The HopeWorks’ Youth Leadership Project is a service-learning program inspiring introspective thinking, social consciousness, equity, and the use of these concepts to prevent violence.

Youth Leadership is open to teens of all genders, ages 13-18. The project provides an affirming and safe space for all students. HopeWorks makes available a loan of a tablet or laptop if needed.

HopeWorks’ Youth Leadership Project explores many topics related to violence prevention including healthy relationships, media literacy and the safe use of technology, social constructions of femininity, healthy masculinity, self-management and self-care, environmental justice, body policing, bystander intervention, healthy sexuality, cultural relativity, bullying, gender dynamics, anti-racism and anti-oppression, and understanding intersectionality and root causes of oppression. All Youth Leaders serve as outreach specialists, educating their peers and encouraging personal and community safety.

**Youth Leaders:**
- Create a Zine on liberation and youth power
- Collaborate and contribute to social media communications
- Participate in HopeWorks’ community garden, “The Our Earth Project”
- Learn violence prevention skills
- Engage in conversations around social justice issues and challenging systems of oppression
- Develop leadership and public speaking skills
- Earn community service hours

**Qualifications**
- Be between 8th grade and 12th grade with the written consent of a parent/guardian to participate
- Work well with others
- Be curious about prevention and have a want to promote change

**Requirements**
- Must attend monthly meetings/trainings
- Participate in service projects
- Attend and assist with agency awareness events
HopeWorks’ Youth Leadership Project

Application Form for School Year 2023/2024

Today’s Date ________________

Personal Information

Last Name ___________________________________ First Name ___________________________

Gender Pronouns: ________________________________________________________________

Current Address ________________________________________________________________

City____________________________________________ State________  Zip_______________

Home Phone Number __________________________   Cell Phone________________________

E-mail Address____________________________________________________ Birthday_______

Parent/Guardian Name __________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian Phone __________________________________________________________

Parent/Guardian E-mail Address __________________________________________________

School ______________________________________________________________________

Grade (in 2022/2023 school year) __________________________________________________

Academic Credit

Will you seek academic credit (e.g., community service and service learning) for your participation?

YES ___  NO ___

If seeking academic credit, youth leaders are responsible for obtaining and meeting their specific program requirements. With advanced notice, HopeWorks will provide necessary documentation for credit upon request.

Please provide contact information, if any, for your academic advisor.

Name _______________________________________  Phone Number ____________________
Reference

Please provide the following information for an individual we may contact for reference (i.e., teacher,
counselor, employer). Do not list a friend or relative.

Name______________________________________ Phone Number______________________

Email Address____________________________________________________________________

Relationship______________________ How long have you known this reference?___________

Personal Statement

Please write a short statement about why you are interested in becoming a Youth Leader.
(You may use a separate sheet if you wish but please no longer than one page.)

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________________

To become a Youth Leader, you will be interviewed. Please let us know your
usual availability.

Days available:
Monday ___ Tuesday ___ Wednesday___ Thursday___ Friday ___ Saturday ___ Sunday___

Times available:
Morning (9am-12pm)___ Afternoon (12pm-5pm)___ Evening (5pm-8pm)___
**Availability**
Youth Leaders are required to attend monthly meetings typically on the third Saturdays of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. During these meetings youth leaders or HopeWorks’ staff conduct trainings on topics related to dating violence prevention. Lunch is served during these meetings. We also use this time to plan for special events, hear from guest speakers, or hold movie and book discussions.

Will you be available to attend these meetings?  
___Yes  ___No

**Participation Agreement**

I understand that nothing contained in the application or conveyed during any training session or other volunteer experiences at HopeWorks is intended to create a contract between HopeWorks and myself. In addition, I understand and agree that if I am accepted as youth leader, my tenure is expected to last at least one school term but may be terminated at any time, with prior notice, at the option of either myself or HopeWorks, and that no promises or representations contrary to the foregoing are binding on me or HopeWorks unless made in writing and signed by myself and a HopeWorks designated representative.

______  ________________________________
Date  Applicant’s Signature

______  ________________________________
Date  Parent/Guardian Signature (Applicants under 18 years of age)

Please return your completed application by email (preferred), in person, or via mail/fax to:

Victoria Rain  
Community Educator: Youth Specialist  
HopeWorks of Howard County  
9770 Patuxent Woods Drive, Suite 300  
Columbia, MD 21046

Fax: 410-997-1397  
Phone: 410-997-0304  
Web: hopeworksofhc.org  
E-mail: vrain@hopeworksofhc.org

HopeWorks is an Equal Opportunity employer. Personnel and volunteers are chosen on the basis of ability without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, gender identity, marital status, or sexual orientation, in accordance with federal and state law.