Where's the Action?

Who are we?

- We started up in 2018 in Columbus, OH with support from YHDP.
- We currently have around eight members, ages 18 to 24. We are a racially mixed group that includes former foster youth, youth with lived experience of juvenile justice, and parenting youth.

How we operate

- Currently, we are funded by the City of Columbus, the Attorney General’s office, and philanthropic foundations. Each YAB member is paid $15/hour. Funding also covers transportation and food for our meetings.
- We meet at the library twice a month. Once a month, there is also an Executive YAB meeting, with up to six members who help with planning and facilitation.
- The YAB makes decisions by voting or consensus, depending on the topic. One YAB member sits on the Continuum of Care.

Our 3 Biggest Successes

- The YAB is fully involved in our community’s efforts to end youth homelessness, including reviewing proposals and providing technical assistance.
- We’ve been able to connect YAB members with housing opportunities and...
- maintain funding to pay for the YAB.

The Gab on YABs

Our 3 Biggest Challenges

- It is sometimes a challenge for YAB members to contribute in meetings.
- We can’t always offer YAB members services they may need.
- Transportation is an ongoing issue.

What makes us unique

- Our bylaws define diversity so that we can work on this intentionally in our recruitment efforts via youth-serving partners.