

# 2025 Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council (YAC) City Council Work Session

June 3, 2025



# About the Hillsboro YAC

The mission of the Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council is to **educate, engage, and empower** high school students from the Hillsboro community by providing them with opportunities to actively participate in local government, develop leadership skills, and make a positive impact in their community. YAC operates through various subcommittees.

- **Twenty-five to 30 students** serve on the Youth Advisory Council each year.
- Active during the school year (September – June)

Youth engagement is vital for building a healthy and inclusive community—when young people are given the tools, guidance, and platforms to lead, they bring fresh perspectives, creative solutions, and a strong sense of purpose to the table.

Empowering youth helps cultivate a new generation of civic leaders who understand not just how government works, but how they can shape it for the better.





# Saanvi Shah

## Oregon Kid Governor Cabinet Member



# 2024 – 2025 Hillsboro YAC Year



# HILLSBORO YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL YEAR IN REVIEW

2024-2025



**EDUCATION.  
EQUITY.  
ENVIRONMENT.**



## 2024 – 2025 Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council Overview



**SCAN QR CODE**

Using your cell phone, open the Camera app and point it at the QR code. A link should pop up on your screen—just tap the link to view the document 😊



# YAC Climate Resiliency & Sustainability Subcommittee End-of- Year Update

Jupiter Nickles, Parker  
Brown, Anna Kappler,  
Amaya Buescher

June 3, 2025

# Goal Statement

**The YAC Climate Sustainability and Resiliency Subcommittee is committed to fostering environmental stewardship and promoting sustainable practices for the City of Hillsboro through initiatives and collaboration.**



# Progress

- Incorporated details from the Hillsboro SWAG Policy and Guidance into the guidelines
- City Management Team and Employee Appreciation Committee reviewed the guidelines
- Reanalyzed the use of the Equity Toolkit
- Global Youth Services Day volunteer event

# Global Youth Services Day Ivy Pull

- Noble Woods Park on Saturday, April 26th
- Global Youth Services Day
- Scott Crowell, Volunteer Services Coordinator
- Advertisement:
  - 350PDX
  - Social Media
  - Posters at schools and public spaces
  - Online Hillsboro volunteer portal
  - Reaching out to clubs like NHS and Key Club

# Global Youth Services Day Ivy Pull Results

- Approximately 26 attendees (Mayor Pace!)
- Filled two 12 yard dumpsters of Invasive Ivy
- Removed multiple invasive Holly Trees

# Photos



# Drafting and Review Process

- **First Draft of Guidelines created with supervision from Robin Straughan, Dacia Bakkum, and Andrew Bartlett.**
- **Review from City Management Team and Employee Appreciation Committee**
- **Reviewed and accepted this feedback to guidelines**
- **City approval and implementation**



# Operationalization

- Training for department managers
  - Article in HR News e-newsletter
  - Self-guided training for staff via NeoGov Learn
- Share guidelines with Downtown Partnership and Hillsboro Farmers Market
- In the future, explore 'Inclusive Guide to Meetings, Events & Conferences' Guide

# Thank you!

**The Council's approval, feedback, and aid are incredibly valuable to us as a committee. We were able to complete this project due to your feedback and guidance. On behalf of Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council; we deeply thank you for your support. We hope to continue our passionate work in the years to come.**





# Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

**Ashley-Clare Sarafa, Joe Wamunyu, Mari  
Park, Nicole Ayala Congachi, Riley Gregory,  
Yasmine Othman-Gomez**

**YAC Sub-Committee Final Presentation**

**June 3rd, 2025**



# Project Mission & Objectives

- Our main goal is to connect students with diverse higher education opportunities, and prioritize inclusivity and accessibility
- Liberty HS event as an initial event to better reach students and increase engagement; district-wide event further out
- Event will feature college, career, and various post-secondary opportunities

# Details

**Who:** Organized by DEI with support from HSD/college partnerships. Mainly AVID sophomores and juniors, as well as juniors in general

