opportunities for Santa Clara County youth. In 1999, the Youth Commission, which has been pivotal in identifying issues that impact youth within their families, schools, and community, was officially established as the Youth Task Force. In September 2022, the office of Supervisor Ellenberg, which was serving as the Youth Task Force liaison, approved a referral to move staff duties to the Office of Children and Families Policy effective January 2023. The Office of Children and Families Policy has worked to inform commissioners on any emerging priority areas, policy opportunities, and procedural changes. This level of support allows the Youth Task Force to be well positioned to support the Board of Supervisors with youth-focused recommendations and enhance their experience serving on a civic commission.

### FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024 WORK PLAN

GOAL/OBJECTIVE	PROPOSED ACTIVITIES	PRIORITY RANKING	TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION
<p>1. Mental Health Awareness</p> <p>Specific Objective: Raise student awareness on mental health and wellness resources to support overall wellbeing.</p> <p>Reason: Educating and raising awareness can help destigmatize the topic of mental health. A lot of students may have struggles that they are not comfortable sharing, and providing education and making mental health services easier to attain helps support students' wellbeing.</p> <p>Measurable Outcome: Increased usage of school wellness centers and other mental health and wellbeing supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct research on available resources at schools, County, and community</li> <li>• Work with OCFP to bring in subject matter experts and linkage to relevant reports</li> <li>• Gather individuals with lived experience to talk about their experience, specifically youth speakers</li> <li>• Develop outreach and evaluation strategies to destigmatize mental health. Examples include:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Digital campaigns</li> <li>○ Develop flyers</li> <li>○ Develop surveys to address gaps</li> <li>○ Engage more parents to attend educational awareness workshops (at parent nights, Parent Teacher Association, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1	June 2024
<p>2. Data Analysis and Presentation</p> <p>Specific Objective: Review available data, specifically on mental health, to compile into dashboards and visual reports that are comprehensible for all audiences.</p> <p>Reason: Data can be difficult to interpret, so presenting available data in a more simplistic manner can help educate and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct data analysis to create visual graphs and reports               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Evaluate current behavioral health data being collected and shared to potentially identify gaps</li> <li>○ Engage and connect with key stakeholders (e.g., behavioral health staff) to provide and receive information</li> <li>○ Compile recommendations to be shared with various entities (e.g., County departments, school districts, etc.)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2	June 2024

<p>bring awareness to relevant issues, such as mental health.</p> <p>Measurable Outcome: Compile datapoints to create dashboards and reports to share with 150 community members (including students and parents).</p>			
<p>3. Educational Awareness</p> <p>Specific Objective: Raise awareness on various topics, including historical inequities, higher educational opportunities, environmentalism, financial literacy, and mental health.</p> <p>Reason: Educational awareness is important because many community members are unaware of numerous services and resources available. Additionally, community members are often unaware of their own individual ability to foster change, and being educated on various topics supports individuals to make informed decisions and to advocate for change.</p> <p>Measurable Outcome: Compile a list of 4-7 resources to be utilized in educational workshops.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conduct research on what webinars/educational resources are currently available <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Determine how to make this information available to students, as well as parents</li> <li>○ Determine how to engage parents to attend workshops</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Completion of educational workshops previously developed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Present workshop concept, and process of completion, and delivery method to YTF</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	1	June 2024

**PRIOR YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS<sup>1</sup>**

<b>GOAL/OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES SUPPORTING GOAL</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
Work on and draft legislation for the Bill of Rights for Children and Young Adults	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked alongside the Youth Liberation Movement to revise and update the Bill of Rights, which serves as a guide for decision-making and is a resource to understand the priorities of youth and young adults in the county</li> </ul>	Completed
Update the Youth Task Force bylaws	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborated with the Office of Children and Families Policy to move towards more policy-based initiatives</li> </ul>	Completed, but additional edits required
Engage in advocacy and educational awareness work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocate for more events across the county to support environmental awareness</li> <li>• Attended Earth Day events</li> <li>• Develop connections with local organizations</li> <li>• Organize workshops at local public libraries and middle schools</li> </ul>	Completed Completed On-going In process, to be completed June 2024
Provide feedback to the Behavioral Health Services Department on the school-based wellness centers operational plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewed slide deck from Behavioral Health Services to provide feedback on what schools and school districts should consider when building wellness centers</li> </ul>	Completed

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<sup>1</sup> It is important to note that Fiscal Year 2022-2023 was a year of transition for the Youth Task Force, thus, a Workplan and subsequent goals were not available. The items listed above are compilations of highlights the commissioners shared with staff.