



HOUSED IN THE IU SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



- DEVELOP MENTAL HEALTH FOCUSED PROJECTS
- INFLUENCE YOUTH RESEARCH AT THE IUSM
- RECEIVE MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING
- GIVE BACK TO YOUR COMMUNITY



Open to teens ages 13-18



Must be passionate about mental health, research, innovation, and social impact



Attend monthly 2.5 hour meetings at \$20/hour



APPLY NOW

@theyouthcoalition

theyouthcoalition.org

IRB #20526

What is YoCo?

The Youth Coalition (YoCo) is a youth-led program for teens age 13-18 years old in the Indianapolis area focused on mental health and substance use awareness and prevention. We are housed in the Indiana University School of Medicine and work to inform research, develop mental health initiatives, and engage with our community.

WHAT WE DO:

- **Gain knowledge** on youth mental health and substance use through trainings and workshops
- **Collaborate** with researchers, clinicians, and community organizations to help address youth mental health and substance use issues
- **Influence youth mental health** and substance use research and programming by sharing our insights, ideas, and perspectives through our consultation services
- **Develop our own projects and community service initiatives** aimed at addressing youth mental health and substance use challenges and creating positive social change



Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Who can join the coalition?

A: Youth ages 13-18 who are passionate about making a difference in their community are welcome to join. No prior experience needed.

Q: What kind of things will I be doing?

A: You'll participate in research consultations, social media campaigns, youth summits, community outreach, policy feedback, and event planning. You will share your ideas and collaborate with other youth and adult mentors.

Q: How often does YoCo meet?

A: We meet once a month on a Saturday for 2.5 hours. Additional time may be needed for events or special projects, but we understand school and life come first.

Q: Is it a volunteer role or do members get paid?

A: Members receive compensation for their participation.

Q: Is there a cost to join?

A: Joining is completely free. We even provide food at meetings and cover any materials or supplies needed.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What if I have a busy schedule or transportation challenges?

A: We understand that you may have scheduling conflicts occur – we'll work with you!

Q: Who leads YoCo?

A: YoCo is youth-led with support from adult allies who care deeply about your leadership.

Q: Will I earn volunteer hours or service credit?

A: Yes. We offer events that can count toward community service or volunteer hours for school or other programs.

Q: What topics or issues does the coalition focus on?

A: Our focus is on youth health, leadership, and community change. We cover issues like mental health, substance prevention, and tailor projects based on what the youth care about.

8. Can I bring a friend?

Meetings are for members only, but there are opportunities to invite family and friends to volunteer events.

Testimonials

Hear directly from the youth who are making a difference! Our members come from diverse backgrounds but share one thing in common: a passion for creating change. Check out why being part of this community matters to them.

“The most memorable [moment], to be honest, it was at the Indiana Mental Health Summit. It was such an awesome experience, being able to talk to people who are willing to listen to the voices of the youth, and just showing us our perspective and how we see the world today, it's something that was truly eye-opening.”

“[YoCo] really taught me how to deal with people with mental health issues and it taught me with what to do in a case of emergency. If something happened within my family or my friends that really no one knew how to solve, I would step in there and connect them with somebody, a professional, and see what they can do.”

Mission Statement

Our mission is for youth to be empowered to use their voice to raise awareness on youth mental health and substance use, and to provide support in preventing and addressing youth mental health and substance use in our community.

Our vision is to create a community where youth are involved and embedded within youth focused mental health and substance use research, programs, initiatives, and policy. At YoCo every young person feels supported, informed, and equipped to make positive impact on addressing and improving resources and programming regarding youth mental health and substance use.





Stay Connected with YoCo!



**We're always up to something amazing
and we want YOU to be a part of it!
Follow us, tag us, and share your voice.**

INSTAGRAM

 **@theyouthcoalition**

Get behind-the-scenes peeks, mental health tips, event photos, and real youth voices. Don't forget to tag us in your posts and stories!



WEBSITE

 **theyouthcoalition.org**

Your one-stop hub for everything YoCo meet the team, learn about our projects, and apply to join!



CONTACT US!!!

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Got questions? We'd love to hear from you!

Program Leadership



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Apply to Join Today

**READY TO AMPLY YOUR VOICE
AND
MAKE CHANGE?**

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!!!

