



## Introduction

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Hello and thank you for your interest in becoming a Youth MOVE Chapter!

Upon submitting your application, a Youth MOVE National representative will reach out to meet and connect with you regarding YMN opportunities and resources.

Chapter applications may be submitted at any time; however, applications are reviewed twice per year:

- Spring Deadline: **April 15**
- Fall Deadline: **September 15**

Filling out and submitting this application and agreement does not mean your group has been accepted as a Youth MOVE National chapter. Your application will be reviewed by

a national committee and you will be notified of a decision within **30 days** of the above deadline. There may be requests for additional information from applicants in this time period. It is the prerogative of Youth MOVE National to ensure that each chapter application received is coming from a youth-led initiative.

Please **do not** send the completed Chapter Membership Agreement OR the chapter dues payment with this application. Your organization will receive this paperwork and a dues invoice following acceptance by the Membership Committee.

Prior to submitting an application, please reach out to Youth MOVE National to express your interest in applying for chapter membership. We work to get to know applicants before this application is submitted. Please email [info@youthmovenational.org](mailto:info@youthmovenational.org) if you have any questions.

## **Readiness Checklist**

### **Chapter Readiness Checklist**

Are you ready to become a Youth MOVE Chapter? The

checklist below is a guidance tool suggested to complete *prior* to filling out the actual application. The Youth MOVE Chapter application process is created to ensure that groups are truly youth-driven and ready to successfully engage in our national network of youth advocates.

## Checklist:

*This checklist is 'non-graded' towards the application and is for your benefit as a group to gauge your readiness.*

- We have a minimum core group of 5 young people committed to building a chapter whose mission and vision are in alignment with that of [Youth MOVE National](#).
- We are currently active.
- We meet at least once a month.
- We have been meeting regularly for 6 months or more.
- We have committed youth who have been introduced to what Youth MOVE National is and does.
- We have identified Chapter Leaders. This can include: Youth Leaders (between ages 10 - 29), elected Officers (Chapter President, Treasurer, etc.), and at least one Youth Advocate (between ages 16 - 29) to receive YMN information and take on the responsibility of chapter reporting.
- We have developed a Mission and Vision statement for our group.
- We have identified potential partners, adult supporters, stakeholders, community members, and organizations who are interested in supporting our process to become and sustain this chapter.

- We have engaged in [strategic planning](#) and asked ourselves, "Where are we going as a group and how do we plan to get there?"
- We have connected with the other [Youth MOVE Chapters](#) in our state.
- In the case that there is an existing statewide chapter, we have established an initial connection.
- We have the ability to access social media platforms for outreach and engagement.
- We will involve youth voice in the filling out of a [Youth MOVE National Chapter application](#).
- We have contacted Youth MOVE National Member Services via email or phone about our interest in becoming a chapter within the last 6 months.

### Other things to consider:

- You do NOT have to check off every item in order to proceed to the application.
- Do you already have an existing relationship with a host organization? Work together to determine what your relationship will be.
- We encourage youth voice to be applied throughout the entire application.
- Youth MOVE National frequently works with communities throughout the process of building their MOVEment with [technical assistance \(TA\)](#). From start-up support to strategic plans for sustainability - we've got you covered!!

- Contact a Member Services team member at [info@youthmovenational.org](mailto:info@youthmovenational.org).

## Chapter Information

Chapter Information:

**Group or Chapter Name**

State

City, Town, County, or Tribal Territory  
(enter N/A if not applicable)

Primary Chapter Contact Information:

***NOTE:*** Either the primary chapter contact or the secondary contact listed below ***MUST*** be a youth/young adult.

Primary Contact Name

Role (Youth, Supportive Adult, etc.)

Contact Email

Contact Phone #

Address (enter N/A if not applicable)

Website (enter N/A if not applicable)

### Secondary Chapter Contact Information:

Secondary Contact Name

Role (Youth, Supportive Adult, etc.)

Secondary Contact Email

Secondary Contact Phone #

Is this group an existing youth group?

Yes

No

How many regularly active members do you have?

How long has this group been active?

What youth populations does your group work with?

*Select all that apply.*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Education                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Substance Use/Recovery                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting Teens                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child Welfare                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Native Youth                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Juvenile Justice and Department of Corrections | <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Treatment                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Vocational Rehab/Supported Employment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Runaway Youth                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Disability                   |

Homeless Youth

Other

LGBTQIA2-S

Does your have a **host organization**?

Yes

No

### Host Organization Contact Information:

Host Organization Name

Contact Name

Contact Email

Contact Phone #

Address (Street, City, State, & Zip)

Website (enter N/A if not applicable)



Who is the financial contact for your group (i.e. who receives invoices)?

*Select all that apply.*

- Primary Chapter Contact
- Secondary Chapter Contact
- Host Organization Contact
- Other (include Name & Email):

Is this organization applying as a:

- Local Chapter**
- Statewide Network**

## Questionnaire

With 2–3 paragraphs, please describe the group (include mission, vision, past and current community projects, major accomplishments, etc.).



