

City of Durham Office on Youth August 2021 Update

PRESENTED TO: CITY COUNCIL ON AUGUST 5, 2021



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City of Durham Office on Youth

 durhamnc.gov/OfficeOnYouth

  @YouthSpeakDURM

Presentation Flow



- **Grounding in values + vision**
- **Youth Listening Project**
- **Durham Youth Leadership Fund**
- **Youth Commission restructure**
- **Other OOH Highlights**

Our vision: All young people in Durham are their whole, healthiest selves and have the power and platforms to lead positive community change.

Our mission: We create new spaces and structures for Durham youth to be co-creators and decision-makers in local government.

We partner with Durham's young people, their families, and other people who support youth. We work together to find ways that local government programs and systems can better support all children and youth ages 5-24 years.





Feb. 2021

Youth Listening Project Report Released!

- Purpose:
 - Understand needs and dreams of young people, especially those usually not heard
 - Find solutions that could guide our work, set priorities for OOH and other depts./orgs
- Process:
 - Youth leadership at every step
 - Collaborative, equitable process to build trust with new partners and with our community
 - Community events, listening sessions, reflecting back sessions



Over 800 touch points, including 200+ in depth, w/young people, caregivers, service providers → report with findings and 30 recommendations

@ durhamnc.gov/youthspeak

Carrying the Recommendations Forward

Young Durham is Ready to Lead



From left: Erysa (View) Corley Corley (Youth Listening Project Ambassador), Afiya Prosser (City of Durham Office on Youth, Youth Engagement Manager), Nori McDuffie (Youth Listening Project Ambassador), Joylen Segers (Youth Listening Project Ambassador), Katie Okawa (Youth Listening Project Ambassador) and Lara Khalil (City of Durham Office on Youth, Director)

Let's Talk Durham Interview, May 2021
@ www.letstalkdurham.com

- Retreating to identify OOH priorities
- Continued engagement in Comprehensive Plan
- Upcoming Transit Plan youth engagement sessions
- "Road tour" – conversations/presentations/consultation with many stakeholders
- Convening stakeholders around shared priorities, celebrating with community (Fall/Winter 2021)
- **Launched Durham Youth Leadership Fund to advance priorities (Spring 2021)**
- **Restructure of Durham Youth Commission to support authentic civic engagement (Fall 2021)**



Team formed: February 2021
Launch: April 2021
Decisions: June 2021
Awards: July 2021-June 2022






Durham Youth Leadership Fund 2021



Focus Areas:

- **Purpose:** To fund initiatives, led by community based organizations/groups, that advance Youth Listening Project recommendations
- **Total Funding:** \$111,000 (\$88K - County Non Profit Program; \$23K - OOH)
- **Process:**
 - Formed 12 person youth-adult team (City/County staff + community members)
 - Committed to accessibility at all steps, including Spanish language access
 - Focus on identities centered in listening project, plus youth who've aged out of foster care; and youth with disabilities
- **Welcoming + supportive spaces/places for young people and their families**
- **New opportunities for youth leadership and engagement**
- **COVID emergency relief funds for young people and their families**

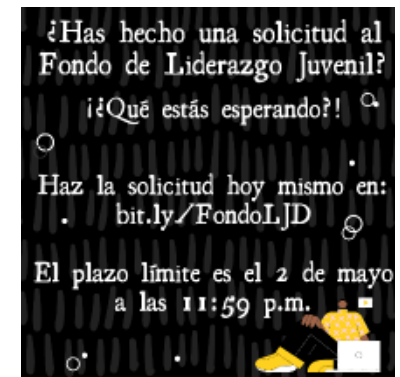
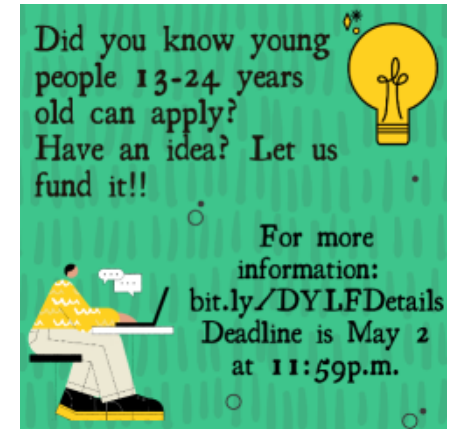
Of over 50 applicants (totaling \$707K in requests)Presenting the 2021 Leadership Fund Grantees!

