

What is a Youth Ambassador?

Youth Ambassadors are the most important parts of the Center on Youth Voice, Youth Choice (CYVYC) Project!

CYVYC Youth Ambassadors are young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD). They are messengers to help people with IDD make more of their own decisions. They will help teach people about supported decision-making and ways to avoid guardianship. They will work together with their State Team to make changes that will help their State support people's right to make their own decisions.

What will a Youth Ambassador do?

Youth Ambassadors will work with their state teams and mentors to make change happen. They will:

- 1. LEARN!**
- 2. ACT!**
- 3. THINK!**

I. LEARN!

Youth Ambassadors will get trained by Self Advocates Becoming Empowered (SABE) trainers.

- They will participate in approximately 12 online sessions, each for 90 minutes.
- The training will be remote.
- The training will cover topics like leadership, self-advocacy, and ways to avoid guardianship.
- Youth Ambassadors will make action plans for advocating in their communities with their State Teams.

2. ACT!

Youth Ambassadors will use their action plans to spread the word about alternatives to guardianship.

- Youth Ambassadors will work with their State Teams to carry out their plans.
- Youth Ambassadors will share their stories to inspire others.
- Youth Ambassadors will check in regularly with one another and with SABE trainers to share their progress.

3. THINK!

Youth Ambassadors will make a report about what they did and what they learned.

- Youth Ambassadors will work with SABE trainers to record their experiences.
- Youth Ambassadors will share their reports with their state teams.
- Youth Ambassadors will have the chance to share their experiences at a SABE conference.

Do Youth Ambassadors get paid?

Yes! Youth Ambassadors will receive a stipend of \$750 for their participation.

How do I know if I am a good candidate to be a Youth Ambassador?

- Are you between the ages of 14-26?
- Do you identify as a person with an intellectual or developmental disability?
- Do you want to learn more about ways people with IDD can avoid guardianship?
- Do you live in Indiana, Michigan, New Jersey, Oregon, or South Carolina?

If you answered “yes” to all of these questions, you are a good candidate!

Where can I learn more about the CYVYC project?

Visit: <https://youth-voice.org/>

Who can I email at the CYVYC project for more information?

- Juliana Huereña: julianahuerena@sabeusa.org
- Allison Hall: Allison.hall@umb.edu

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YOUTH VOICE
YOUTH CHOICE

INSTITUTE FOR COMMUNITY INCLUSION, UMASS BOSTON

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