**What:** A career and college fair that highlights diverse educational opportunities and smaller group conversations

**Where:** Liberty High School (for this event); probable district-wide event next

**When:** May 29th @ LHS, likely September 2025 for District event



# Outcome

- Had attendance from 14 colleges and organizations:
  - Washington State University
  - Pacific Northwest College of Art
  - Western Oregon University
  - Portland State University
  - Eastern Oregon
  - Oregon State University
  - Reed College
  - Oregon Institute of Technology
  - University of Alaska Fairbanks
  - Oregon Tech
  - Washington County Chamber of Commerce
  - City of Hillsboro
  - PCC
  - Latino Built
- Had 25 students attend
  - Variety of AVID and non-AVID juniors, sophomores







# Post-Event

## Surveys:

### Questions measured:

- Overall experience
- Variety of institutions
- Number of conversations
- Personal preparedness for college
- Suggestions
- Interest in future fairs
- Information learned

## What it taught us

- Helped us measure relevance of institutions for those attending
- Highlighted areas of improvement for future events
- Gauged overall engagement for attendees

# Agenda

<b>Introduction</b>	<i>11:20am - 11:30am</i>
<b>First Rotation</b>	<i>11:30am - 11:50am</i>
<b>Second Rotation</b>	<i>11:50am - 12:10pm</i>
<b>Break</b>	<i>12:10pm - 12:15pm</i>
<b>Third Rotation</b>	<i>12:15pm - 12:35pm</i>
<b>Open Networking</b>	<i>12:35pm - 1:20pm</i>
<b>Closing Remarks, Post-Survey</b>	<i>1:25pm - 1:30pm</i>

# Special Thanks!

Thank you so much to all the institutions who attended, the City of Hillsboro, Michaela Canete and Madeline Burk, Juan Valdivia, Jesus Abarca Lopez, and Dr. Dennis Joule for all of your support!  
Thank you to all of the students who attended!





## Commitment to Equity

We are grateful that the City of Hillsboro continues to stand firm in its commitment to equity, inclusion, and the values that make our community stronger.



# Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion

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Hillsboro Youth Advisory Council

# Transportation Subcommittee

Annabelle Bailey  
Brigette Harrington  
Ian Powell  
Kieran Garigan



June 3, 2025



# What is the YAC Transportation Subcommittee (and what did we do?)

The Transportation Subcommittee is a new addition to the Hillsboro Youth Advisory council this year. With a focus on achieving more equitable transportation for all, we helped to organize and complete 6 bike rodeos taking place at HSD Title-1 Elementary Schools

## The Goal of The Transportation Subcommittee

The primary goal of the Transportation Subcommittee is to achieve safer and more equitable transportation for all. Key goals of the subcommittee include improving Hillsboro's transportation in terms of cycling, walking and automotive forms of transportation.



# Final Results of the HSD Bike Rodeo Volunteer Events

# HSD Bike Rodeos - Final Results

- This year, the Transportation Subcommittee hosted six Bike Rodeos at six Title-1 HSD elementary schools
- These rodeos were incredibly successful, and we had fantastic participation and attendance from kids and their families
- We used newsletters, posters and social media posts to help promote our events and they drastically increased participation
- By partnering with WashCo Bikes, we were able to give away 256+ bikes, 350+ helmets, and tons of vouchers



# 256+

Total bikes donated to  
students

## Bike Giveaways

- Every single participating child received a bike or a voucher thanks to WashCo Bikes
- Getting kids on bikes ensures that younger generations stay physically active, promotes green transportation and builds a sense of community
- Bikes are not cheap and in being able to donate bikes to the community, children who wouldn't have otherwise had the gift of a bike in their childhood received a bike free of charge

# Helmet Giveaways

- Every student received and was fitted for a helmet
- Helmets provide unmatched and irreplaceable protection that keep people of all ages safe
- Thanks to WashCo Bikes, we were able to donate 350+ helmets to children and families that wouldn't have otherwise had helmets

