

2019-2020 | SCHOOL YEAR

YOUTH MEDIATORS IN SCHOOLS

~ REFER ~ RESPECT ~ RESOLVE ~



- TRAIN
- SUPPORT
- IMPLEMENT MEDIATION CENTERS IN SCHOOLS

It's Been a Great Year!

This school year has been one of great growth and expansion for the Youth Mediators in Schools program. Currently, fourteen schools throughout the San Juan, Folsom-Cordova, and Natomas School Districts, as well as Al-Arqam and the Rex and Margaret Fortune Early College High School, have established peer mediation programs through YMS. Over 300 students have been trained this year in communication, conflict resolution, and mediation skills, preparing them to be able to serve as peer mediators in their schools. Expert trainers from California Lawyers for the Arts utilize an innovative six-hour Immersion Training model to prepare students to guide their peers toward a peaceful resolution to their conflicts.

The Immersion Training lessons are designed to provide learning opportunities through instruction, role play, empathy, and communication activities using an age appropriate curriculum modeled after CLA's Basic Mediation Skills Training.



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PEER MEDIATION IN ACTION

"Youth Mediators in Schools has been a conflict mediation program in SJUSD since 2013, promoting social skill building in areas of communication, conflict resolution and mediation. School staff report students being excited to learn new techniques. Students have expressed using these new skills

to help solve personal issues on and off campus. The ongoing support and training has helped increase a positive school climate which strengthens relationships between students and staff. The YMS training helps prepare student mediators by teaching new skills they can use to address issues and problems in their lives.

With regularly scheduled training meetings, students stay focused on mediation tactics and can work to improve their new set of skills. YMS is a great program advocating positive change in school climate and surrounding communities."

-Gaylon Johnson, Prevention Programs Supervisor, SJUSD

STUDENTS SPEAK!



"I learned how to listen to people and try to understand where they're coming from." --Al-Arqam Islamic School & College Prep

"...it will help because if a situation happens we know how to help resolve it without getting anyone else involved." --Mills Middle School

"I like being in the YMS training because it's a chance to help problems before they become extreme problems."-- Natomas Middle School

YMS Refresher Training

After students complete the six-hour Immersion Training, they're ready to become peer mediators in their schools! It's very important that students continually practice their new mediation skills so YMS provides monthly refresher training sessions during which the students are able to practice

co-mediating and the Immersion Training concepts are reinforced. This is also a great time for the students and teachers to collectively brainstorm ideas for ways to promote YMS within their schools, so that every student on campus can benefit from peer mediation.



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