



November 29

CRISIS JAM X YOUTH POWER PROJECT: GALVANIZING YOUTH LEADERSHIP IN ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH POLICY

www.youthpowerproject.org



INTRODUCTIONS



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Executive Director

She/her/hers

Second-year at UC Berkeley

Studying computer science, legal studies, and public policy

Obsessed with rainbow sprinkles

A LITTLE BIT ABOUT
YPP

About YPP

The Youth Power Project aims to break down barriers between lawmakers and youth by directly centering the stories and voices of young people in policy making at the local, state, and federal level.

Organizing Pillars

01



Policy

Mobilization



02

03



Engagement

Education



04



We do this through...



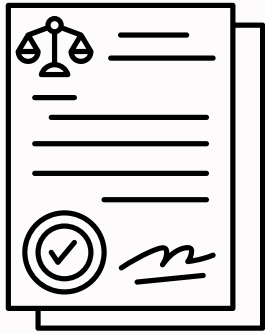
- Direct action
 - Writing and/or informing system-oriented policies
 - Providing peer advocacy and support
 - Creating long-lasting mechanisms for youth representation in decision-making institutions
- Community outreach
 - Working with local and community-based organizations to foster experience-based local discourse
 - Hosting forums/listening sessions with impacted youth and intersecting groups to garner insight on gaps and needs
- Education
 - “Policy incubator”-style programs to demystify public policy processes
 - Workshops/teach-ins to train and cultivate a new generation of civically engaged young leaders



VIEWING MENTAL HEALTH POLICY HOLISTICALLY

- ACKNOWLEDGING THAT MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLBEING ARE INTERTWINED
- PROVIDING BOTH EARLY INTERVENTION AND CRISIS RESPONSE SUPPORT
- UNDERSTANDING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOUSING, FOOD SECURITY, ACADEMIC OUTCOMES, ECONOMIC SAFETY, IDENTITY, IMMIGRATION STATUS, AND MENTAL WELLBEING
- ADDRESSING ATTITUDINAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, AND FAMILIAL BARRIERS TO SEEKING MENTAL HEALTHCARE

OUR STRATEGY



DRAFTING/INFORMING
LEGISLATION IN
CONGRESS AND STATE
LEGISLATURES
(H.RES.434, RAYS ACT,
PEER-TO-PEER
INFRASTRUCTURE BILLS)



IDENTIFYING URGENT
YOUTH NEEDS TO
INFORM BIPARTISAN
PRIORITIES IN RESPONSE
(LOCAL FORUMS)



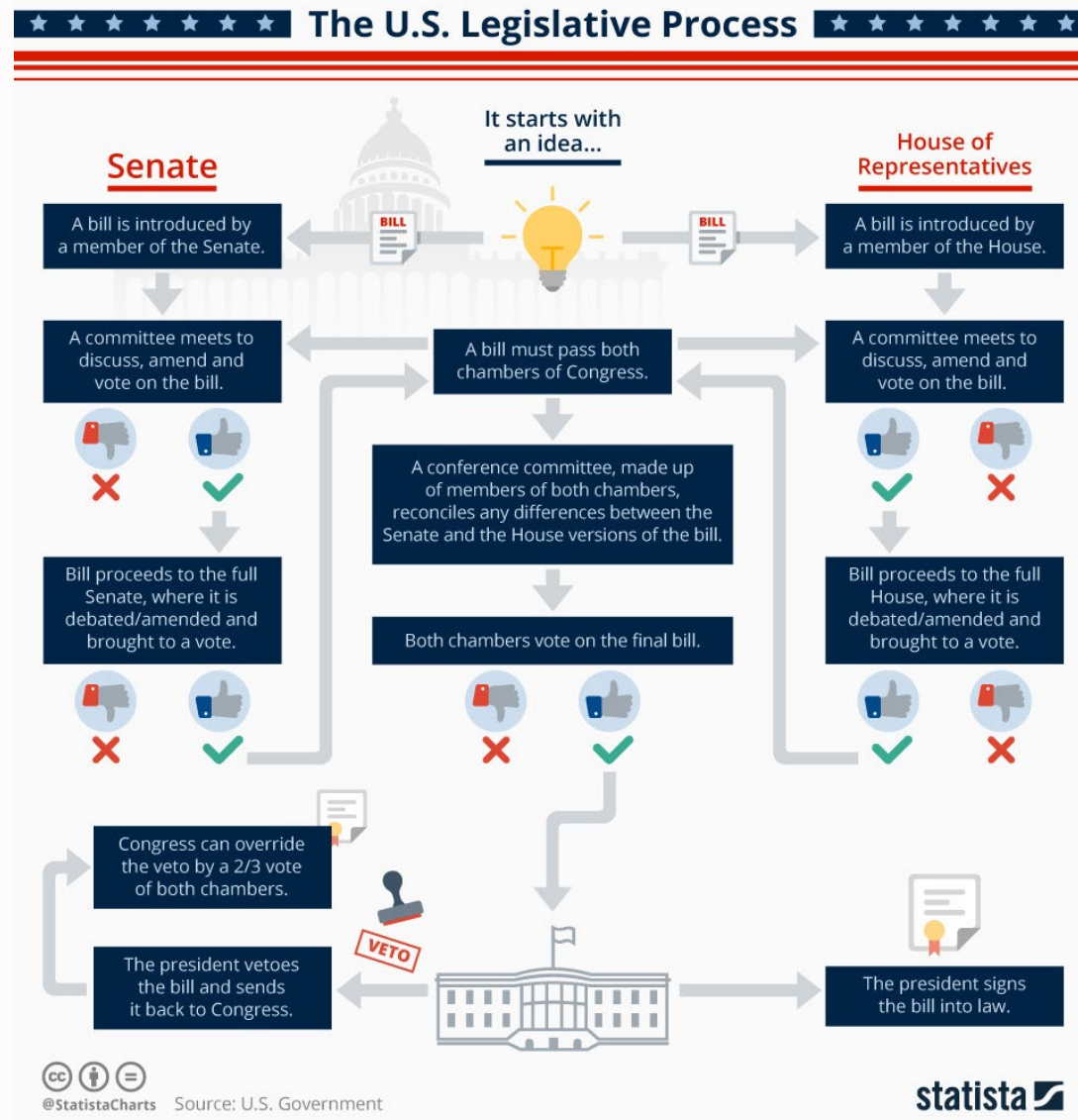
COALESCING DIVERSE
STAKEHOLDERS AND
LEVERAGING
INTERGENERATIONAL
PARTNERSHIPS
(CARE COALITION)



