



Youth Advisory Board

Frequently Asked Questions

What benefits come with being a part of the Youth Advisory Board (YAB)?

- Reference/Resume Building Opportunities- We are happy to be a reference and/or write Letters of Recommendation for YAB members upon request
- Become involved in and learn more about the diabetes community
- Gain college and work/internship preparedness
- Build confidence in valuable leadership skills
- Involvement in community service and volunteerism
- Make connections with local professionals in the diabetes and Endocrinology sectors
- Form friendships and have fun
- Learn valuable skills such as organizational, marketing, and communication skills
- Ability to purchase custom DYS apparel items

Where will the meetings take place and when?

Meetings will be held at the ProMedica Mary Ellen Falzone Diabetes Center – 2100 W. Central Ave. Toledo, OH 43606. Meeting days/times will be decided by the group at the first meeting of the year. Meetings will be a maximum of two (2) hours in length once a month.

Why is the board only open for students in grades 10-12?

DYS aims for this Youth Advisory Board to help develop skills more and more high school-aged students are expected to have by the time they enter their college years/ workforce.

After a member has graduated from high school or received their GED, they are no longer eligible to be on the Youth Advisory Board. However, they may be asked to become a “Graduate Mentor” to the board and will be able to continue participation in board activities as requested by Diabetes Youth Services Staff.

What will be the main project the board will be facilitating?

The YAB will participate in fun and educational outreach activities all while building new friendships. Members will learn and help raise awareness about diabetes in their community while developing leadership, fundraising, and communication skills. At the end of the year, they will present a group project covering what they have learned and their experience with the YAB to their fellow peers at our end-of-the-year celebration party!

What type of events may members of the board attend throughout their 1-year term?

DYS would like the board to attend 1-2 outreach events and the board members will be responsible for choosing and coordinating what they would like to attend. Some examples of outreach events they will possibly attend are a Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation walk in the fall, an Extended family education class, and volunteering at a DYS Family Program.

Family programs are programs where families with a child living with type 1 diabetes can meet other families while connecting and gaining a support system that also faces the same daily challenges of T1D as they do. Examples: Walleye Hockey Game, Kalahari Waterpark Adventure, Rock Climbing

Can my child use this experience as a resume builder?

Absolutely! If your child is a dedicated and committed member of the YAB, DYS is happy to aid in writing any reference letters to be used for college or job applications and sign off on any volunteer hours completed through the YAB. We encourage the members to put the YAB down on their resume and use a DYS staff member as a reference.

Is there any cost associated with being on the YAB?

The YAB is completely free for the members to apply and join. We will be providing YAB apparel that can be purchased by the members if they choose to do so but is not required.

Have additional questions?

If you have additional questions, please reach out to the Community Outreach Coordinator, Morgan Johnson by email at morgan@dys4kids.org or her direct work phone at 419-291-1236.