350+

**Total helmets donated  
to students**

# Countless

bikes received free  
repair and/or  
maintenance services

## Free Bike Repair

- Free repair services were offered at every bike rodeo
- Having a well functioning bicycle is the first step to getting kids on bikes safely
- By having professional mechanics on-site, we were able to increase safe ridership



## Bike Rodeos & DEI

We recognize that in Hillsboro, one of our core values as a city is to promote and incorporate diversity, equity, and inclusion in all that we do. With this established, we as a subcommittee worked to incorporate an equity lens into all of our Bike Rodeos. We did this by:

- Promoting advertising to all within our city by:
  - Having promotional flyers in both English and Spanish
- Working to ensure all people received the necessary resources to have safe transportation by:
  - Having bilingual volunteers at events, so everyone felt that they had a voice

# Bike Rodeos In Action!



**Students enjoyed  
bike activities!**



**All of our volunteers  
worked hard to provide  
engaging bike games for  
students!**





# Thank You!

Any Questions?



## Youth Welfare Sub-Committee

B Genduso, Vikram Javali, Ricky Knoke, Vihaan Kini



# Introduction to Youth Welfare

## Objectives:

- Our Goal as members of the Youth Advisory Council Youth Welfare subcommittee is to allow Hillsboro's Youth to have their health and well-being needs met whether mental, emotional, or physical.
- We aspire to have every child in Hillsboro feel they have the same opportunities and tools to help them maintain good health.



# Subcommittee Project: Mental Health Month Campaign

- We held a month long mental health campaign where we will promote mental health awareness both on Social Media and in person.
- **When it happened** : The entire month of May
- **Where it happened**: Most HSD High Schools and on Instagram
- Our campaign hoped to raise awareness by combining in-school events like handing out buttons and “wear green” days with Instagram posts and reels about self care tips, student stories, and informing about resources



# Truth about Mental Health

- We created posts that informed people about how mental health can severely impact the lives of all people, not only youth
- Multiple statistics found that mental health is a consistent problem in schools across the country
- Data from a survey conducted by Charlie Health shows that “Clients who reported missing school due to mental health challenges had 56.93% higher depression scores at intake and 52.32% higher anxiety symptoms.”



In 2023, the CDC found that:

**4 in 10 high school students report persistent feelings of sadness & hopelessness**

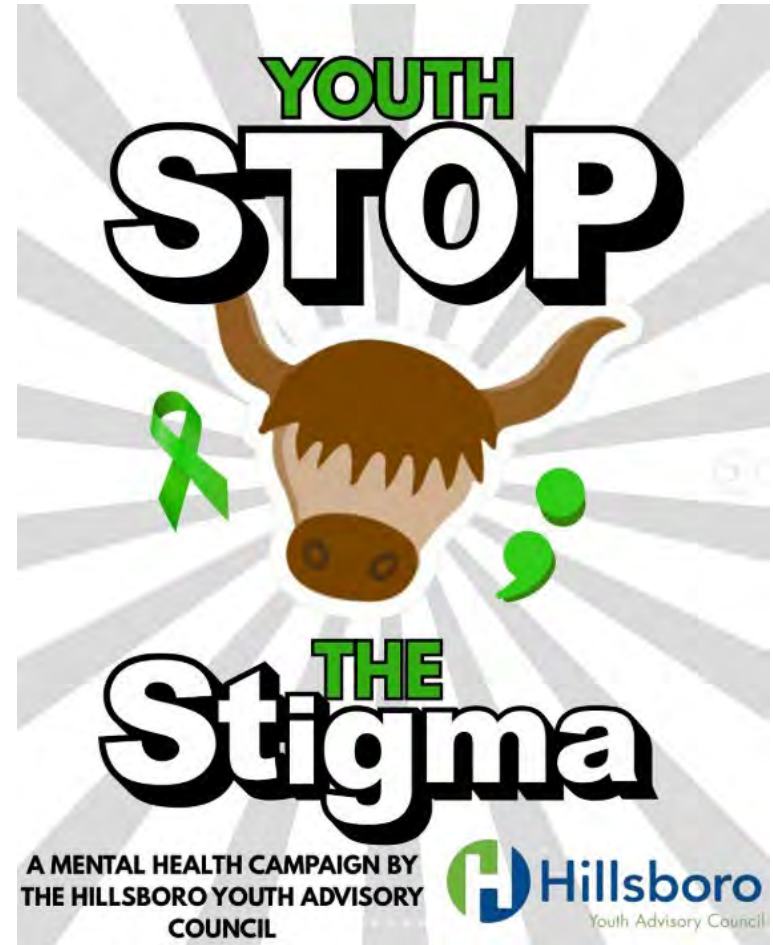
**2 in 10 students seriously considered attempting suicide**

