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HHS Commissioner

**CITY OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Department of Health and Human Services**  
**Division of Youth Opportunities**

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**City Manager's Youth Advisory Commission**

Tuesday, March 18th, 2025 at 3pm

**Zoom link:**

<https://clarku.zoom.us/j/96715184204>

**DYO Mission**

Collaborate and influence systems, stakeholders and the Worcester community to create justice for youth.

**DYO Vision**

Through community driven efforts, leverage resources to support youth-centered opportunities that create equity.

**Commission Goals 2025**

1. Learning the process for the youth agenda, identify areas of needs, and assist in completion of the project.
  2. Recruit commission members to full membership.
  3. Help coordinate the strategy and direction of the Worcester Youth Violence Prevention Initiative.
  4. Align with LGBTQ+ sanctuary city & what does that mean for youth?
- I. **Call meeting to order - Permission to Record! - Present**
    - A.
  - II. **January minutes and notes -**
  - III. **Update on previous action items -**
    - A. DYO - Member Recruitment - Jenn Safford to check in with Danielle Delgado from Youth Connect about who can be a good representative from Youth Serving Agencies
  - IV. **Updates -**

## A. DYO -

### 1. Recreation Worcester -

- a) Recreation Worcester is celebrating its 10 year anniversary and will be using a new logo this year because of it. The city manager's communications team is going to help with putting out information and will come to the parks in the summer to take pictures and videos.
- b) Interviews for admin assistants and a case manager are currently happening and will continue for another week or 2.
- c) Curriculum is currently about 60% done for the summer. This year the curriculum is fully revamped, hopefully bringing more coordination and structure to the program.
- d) Job postings for summer positions should be up in a week or 2 as we will start interviews around the first week of april. This year we are exploring a group interview style since the one on one was very time consuming and DYO was conducting up to 300 interviews in a month and a half. This is to protect the capacity of the staff, given that we also have other things going on.
- e) There have been multiple summer program partner meetings happening, which will help with some of the activities. One of the partners will be girls scouts who will have sessions with the young girls in the camp. DYO is looking for partners that can help with a session for the boys, similar to what girl scouts is doing, but does not have to be the same.
- f) There will be a bravehearts field trip day
- g) The Mentorship Leadership Experience (MLE) portion of Recreation Worcester will also have a fully revamped curriculum which will include a lot of field trips. They will be visiting every Rec Woo site as well as other spaces they can learn from in what it is to be a youth worker.
- h) **Worcester Cares 4 Kids** - this last cohort finished and we will not be hosting another cohort for now.

### 2. Grants -

- a) **SSYI** - There have been a few meetings with the state regarding how things are going with the grant. This is a procurement year and DYO will have one month to put the proposal together. One of the sentiments in the conversations going on is, does this decentralized version of SSYI work? Should we work on finding a lead agency? DYO is working to figure this out though this next month.
- b) **Shannon CSI** - DYO continues to work on changing the RFP process for this upcoming year. Contracts have not been sent to partner agencies yet as they are being reviewed by the law department.

### 3. Youth Council - Youth council is working to put together the youth convention on April 24th. They are working to put together each individual

workshop and preparing the questions they will be asking to create conversations about the workshops. They will be using this information to put together the report to the city manager.

- B. Youth Violence Prevention -**
  - 1. CAB -
  - 2. Governance Council -
- C. Youth Agenda -**
  - 1. Where do you see an opportunity for us as a commission to play a role?
  - 2. Can we support any community engagement?
- D. School Updates -**
- V. Based on the updates above, are there opportunities for:**
  - A. Community Engagement?**
  - B. Advocacy?**
  - C. Support?**
- VI. Youth Advisory Commission attendance & recruitment -**
  - A. Member Recruitment - Jenn Safford to check in with Danielle Delgado from Youth Connect about who can be a good representative from Youth Serving Agencies
- VII. Recommendations from Youth Advisory Commission -**
  - A. DYD -**
  - B. Youth Violence Prevention -**
- VIII. Announcement -**
  - A. Worcester Youth Conference is April 24th. The Youth Council is formally inviting Youth Advisory Commission members to attend.
- IX. Action Items -**
  - A. Member Recruitment - Jenn Safford to check in with Danielle Delgado from Youth Connect about who can be a good representative from Youth Serving Agencies
- X. Adjournment - Motion to adjourn -**