



Kids First Richmond

CAYCJ | RESPECT Meeting

January 14, 2022

RYSE
CENTER

RYSE creates safe spaces grounded in social justice that build youth power for young people to love, learn, educate, heal and transform the lives and communities.

RYSE is a:

- ✓ Home
- ✓ 'Beloved Community'
- ✓ Movement
- ✓ *RYSE Commons...coming soon!*

RYSE provides:

- Sanctuary and safe space
- Opportunities to connect, heal, learn, and lead
- Programs in Community Health, Youth Organizing, Media, Arts & Culture, Education & Justice
- Trauma response and triage





**“Radical, simply means,
grasping things at the root.”**

Radical changes to systems takes unreasonable demands to shift power and resources so that we can have some impact on addressing structural racism and atmospheric trauma.

What we won?

The Richmond Kids First Initiative secured 3% of Richmond's general budget for a dedicated funding stream for children and youth services above and beyond the funds previously allotted for these services for a minimum of 10-years.

The fund will generate roughly \$4.3 million a year for 10 years.

There is an Oversight Committee built into the ballot initiative that includes 15 youth and adults appointed by City Council members.

The fund will serve children and youth ages 0-18 years and disconnected Transitional-Aged Youth 18 through 24 years old.

Children, youth and young adults living in Richmond and North Richmond and most impacted by harm, inequity and lack of access to support and services.



★ E - CITY OF RICHMOND - MAJORITY (Vote For 1)		
Precincts Reporting: 100%	Percentage	Votes
Yes	75.83%	6,368
No	24.17%	2,030
		8,398

★ K - CITY OF RICHMOND - MAJORITY (Vote For 1)		
Precincts Reporting: 100%	Percentage	Votes
Yes	65.63%	5,338
No	34.37%	2,796
		8,134

Grounded in Youth Vision

“We know we can’t run the city- it’s too complex- but our experience and our voices should count, especially because we’re the most affected.”

- Richmond Youth Resident

“We envision a community that inspires youth to live with pride and purpose, where the sounds of gunshots have been replaced by the sounds of organizing, song, collaboration, laughter, and learning...”

- From RYSE Vision Statement



Goals of RFCY



1. To ensure that Richmond's children, youth and young adults are **physically, emotionally, mentally and socially healthy, educated, successful** in school, and live in stable, safe and supported families and communities;
2. To **increase safety** for children, youth, young adults, their parents/guardians, families and the communities in which they live by **preventing problems and enhancing the strengths** of children, youth, young adults and their families;
3. To ensure young people are provided with **gender-responsive, trauma-informed, population-specific and culturally-competent services**;
4. To **strengthen collaboration** among public agencies and community-based organizations around shared outcomes among all service providers for children, youth, young adults and their parents/guardians;
5. To ensure an **equitable distribution of resources** to all of Richmond's young people in recognition of the importance of investment in their futures from birth through young adulthood;
6. To **fill gaps in services and leverage other resources** whenever feasible.



www.richmondyouth.org

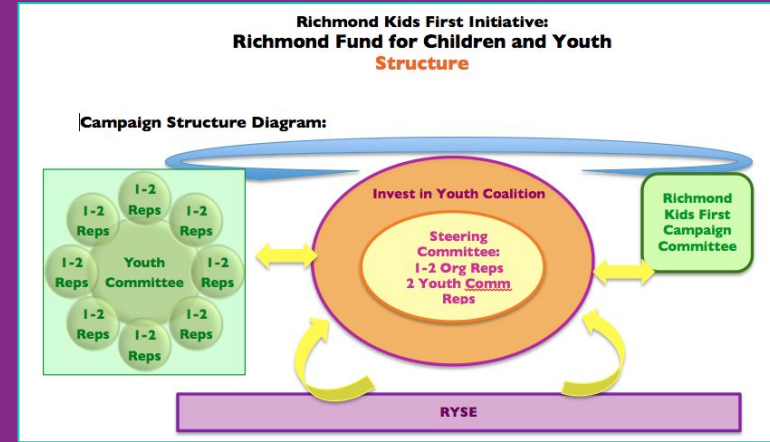
Process Matters

- Build a **shared vision** for the needs and priorities of children and youth in Richmond.
- Continue to **build productive collaborations** across community-based services, community institutions and public agencies.
- **Increase voter registration and turnout** for Richmond residents ages 18-30.
- **Inspire** and improve civic engagement skills of young people.
- Create more **responsiveness and accountability** of government to young people.
- Create more responsiveness and accountability of government to young people.
- Grounded in **racial justice and equity**.



Youth & Community Power

- On the ballot by signature=community ownership!
- Local residents, youth-led process.
- Winning means strategy development, implementation and community initiated accountability.
- Losing means building our base, and building a new strategy to secure resources for children and youth.
- Building an engaged voter base needs to be our collective strategy across communities.



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Youth Engagement

Youth Engagement:

- **Youth at all coalition meetings** for major decisions incl. Adding youth to Dept/Fund Oversight Board (***requirement for coalition members***)
- **Youth centered space for training and development:** political education, understanding the city budget, campaign development, power mapping, research, understanding the poll, media/ messaging training. .
- **Civic Engagement:** Host Candidate Forums during election seasons, voter registration.
- **Incentives** for youth (and parents)
- **Team Building , networking & Fun!**

Campaign - Field & Communications:

- **Storytellers** and campaign ambassadors - Educate their peers, family and community.
- Social Media and Communications - **trained spokespeople**
- **Canvassing**, door-to-door knocking, phone/text banking etc. + volunteer recruitment -- **engage families too!**
- **Voter (pre)Registration**
- Attend relevant city council meetings
- Hosting Community & Celebration **Events**



Richmond youth question mayoral and council candidates in debate

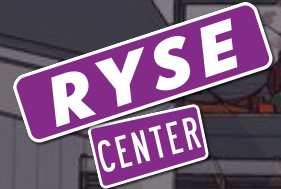


Q&A + Thank you!

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The future of our city is in the hands of our youth.