This data brings to focus the level of distress many students are experiencing.

#YOUTHSTOPTHESTIGMA

# Truth about Mental Health

- We addressed the stigma around Mental Health during our campaign, using instagram to provide resources for people who are struggling
- According to the National Institute of Mental Health, Teens with depression are more than twice as likely to experience chronic physical health conditions, such as asthma, diabetes, and obesity, compared to those without depression.



# Homeplate Drop-in night

- Our Homeplate drop-in night was a night where the homeless youth could drop-in and have dinner that YAC volunteers meal prepped and served.
- When it happened : May 29th
- Where it happened : 494 E Main, Hillsboro
- Dinner was served from 6-8 pm but we started meal prep at 3:45 till 5:45 and then cleaned up after 8 pm.
- The meal we purchased was “Spaghetti, w/ salad & garlic bread”, which served 40-50 people.





# Youth Mental Health: Considerations Moving Forward



# Youth Mental Health: Consideration Moving Forward

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## **Context:**

As part of our subcommittee's focus on youth mental health, we explored how public spaces—particularly those accessed by youth—can play a more active role in supporting emotional well-being. City facilities such as libraries, community centers, and parks are trusted gathering places that offer an opportunity to promote mental health awareness in a low-barrier and inclusive way.

## **Consideration:**

We invite the City to continue advancing its commitment to mental health by increasing the visibility and accessibility of youth-centered mental health resources in public-facing City facilities. This could include placing informational flyers, posters, or QR codes linking to support services in spaces such as libraries, parks, community centers, and other youth-accessible locations.

# Youth Mental Health: Considerations Moving Forward

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## Equity Tool Kit – A.I.D.

### **A – Assumption**

All youth, regardless of how they present themselves, may be navigating unseen emotional or mental health challenges.

### **I – Impacts**

Increased visibility of mental health resources in City spaces helps normalize help-seeking behavior, reduces stigma, and promotes a culture of emotional support and inclusion across the community.

### **D – Disparities**

This consideration recognizes emotional and mental health as a shared human experience. Access to information and support should be equitable and readily available to everyone—regardless of age, background, or circumstance.



## Q&A

Thank you for listening to our presentation!



A photograph of the Hillsboro City Center building, a modern structure with large glass windows and a brick facade. In front of the building is a large, paved plaza with a wide set of concrete steps leading up to the entrance. There are some outdoor tables and chairs in the plaza area. A flagpole with the American flag is visible on the left. The sky is overcast.

# City of Hillsboro Youth Engagement

**From Hillsboro's Youth  
Advisory Council**

Autumn (Liberty), Pearson  
(PCC), Shaayan (Glencoe), Rona  
(Glencoe), and Gwen (Century)

# Youth Engagement Subcommittee




The Youth Engagement Subcommittee aims to engage the youth of Hillsboro by promoting involvement, learning, and access to local government.

**Main Event  
and  
Volunteer  
Opportunity**

# Youth Takeover!

# What was Youth Takeover?



## City of Hillsboro Youth Takeover

**What?**

Join us for a day of professional development:

- Discover careers in local government
- Connect with City staff
- Find new opportunities for civic engagement!

