

# YOUTH ACTION NETWORK

2023-2024

## OUR MISSION

United Way's Santa Cruz County Youth Action Network (YAN) is a countywide collaborative of youth and adults working together to promote youth well-being by connecting young people to resources and opportunities to create positive community change and elevating youth voices in decision-making.



@yan\_santacruzcounty



@YAN Santa Cruz County

## OUR GOALS



Increase meaningful participation for youth within Santa Cruz County.



Help youth explore their leadership and increase their skills and capacity.



Support authentic youth engagement and increase youth participation in community-level decision-making and knowledge of decision-making processes.



Promote partnerships between youth organizations and reduce silos



Co-create relationships with adult decision-makers and allies

## YAN STRUCTURE

### United Way of SCC Initiative

United Way of Santa Cruz County will support logistics, collaboration, and coordination between YAN Youth leaders, community-based organizations, and adult decision-makers.

### YAN Adult Allies & Local Leaders

System leaders and local Jurisdictional Representatives from mid, south, and north county will support the work of the Youth Action Network to increase youth voice within local decision making.

### YAN Steering Committee

The YAN Steering committee comprises youth leaders from across the County that will guide the work of YAN and decide what projects, activities, research projects, and capacity-building sessions YAN will conduct.

### The Network

The broader Network comprises organizations and agencies committed to amplifying youth voices and increasing youth well-being. YAN promotes other agencies' youth-centered programming and events to support collaboration and reduce silos. Through the Network, YAN is working to shift from adults solely making decisions that impact youth to youth and adults working together. YAN is also working to increase youth-adult partnership best practices across the County.