

Youth Engagement Opportunities

Colorado Youth Awareness Week (September 8-12)

Purpose: The purpose of Youth Awareness Week is to emphasize positive youth voice and to celebrate the influence youth have in our state and local communities. And to recognize the various organizations and advocates which involve Colorado's youth and help guide them towards positive life choices and stability.

<p>Tuesday September 8 "Kickoff" Wear Purple</p>	<p>Learn Your Rights in Colorado (LYRIC) (Office of Child's Representative & Fostering Great Ideas)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Learn Your Rights - (1:00-2:30) - Click here OR here ● Engaging and Empowering Youth with Child Welfare and Juvenile Delinquency Cases - (3:00-4:30) - Click here Meeting ID: 945 2608 2270 Passcode: 119990
<p>Wednesday September 9 "Youth Civic Engagement"</p>	<p>Raise your voice, and get empowered about your choice! (Project Foster Power)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rock The Vote - (10:00-11:00) ● 2020 Census - (12:00-1:00) ● How to learn more about local, state, and national candidates - (5:00-6:00) <p>Join these sessions in the following ways: Facebook: @projectfosterpower Instagram: projectfosterpower</p>
<p>Thursday September 10 "Youth Resources" & "Words of Affirmation" Hashtag: #youthawareness2020</p>	<p>Affirming & Connecting 10:00 - 4:00 (Metro Youth Alliance, Fostering Great Ideas, Urban Peak)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Challenge of Affirmation - (10:00 - 11:00) ● MyColoradoJourney (ACT/SAT changes) - (11:00-12:00) Click here to join any session on Thursday ● "Speak Up - Action behind Advocacy" - (12:30 - 1:30) ● Urban Peak: On a Mission to End Youth Homelessness - (1:30-2:30) ● Additional Resource Navigation - (2:30-4:00) <p style="text-align: center;">ALL HANDS ON DECK (All day) (Everyday- here on out) Reach out to a youth to express "words of affirmation"</p>
<p>Friday September 11 "Youth Expression"</p>	<p>Empowering Youth Expressions - 2 sessions (Elevating Connections and Jefferson County Chafee)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wolff Park - 8500 W. 57th Ave Arvada, Co (11:00-12:30) lunch provided ● DeBoer Park - 2505 S. York St. Denver, Co (5:00-6:30) dinner provided <p style="text-align: center;">Click here to join Meeting ID: 840 1204 5415 Passcode: 612670</p>
<p>Saturday September 12 "Youth Recognition"</p>	<p>Youth Recognition 1:00-4:00 (Led by: Fostering Great Ideas & Elevating Connections)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● "Shout Outs" - recognize your peers - (1:00-3:00) - Click here to join ● Youth Recognition - Award Ceremony - (3:00-4:00) - Click here to join

Join your local youth leadership network: For more information contact the following:

- Metro Youth Alliance (MYA) - Mary Davis 720-324-0394 OR metroyouthalliance@gmail.com
- Project Foster Power - Jordyn Gendel 720-691-5901 OR projectfosterpower@childlawcenter.org
- Speak Up - Tori Shuler @ 303-549-3765 OR tori.shuler@fgi4kids.org

Tuesday - September 8 (Kickoff)

- **Purple - Youth Awareness Week's color should be purple because the color represents: independence, creativity, pride, peace, and ambition. We believe this reflects the lives of children." - Project Foster Power**
- **Learn Your Rights in Colorado (1-2:30)**

During this interactive workshop sponsored by Learn Your Rights in the Community (LYRIC), youth and volunteer lawyers will chat about how to advocate for yourself and be safe in interactions with law enforcement.

- **Engaging and Empowering Youth with Child Welfare and Juvenile Delinquency Cases (3-4:30)**

The Office of the Child's Representative (OCR) is a state office that supports Colorado guardians ad litem (GALs). GALs are attorneys who stand up for the best interests of youth in dependency and neglect (D&N) and juvenile delinquency court cases. D&N cases start because someone said an adult isn't taking care of a youth the way they should. Delinquency cases start because someone said a youth broke the law.

Hundreds of Colorado youth with D&N and delinquency cases met with OCR and voiced their opinions about their GALs and courts! Please attend this discussion to learn what those hundreds of Colorado youth said and what OCR plans to do about what they said, as well as to share your thoughts and ideas!!!

Wednesday, September 9 (Youth Civic Engagement)

- **Rock The Vote - (10:00-11:00)**

Join project Foster Power to learn more about how to register to vote and where to go to drop off your ballots. ROCK THE VOTE!

- **2020 Census - (12:00-1:00)**

Join project Foster Power to learn more about the 2020 Census, how to complete the Census and what it is used for. It only happens once every 10 years so let's make this year's Census count!

- **How to learn more about local, state, and national candidates - (5:00-6:00)**

Join project Foster Power to learn more about your local, state, and national candidates, where to get fact-checked information, and how to inform your decisions when voting. Feel informed and empowered when voting this election season!

Thursday, September 10 (Youth Resources & Words of Affirmation)

- Urban Peak is the only agency in Denver offering a complete convergence of services for youth experiencing homelessness. Our mission is to ignite the potential in youth to exit homelessness and create self-determined, fulfilled lives.

Friday, September 11 (Youth Expression)

- **Empowering Youth Expressions:**

Provides a platform for youth currently in and those who have aged out of foster care to express their emotions and connect with each other and the community through spoken word, song, art and comedy.

Saturday, September 12 (Youth Recognition)

- **"Shout Outs" - Peer Recognition Session (1:00-3:00)**

This is an opportunity for youth to recognize their peers for leadership, resiliency, kindness, and overcoming adversity. Youth may recognize any other youth for any reason they find worthy of recognition.

- **Colorado Youth Leadership Awards (3:00-4:00)**

Join us to recognize and celebrate youth nominated by The Colorado Youth Leadership Network.