



California Youth Connection (CYC)

<http://www.calyouthconn.org/>

Prospective Board Member Information

Mission: CYC is a youth led organization that develops leaders who empower each other and their communities to transform the foster care system through legislative and policy change.

Vision: Foster youth will be equal partners in contributing to all policies and decisions made in their lives. All youth in foster care will have their needs met and the support to grow into healthy and vibrant adults.

Overview

Founded in 1988, CYC operates both on a grassroots and legislative policy level and serves current and former foster youth ages 14-24 from across California that come from many experiences: long term care, guardianship, adoption, youth with children, youth receiving mental health services, youth in the juvenile justice system and more. CYC outreaches to foster youth and empowers them to create leaders amongst themselves and within their communities. CYC youth collaborate across the state to achieve foster care system improvements and implement legislative and policy changes that they have identified. Through this process, CYC has initiated and helped pass over 20 pieces of legislation that has improved California's foster care system. Most recently, CYC accomplished Assembly Bill 12 (AB 12), which extends foster youth benefits and services to youth up to age 21.

CYC has offices in Los Angeles, Fresno, San Francisco and Sacramento, 35 county-based youth-run chapters, and more than 500 youth and 150 volunteers statewide. CYC is led by an advisory board composed of one youth representing each county chapter.

Board of Directors

CYC's bylaws require that a majority of board seats be reserved for current and former foster youth; however, all are welcome. The CYC board is composed of professionals across the private, public, and nonprofit sectors, mostly throughout California. The board seeks individuals with diverse experiences and skills, including but not limited to, accounting, marketing, fundraising, and human resources. Strong candidates have:

1. Interest in the needs and concerns of current and former foster youth
2. A track record that demonstrates an ability to think strategically and creatively
3. Strong teamwork, communication and problem-solving skills
4. Commitment to supporting CYC through in-kind resources and fundraising

Board Member Commitment

- Quarterly Saturday board meetings in San Francisco/Oakland (four meetings per year)
- Read board meeting materials to prepare for board meetings
- Respond to requests for input and conference calls in a timely manner
- Lead and/or participate in at least one standing subcommittee
- Help with securing in-kind resources, making connections, and fundraising
- Provide an annual financial donation that you deem significant

To apply, please attach a resume, complete the board member application, and email it to Joseph Tietz, CYC Executive Director: joseph@calyouthconn.org.

California Youth Connection Board Member Application

Name	
Street Address	
City, State, Zip Code	
Home Phone	
Work Phone	
E-Mail Address	
Why are you interested in joining the CYC Board?	
Are you a former foster youth?	
If yes, in which state(s):	
Please describe the experience and contribution you can bring to the board:	
Please describe at least one specific fundraising, accounting, media relations or marketing accomplishments from your professional or volunteer experience:	
Have you ever served on the board of another nonprofit? If so, please list the organization(s), length of service, and your role.	

Please list membership or involvement in professional, volunteer, and social organizations and length of involvement:

For Board Use

	Yes	No	Date
Nominee has had a personal meeting with board member			
Nominee reviewed by the committee			
Nominee attended a board meeting			
Nominee interviewed by the board			

Action taken by the board