INFORMING THE PUBLIC
NARRATIVE BY
AMPLIFYING LIVED
EXPERIENCES THROUGH
OP-EDS, FEATURES, AND
MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

TURNING STORIES INTO
LAW

How a bill becomes a law



H.Res.434

- RESOLUTION DECLARING A YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IN THE UNITED STATES
- SETS FORTH A SET OF TOP-LEVEL, YOUTH-CENTERED PRIORITIES TO ADDRESS THIS CRISIS WITHIN EDUCATION, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, HEALTHCARE, AND MORE
- COMPLETELY YOUTH-WRITTEN
- INTRODUCED BY REP. MOULTON IN MAY
- BIPARTISAN, SETS FORTH A BIPARTISAN CONSENSUS ON WHERE YOUTH-CENTERED PRIORITIES LIE IN ADDRESSING DECLINING YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH



Identifying Needs

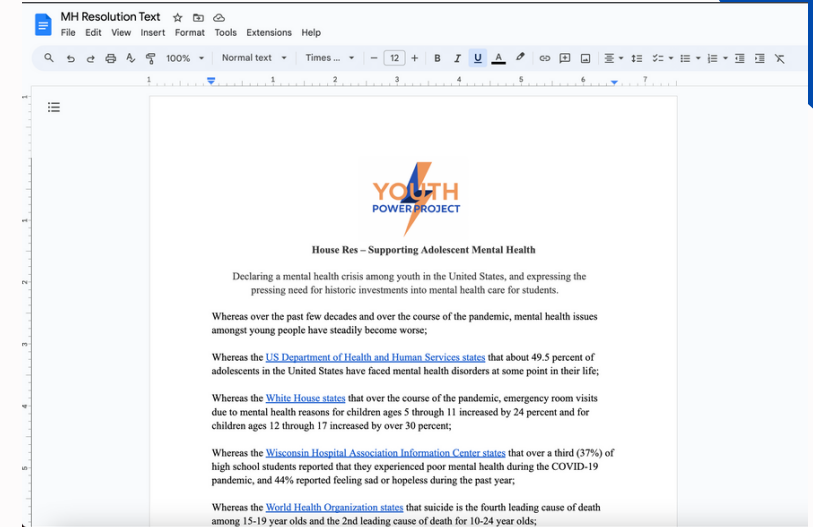


- ISSUES SUCH AS ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS PERVADE MOST YOUNG PEOPLE'S DAILY LIVES
 - MANY OF THE STORIES THAT YOUNG PEOPLE SHARE WITH ONE ANOTHER ARE INCREDIBLY SIMILAR AND CAN HELP IDENTIFY TRENDS THAT CAN BE MITIGATED BY POLICY CHANGES

