

California Youth Connection (CYC)

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

Prospective Board Member Application



CALIFORNIA YOUTH CONNECTION

Our Voices, Our Future

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

Since our founding in 1988, the foster youth experience in California has been transformed, and so too have the thousands of foster youth who have joined CYC, becoming confident, effective advocates for themselves and generations of foster youth. Through CYC, youth gain advocacy and job skills, education and career connections, and most importantly, a community of peers. Our work has resulted in the passage of dozens of new laws that have profoundly improved the lives of the 60,000 children and youth in California's foster care system. CYC has established a unique model of youth empowerment through sophisticated policy advocacy.

Today, hundreds of current and former foster youth are organized into youth-led chapters in 29 California counties. By participating in our three annual youth-led conferences and our robust training program, CYC members develop essential skills and engage directly with policymakers.

CYC has offices in Emeryville, Los Angeles, Fresno, and Sacramento.

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 leadership development 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 Emeryville (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 the Engagement and Recruitment Committee: Erica Hickey- ericah@calyouthconn.org and Gail Yen- gaily@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