

Community Guide Series

HANCOCK COUNTY YOUTH ENGAGEMENT GUIDE

FALL
2023



“...no expectations and no stress.”

Welcome! The purpose of this Guide is to help better equip the caregivers and adults who work alongside youth in Hancock County. This Guide will provide information on opportunities that exist throughout the area, and how to get connected to them.

How to use this Guide:

- Share the opportunities with your followers through social media.
- Distribute copies to key community partners working with children and families, including schools, public health agencies, family therapists, foster care, scout leaders, coaches, media representatives, faith communities, and policymakers.
- Use the Guide as a topic for discussion at professional meetings including staff meetings, parent meetings, youth group meetings, and/or community planning meetings.
- Share this Guide with folks that work with youth as an avenue to connect youth who may be demonstrating early risk behaviors including: treatment providers, school disciplinary officers, etc.
- Provide copies of this Guide to those who regularly connect with parents including employers, faith communities, and pediatrician offices.
- Use the information in the Guide when developing your own media kits, press releases, and other public awareness tools.
- Make the Guide available in the community. Don't forget places where families frequent including the farmers' market, libraries, and places of worship.
- Share the Guide at youth meetings including student council, youth groups at local churches, and volunteer service groups. Youth have shared that in-person discussion about these opportunities is key.
- Present to all 7th grade and 9th grade health classes.
- Email communications@frcoho.org to share any updates/additions that may be helpful to the guide.

Just a place where YOU can be YOU."

AGES
13-18



We believe that youth need a place to just be. At the Loft, all are welcomed with no expectations and no stress. Just a place where you can be you.

The Loft is a place for youth (ages 13-18) to be themselves and connect with other young people from diverse backgrounds and similar life experiences. The Loft offers support for youth impacted by mental health, addiction, and/or trauma-related issues. You can also find activities including free crafts, game nights, air-hockey and more. The Loft is operated by FOCUS Recovery and Wellness Center.

When & where: The Loft is located at 129 E. Crawford Street 4th Floor. It is open Monday - Friday from 3 - 6 p.m. Please call or visit the website to verify the location.

Get involved: No need to sign-up or be invited. Just show up. All are welcome. For more info call FOCUS at 419-423-5071 or The Loft at 567-250-8530. Or you can email Stacy Myers at stacy@focusrwc.org.

Learn more: www.focusrwc.org

AGES
13-18



LGBTQ+ Youth Support Group

Our mission is to empower our diverse community to lead healthy, successful lives through focused resources, inclusive activities, and a vibrant supportive network serving Findlay and the surrounding communities.

Our groups programming allows individuals to come together and learn from group facilitators and other group members, as well as share stories, experiences and advice. We hope that in any LGBTQ+ Spectrum of Findlay group that everyone knows that they have a voice, they are always welcome, and that they are never alone.

When & where: Youth Group runs the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month 7-8:30pm at The Loft on Crawford Street.

Get involved: Email the team at contact@spectrumoffindlaylgbt.org or message us on Facebook. You can also call 419-408-5568.

Learn more:

www.spectrumoffindlaylgbt.org

“Youth can motivate others through their voices of experience.”



YOUTH MOVE NATIONAL™

AGES
14-26

We believe strongly that youth are the leaders of today, not tomorrow; all youth should be equal partners in the process of change; and that youth can motivate others through their voices of experience.

YouthMOVE is a youth-led program devoted to improving services and systems to support youth inclusion, mental wellness, positive supports, and healthy transition. Our mission is to empower and unite the voices of youths and young adults who have lived experience in various systems – including mental health, juvenile justice, education, and child welfare.

When & Where: Bimonthly (2nd and 4th Mondays) from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at 305 W Hardin St, Findlay, OH 45840

Get involved: Contact Clayton at clayton@namihancockcounty.org

Learn more: namihancockcounty.org/programs

YouthMove Support Group

Youth Support Group is a free and confidential program open to young people. Come join us for encouragement, solace and community. Youth Support Group will be led by YouthMOVE mentors, and will be accessible in-person and virtually. RSVP for a free meal!

When & Where: Bimonthly (2nd and 4th Mondays) from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at 305 W Hardin St, Findlay, OH 45840

Learn More: Contact Clayton at clayton@namihancockcounty.org

**“Youth are the
leaders of TODAY,
not tomorrow.”**

**AGES
6-14**



It is our vision that every qualified child will be actively engaged in a mentoring relationship designed to enhance their personal growth as competent, caring, and confident individuals.

Volunteers and children work together in an asset-building relationship in the areas of growth and development, prevention, life-skills, problem solving, and decision making. Youth with mentors have increased the likelihood of going to college, better attitudes toward school, increased social and emotional development, and improved self-esteem. Mentoring is provided by Children's Mentoring Connection (CMC).

Get involved: To become a mentor or to be matched with a mentor, contact Stacy Shaw stacy@hancockmentors.org or call 419-424-9752

Learn more: www.cmchancock.org



GRADES
10-11

A program designed for students to gain valuable experience and develop crucial leadership skills.

Hancock Youth Leadership is provided by the Hancock County Chamber of Commerce. The Hancock Youth Leadership Program has served as an investment in the future of Findlay and Hancock County. By giving a select group of high school students the hands-on experience they need to develop their leadership and communications skills. HYL is the motivating force creating positive role models and future leaders committed to their civic responsibilities.

Get involved/learn more:

www.findlayhancockchamber.com/hyl



**United Way
of Hancock County**

Volunteer Opportunities

United Way of Hancock County's volunteer center, Volunteers United, can match you with the service opportunity that is right for you. This is a great way to fulfill needed volunteer hours for high school and college. Whether you have a passion in a

certain area, want to try something new, or want to meet new people, we'll help you find the right match. Register as a volunteer online and you will receive a phone call to discuss your interests.

Get involved/learn more:

Email Sarah Mayle sarah.mayle@uwhancock.org, call 419-423-1432, or visit **liveunitedhancockcounty.org/volunteers-united-registration-form**

ALL
AGES



The Community Guide Series is a Hancock County System of Care Grant Project brought to you by Family Resource Center.

You can find digital versions at hancockhelps.org and frcoho.org.

To request printed copies, please email Family Resource Center's Communications Team at communications@frcoho.org.