CREATING SAFE SPACES TO DISCUSS LIVED EXPERIENCES CAN ENABLES US TO COLLECT QUALITATIVE INSIGHTS ON WHERE NEEDS LIE

Writing our own bill

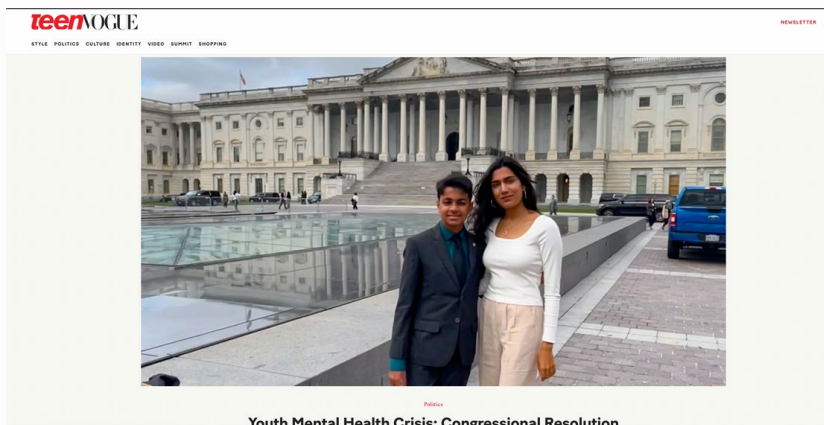
- RELIED HEAVILY ON PREVIOUSLY INTRODUCED RESOLUTIONS TO STRUCTURE THE CONTENT WITHIN H.RES.434
- VETTED OUR PROPOSAL THROUGH STAKEHOLDERS AND COMMITTEE STAFF! CONSULT, CONSULT, CONSULT, AND SOUGHT FEEDBACK FROM THE PARTNERS WE ULTIMATELY WANTED TO BRING IN
- ACKNOWLEDGED THE IMPORTANCE OF GROUNDING OUR IDEA IN LIVED STORIES OR EXPERIENCES
- SPOKE AUTHENTICALLY, BUT STRATEGICALLY BASED ON OUR AUDIENCE TO BUILD BIPARTISAN SUPPORT



Representative	Status/Note	State	Party Affiliation	Positions	Scheduler Email	Legislative Director Email
1	Already met with for Sec 220	New Jersey	Democrat	Chair of Energy & Commerce Committee	Samuel.Hadley@mail.house.gov	James.Schmitt@mail.house.gov
2		California	Democrat	Chair of Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee	caroline.oconnor@mail.house.gov	Eric.Henshall@mail.house.gov
3		Pennsylvania	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus	Emery.Boylan@mail.house.gov	Matthew.Clark@mail.house.gov
4		New Jersey	Republican		Kathryn.Latoro@mail.house.gov	Mary.Vigil@mail.house.gov
5		California	Democrat	Co-chair- Mental Health Caucus	Melvin.Sanchez@mail.house.gov	Joseph.Ciccone@mail.house.gov
6	Already met with	Kentucky	Republican (questionable; kin Ranking Member of Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee)		Jennifer.Bell@mail.house.gov	Brian.Fahey@mail.house.gov
7		California	Democrat		brooklyn.alcott@mail.house.gov	sarah.jackson@mail.house.gov
8	Already met with, but will follow	Florida	Democrat	gen Ziff	Trinity.Tresser@mail.house.gov	Nat.Bockelmann@mail.house.gov
9		Minnesota	Republican	House Majority Whip	Christine.Callaghan@mail.house.gov	Jeffrey.Kuckuck@mail.house.gov
10		Louisiana	Republican	House Majority Leader	sarabrooks.adams@mail.house.gov	claire.trokey@mail.house.gov
11	Already met with	Louisiana	Republican		Randi.Petry@mail.house.gov	Paige.Schwartz@mail.house.gov
12	Already met with	Virginia	Democrat	Chair of Education & Labor Committees		
13		Oregon	Democrat	Ranking Member, EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY, AND SECONDARY EDUCATION Subcommittee of the House Education and Workforce Committee	audrey.hazel@mail.house.gov	Rachael.Bomstein@mail.house.gov
14		Florida	Republican	Chairman, EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY, AND SECONDARY EDUCATION Subcommittee of the House Education and Workforce Committee	Lobby.Donahood@mail.house.gov	james.thomas@mail.house.gov
15						
16						
17		Virginia	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		brent.robinson@mail.house.gov
18		South Carolina	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		stephanie.pennatarini@mail.house.gov
19		Missouri	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		molly.joseph@mail.house.gov
20		Pennsylvania	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		son.hylant@mail.house.gov
21		Florida	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		twinkle.patel@mail.house.gov
22		Florida	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		hannah.morrow@mail.house.gov
23		Pennsylvania	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus and Co-Chair, Military Mental Health Task Force		mike.d'orsazio@mail.house.gov
24		West Virginia	Republican	Member of Mental Health Caucus		max.pedrotti@mail.house.gov

Lobbying/Advocacy Tactics

- Leveraging a diverse, intergenerational set of partners
- Controlling the media narrative by pushing op-eds framing the resolution around stories from impacted communities
- Writing letters to Congress, stories for local news agencies, floor alerts, etc.. that consistently uplift the message we were trying to convey





Looking Ahead

H.Res.434 has....

- 26 bipartisan cosponsors
- over 300 legislative offices engaged
- over 150 meetings between legislators & impacted youth
- 50+ stakeholders engaged
- over 3 dozen young advocates engaged

We are continuing to bring more individuals and partners to
our work!

THANK YOU!

we'd love to collaborate!

visit www.youthpowerproject.org for more information about YPP
you can also reach me directly at saanvi@youthpowerproject.org <3