**When & Where?**


Friday, April 25 | 8:30 am - 3:00 pm  
Hillsboro Civic Center

**Who?**



Calling all local high school students!

**Questions? Reach out!**

@HillsboroYAC  
HillsboroYAC@gmail.com



Register using the QR code by Wednesday, April 9



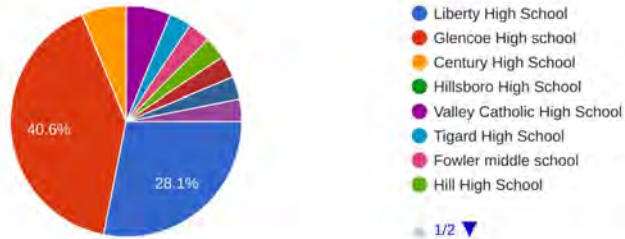
- Explore different careers in local government
- Garner Professionalism Skills
- Students collaborating with City Officials
- Doubles as volunteer event for YAC members
- CRLE Job Shadow Credit
- Students registered through a Google Form

# Youth Takeover Registration



## High School:

32 responses



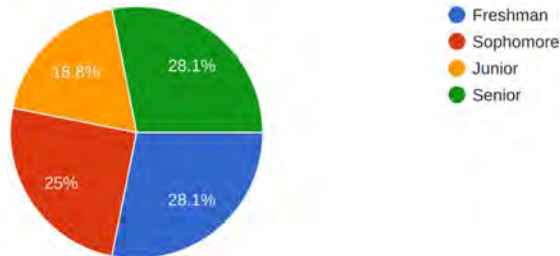
33 total responses

Popular career workshops: Public Safety; Economic and Community Development

Popular professional workshops: Youth Local Government Opportunities and Community Engagement

## Grade:

32 responses



# Arrival/Check In

(8:30-9:00 AM)

## Strengths:

- Personalized Service
- Food and Beverage

## Areas of Improvement:

- RSVP Validation Form
- Increased Advertising
- Retaining RSVPs



# Opening Session (9:00 - 9:40 AM)

- Welcome, Housekeeping, etc.

## Strengths:

- Professional and Inspiring Tone
- High Level Support

## Areas for Improvement:

- Shortening time of Opening remarks
- Lack of Interactivity



# Career Session

(9:50-11:30 AM)

Two 45 minute breakout sessions

## Strengths:

- Small-Group Format
- Department Variety

## Areas of Improvement:

- Uneven Engagement
- Limited Time



# Professionalism Session (1:10 - 2:50 PM)

Two 45 minute breakout sessions.

## Strengths:

- Complemented Career Sessions
- Relevant Workforce Skills

## Areas for Improvement:

- Less Tangible Than Career Sessions



# Closing Session

(2:50-3:00 PM)

## Feedback Form:

### Things people enjoyed

- Open campus for lunch was well liked because it gave us an opportunity to connect outside of the conference
- People liked the public safety career breakout best

### Things to improve next year:

- Create map to make navigating the building easier
- Broadening outreach at schools

Thank you! Any questions?





