



**SCHOOL-BASED
HEALTH ALLIANCE**

The National Voice for School-Based Health Care

Youth Development Digest

Happy Thanksgiving from the SBHA Youth Advisory Council

The Youth Development Digest (YDD) was designed with young readers in mind. From promoting upcoming events to showcasing powerful youth in our country, YDD is a resource that highlights current topics, issues, and opportunities for young people today.

Adult allies: Share with your youth; Youth leaders: Share with your peers

'Be the Change' 2026 Call for Abstracts Extended!

2026

**National School-Based
Health Care Conference**

June 23-25, 2026 | Washington D.C.

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
AND REVIEWERS**

The deadline has been
extended to December 8!

**STRONGER
TOGETHER**

**Building
Healthy
Futures for
Every Child**

We are excited to announce that we are accepting abstracts for our 2026 'Be the Change' Youth Training Program through December 8th!

This conference is dedicated to helping students grow in knowledge and confidence as directors of their health and champions of youth voices. We strive for youth to recognize, enhance, and apply their talents and skills as influential, ethical leaders of youth-led, school-based health promotion.

During the program, participants learn about and discuss health and education topics, develop advocacy and leadership skills, and engage in fun, interactive team-building activities. 'Be the Change' participants get to know each other and school-based health care advocates and engage in various health, education, policy, and leadership workshops.

If you are a student passionate about leadership and school-based health, we would be delighted to review your abstract. If you are an adult who knows a young person who fits that description, share with your networks!

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Blog of the Month



More Than a Meal: What Being A "Free Lunch Kid" Taught Me About Equity and Collective Care

*by Muntaha Rahman, SBHA
Youth Advisory
Council Member*

The following reflects Muntaha's lived experiences, thoughts, and opinions.

"As a child, I remember how comforting it felt to know that, regardless of whether I was able to pack a lunch from home, I always had one waiting for me at school. I didn't realize it at the time, but that feeling of certainty reflected something much more than the assurance of my next meal..."

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Resource Spotlight

ADOLESCENT HEALTH INITIATIVE

For young people experiencing the traumas of community violence, school-based health centers (SBHC) can be a lifeline. But how can SBHC staff approach their interactions with adolescents in a sensitive, empowering way?

The Adolescent Health Initiative's latest no-cost resource on Community Violence explores trauma, community violence, trauma-informed care, youth engagement, and youth-adult partnerships, and how school-based health centers can foster partnerships with youth to address community violence.

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YAC Content Corner



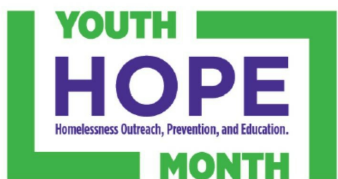
This month, the Youth Advisory Council focused on how school-based health centers can better prepare students to navigate health care independently after graduation. Members discussed strategies such as building health literacy, increasing awareness of insurance options, and helping students learn how to advocate for their own care. They also explored ways SBHCs can support smooth transitions from pediatric to adult health services. In addition, the YAC finalized the abstract topics they will present at the Be the Change workshops.

In Case You Missed It...

Last year, our team designed a three-part e-learning series to equip health center staff with **innovative strategies in service delivery, quality, and community engagement**. The content focuses on increasing health center staff's knowledge and skills related to culturally respectful care and adolescent-friendly health center environments. Throughout this series, youth, from the School-Based Health Alliance **Youth Advisory Council** and beyond, shared their ideas and best practices for adults looking to improve their care delivery model and increase collaboration with youth in their community.

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Events & Opportunities



Innovative Practices to Address Youth Homelessness Webinar

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39th Annual SLS High School Conference

Learn
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Mapping Tool Spotlight

If you want to learn about more organizations engaging in youth development work, check out the [Mapping Tool](#) on the Youth Health Hub. Add your organization for the chance to be next month's spotlight!



Organization Information

Youth for Neurodiversity Inc. has joined the Youth Health Hub Mapping Tool. Here is some information about this organization.

Welcome, Youth for Neurodiversity, Inc.!

Location: San Jose, CA

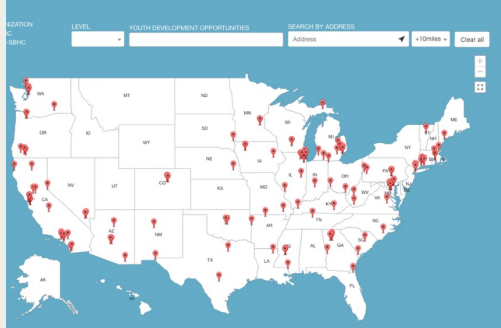
Youth Development Opportunities Offered:

- Youth Advisory Council
- Provide feedback on health center services and experience
- Peer education, mentoring, counseling, or support groups
- Advocacy activities (local, state, or national)
- Other

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Youth Development Mapping Tool

Mapping tool utilizes our latest Youth Development Survey data and Geographic Information System (GIS) technology to offer an interactive view of the connection between youth development and school-based health care. This tool is useful for everyone—youth and adults alike—to learn about youth-serving organizations and youth development-focused SBHCs across nationwide, connect with other groups by location or interest, foster community through knowledge and resource sharing. Use the features below to start searching! Don't see your SBHC or organization? Go to our [request forms page](#) and add your data.



Does your organization help to further youth development?

Would you like to submit your organization to the mapping tool?

Check out the updated mapping tool on the Youth Health Hub! You can view organizations nationwide and see how they help youth development and the School-Based Health Alliance.

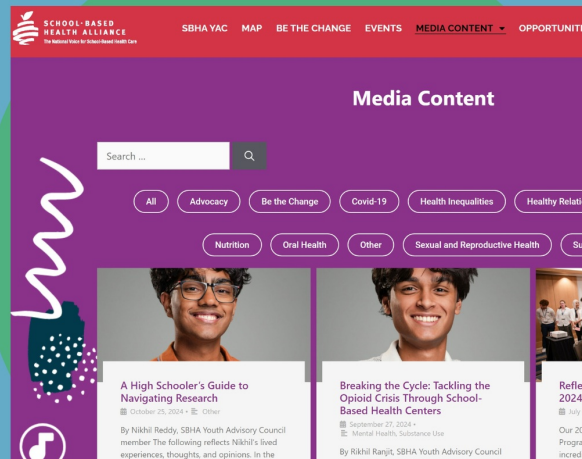
Submit Organization

Do you have something you want to share?

Do you or someone you know want to be highlighted on our website? Do you have any events coming up at your school or school-based health centers? Are there any webinars or conferences concerning youth development?

Submit an article or blog post you believe should be in the spotlight of future digests related to health and/or youth development topics, as well as events or nominations, through the Youth Health Hub!

Submit Content



Featured Post



Follow us on social media:
[@sbhayac](https://twitter.com/sbhayac)

Quote of the Month

**“Gratitude is
thankfulness
expressed in
action.”**

William George Jordan

Connect with us!



Youth Health Hub

For Youth Leaders and Youth Advocates
Everywhere



Youth Advisory Council

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