

NEWS RELEASE
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HANOVER YOUTH SERVICE COUNCIL ACCEPTING NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

The Hanover Youth Service Council (HYSC) is now accepting applications for new membership for middle and high school students interested in creating change, serving the community and inspiring others through volunteerism.

HYSC is a youth-led countywide organization that consists of up to 35 middle and high school students selected for their dedication to service and leadership. Any youth, who is a rising 7th grader through 12th grader, and who currently resides in Hanover County and/or attends a Hanover school is eligible to apply.

This year, the Council is only recruiting for four available membership openings. New members are peer selected by a panel of judges that serve on the Council.

Through teamwork and commitment, HYSC members promote service and address needs within Hanover County and surrounding areas by planning and conducting monthly service projects. Examples of past projects include coordination of "Senior Senior Prom," an intergenerational project of dancing and games with nursing home residents, an annual spaghetti dinner and bingo for guests of the Hospital Hospitality House (an organization in downtown Richmond that provides safe, affordable, comfortable lodging for families in medical crisis), participation in Winterization, animal rescue projects and character building programs for at-risk youth, as well as facilitation of the annual countywide School Supply Drive for Hanover elementary school students.

Applications are available in the Guidance Departments of all Hanover County Middle and High Schools, or by contacting the Hanover Department of Community Resources at 365-4300 or visiting **www.co.hanover.va.us/commres/default.htm** to download the application. The deadline for submitting applications is Friday, April 15, 2011 at 5:00 p.m.

Since its inception in 1998, HYSC members have volunteered more than 7,000 hours in the community and are sponsored through the Hanover County Department of Community Resources, Hanover's Volunteer Center. For more information about HYSC, contact Laura Robertson, Youth Service Specialist at 804-365-4180 or e-mail larobertson@co.hanover.va.us.