# Youth

# Houselessness City Council End of Year Presentation

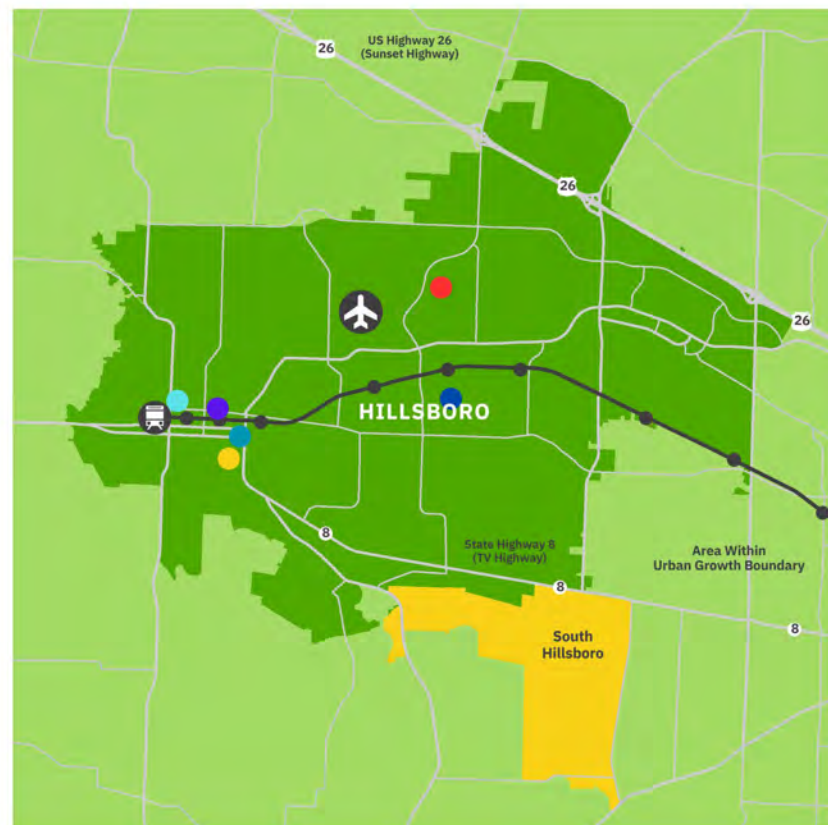
Presented by: Sophia G, Ria R,  
Alex Z, and Jessy G  
**June 3rd, 2025**

The background image shows a modern building with large glass windows at dusk. The building's interior lights are visible through the glass. In the foreground, there is a fountain with several water jets. A sign on the right side of the building reads "HILLSBORO CIVIC CENTER".

# Mission Statement

**The youth houselessness subcommittee aims to advocate for and serve low-income and houseless community members by supplying hygienic necessities and distributing to organizations that focus on supporting low-income students and their families.**

# Drive & Volunteer Project Details



## Key:

- Red - Brookwood Library
- Yellow - Shute Park Library
- Dark Blue - Hidden Creek
- Teal - SHARC
- Purple - Police Station
- Light Blue - Civic Center

This year's project centered around a hygiene drive in Hillsboro City Facilities with the intent of collecting hygiene products for houseless youth in the area. The drive spanned from April 14th - May 1st. With the products we collected, we donated to the non-profit Homeplate and held a Meal Night where we distributed the donations and cooked a hot meal to houseless youth.

# Continuing Steps

1) Facilitating bins

1) Keeping track of donations

1) Created a Meal Night Menu

1) Grocery Shopping for Meal Night

1) Hosted Meal Night on May 1st

# Meal Night

- The Meal Night was held at Hillsboro First Baptist Church on May 1st
- Over 60+ youth was served a Spaghetti Dinner with salad and garlic bread as a sides.
- The amount of groceries need was underestimated so we had to go get more ingredients



# Results of Drive

- In total we collected **1108 hygiene products!** This ranged from toothbrushes to towels.
- The largest donation was toothbrushes with a total of 504.
- The Amazon Wish List, which allowed people to donate online was the greatest platform contributor.
- Completely filled the Hillsboro Homeplate location, so we had to take donations to their Beaverton location.



## Reflection

Throughout the year, we interacted with many organizations in which opened the doors for our work. Giving back to our community was our goal, and we accomplished this by supporting youth in our community.

# Thank you!

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Questions?

## Hillsboro YAC Seniors

- Rona Isakharov – Glencoe High School > University of Oregon
- B Genduso – Century High School > Lafayette College
- Alex Zuniga – Hillsboro High School > Oregon State University
- Riley Gregroy – Century High School > DigiPen Institute of Technology
- Sophia Godoy – Century High School > University of Oregon
- Vikram Javali – Liberty High School > Oregon State University
- Mari Park – Liberty High School > Oregon State University





Thank you for your ongoing support of the  
Hillsboro YAC Program!



Happy 20 years of Hillsboro YAC! Here's to many  
more 😊