What short- and long-term goals does your group have that align with your above mission & vision?



How will the group support and promote youth voice within the larger community and child/youth serving systems?



What type of coaching and/or support does this group anticipate needing?

*(This question is 'non-graded' and is for internal use only, as Youth MOVE National develops training curriculums and supports for chapters).*



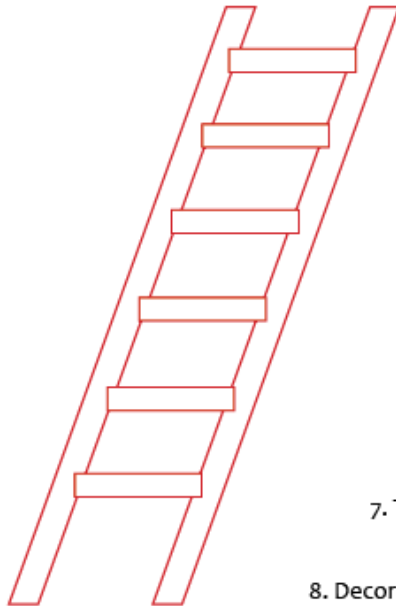
## Youth Guided Definition

**Youth Guided** means that young people have the right to be **empowered, education**, and given a **decision making role** in the care of their own lives as well as the policies and procedures governing care for all youth in the community, state, and nation. This includes giving young people a **sustainable voice**, being **listened** to, and the focus should

be towards creating a safe environment enabling a young person to gain self **sustainability** in accordance to the cultures and beliefs they abide by. Further, through the eyes of a youth guided approach we are aware that there is a continuum of **power** that should be given to the young people based on their understanding and maturity in this **strength** based **change process**. Youth guided also means that this process should be **fun** and **worthwhile**.

(Definition written by Youth MOVE National with support from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services of America (SAMHSA)).

## Ladder of Youth Involvement



1. Youth Initiated and Directed
  - Designed and run by youth and decisions made by youth
2. Youth Initiated, Shared Decisions with Adults
  - Designed and run by youth who share decisions with adults
3. Youth and Adult Initiated and Directed
  - Designed and run by youth and adults in full partnership
4. Adult Initiated, Shared Decisions with Youth
  - Minimum Youth Participation, designed and run by adults who share decisions with youth
5. Consulted and Informed
  - Designed and run by adults who consult with youth, Youth make recommendations that are considered by adults
6. Assigned and Informed
  - Youth do not initiate, but understand and have some sense of ownership
7. Tokenism
  - Symbolic representation by few, may not have genuine voice, may be asked to speak for the group they represent
8. Decoration
  - Adults use youth to promote or support a cause without informing youth
9. Manipulation
  - Youth are not involved in design or decisions; Youth involvement used by adults to communicate adults' messages



Adapted from Hart, R. (1992). Children's Participation from Tokenism to Citizenship, UNICEF

This ladder was created to show the direction organizations

need to climb in order to achieve authentic youth involvement. Organizations often find themselves in the bottom three rungs of this ladder until plans are implemented to bring youth into decision making roles in an environment that is safe and where youth voices are heard.

Using the Ladder of Youth Involvement (shown above), please rate your **youth group**?

*(This question is 'non-graded' and is for internal use only).*



Using the Ladder of Youth Involvement (shown above), please rate your **community**?

*(This question is 'non-graded' and is for internal use only).*



What tactics might you use to help this group and community MOVE up the Ladder of Youth Involvement?



Please give specific examples of how this youth group plans to sustain itself (including fundraising, community partnerships, donations, etc.).



Why do you want to become a Youth MOVE chapter?

## Agreement

Who wrote this chapter application (**Youth Leaders ONLY**)?

*It is common for multiple individuals to be involved with the chapter application process.*

**Please click the checkbox next to your role and enter your NAME & EMAIL ADDRESS into the text box below.**

Youth Leader

Youth Leader

Youth Leader

Youth Leader

Youth Leader

Youth Leader

Youth Leader

Youth Leader



# Who wrote this chapter application (**Supportive Adults ONLY**)?

*It is common for multiple individuals to be involved with the chapter application process.*

**Please click the checkbox next to your role and *enter your NAME & EMAIL ADDRESS* into the text box below.**

Supportive Adult

Supportive Adult

Supportive Adult

Supportive Adult

Please attach any supplemental material and information such as brochures, flyers, logic models, strategic plans, or anything else you feel would be important for the National

Review Committee to be aware of while making decisions on chapter acceptance.

File Upload

File Upload

File Upload

File Upload

We agree and support the submission of this application for chapter membership with Youth MOVE National. We have reviewed chapter responsibilities and benefits and are able to adhere to the Chapter Member Agreement should we be accepted as a YMN chapter.

This application has been completed with authentic youth voice.

**Chapter Leader - Youth/Young Adult Signature:**

SIGN HERE

---

clear

**Chapter Leader - Supportive Adult Signature:**

SIGN HERE

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clear

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