 <p>INSIDE oUT 180: Connection, Community, and Leadership (\$8,000): Events that center and affirm the identities, joy and experiences of LGBTQ+ youth; launch of new lending library; youth leaders</p>	<p>TWO, Inc. - Get Ready for the Comeback (\$6,400): Back to School block party to encourage youth and families at start of school year; post-event weekly motivational messages for transition to in-person learning; youth leaders</p> 
 <p>Fayetteville Street Corridor (FSC) Fellows Project - Be Connected Durham & Beyond (\$15,000): Back to School event connecting youth/families to resources, art, each other; expand FSC resource network; youth leaders</p>	<p>Hawk's Nest Healing Garden's Youth Ambassador Program (\$12,000): Host farm apprenticeship program, including training in marketing and communication and selling at market; host youth-led community celebration</p> 
<p>Black and Belonging - Teaching Our Teachers How To Affirm Us (\$9,960): Youth researchers will develop online educator professional development course about creating belonging-centered classroom instructional practices</p>	<p>Youth Justice Project Steering Committee (\$15,000): Expand membership and convene biweekly meetings with youth leaders; support youth in their advocacy work through connections and skill building</p>
 <p>StandUp-SpeakOut NC- Art Heals (\$10,000): Use art and therapeutic practices to create welcoming and affirming spaces for youth; host final event to showcase art and expression; create docu-series about the process</p>	<p>Seasons of Destiny, Inc. - Transitional Housing for Young Mothers (\$15,000): House and support transition age pregnant women experiencing houselessness; partner with community organizations for supports; host skill building workshops</p>
<p>COVID-19 Relief Support for Student U Students and Families (\$10,000): Funds will support and maintain Student U's emergency student and family support fund;</p>	<p>Black August in the Park (\$10,000): Work with youth leaders to create youth-specific spaces at the Black August in the Park</p>

Projects w/ pink star: led by young person and/or young person on planning team

Grantee Year: July 2021 - June 2022

- OUY supports to grantees:
 - Promotion; recruitment for youth positions; connect to resources and potential partner organizations; amplify and share the work and findings
- Cohort style gatherings w/all grantees: connecting, sharing strategies and lessons, progress reporting
- Grantees to submit a final report of accomplishments and reflections





Fall 2021

Durham Youth Commission becomes....

****Durham Changed By Youth (DCBY) Ambassador Program****

- Ambassadors will:
 - Provide consultation to City and County Departments on various initiatives
 - Engage other young people in local government, connect them to opportunities/resources
 - Advocate for issues that matter to young people in Durham through relationships with decision makers


Goal: deeper, more impactful level of youth civic engagement



DYC → Changed By Youth Ambassadors

What will change	What won't change
	<p>Cohort of young people working closely with the OOH</p> <p>Annual retreats and gatherings with elected officials</p> <p>Community events and opportunities for other young people to be connected to decision makers and resources</p> <p>Year-long terms, with option to renew</p> <p>Training, conference, and volunteer ops for members</p> <p>Selection process to seat members; ceremonial inductions could also continue</p>
	<p>Open to young people living in the City + County, and continued focus on City and County government</p>

Durham Changed By Youth – Up Next...



Launch
application
August 2021

Launch
inaugural
cohort
October
2021

Update City's
2003 resolution
to create a youth
commission once
new cohort is
well established

Other OOH Highlights *since January 2021*

- **Durham Youth Engagement Network:**
 - Robust resource sharing listserv w/now 260 youth service providers
- **Youth Services Inventories**
 - Durham Network of Care youth services page: www.ProgramsForDurhamYouth.org
 - City-County inventory listing on OOH page
- **Amplify Experiences + Needs of Young People:**
 - Supported development and launch of youth-led Sawubona art zine
 - “Youth Activism and Leadership” panel (w/’we are’, Youth Justice Project, DCABP)



@ durmpac.github.io/sawubona.html



Thank you!