



2011-2012 Hanover Youth Service Council Info and Application

What is the Hanover Youth Service Council?

The Hanover Youth Service Council (HYSC) is a youth-led countywide organization that consists of 35 middle and high school students selected for their dedication to service and leadership. HYSC members promote service and address needs within Hanover County and beyond by planning and conducting various monthly service projects (issue areas include: animal welfare, seniors, the environment, community building, at-risk youth and more). Since its beginning in 1998, HYSC members have volunteered more than 7,000 hours in the community.

Who can apply for the Hanover Youth Service Council?

Are you interested in creating change, serving your community and inspiring others through volunteerism? Any youth, who is a rising 7th grader through 12th grader, who currently resides in Hanover County and/or attends a Hanover school is eligible to apply.

How much of a commitment is the Hanover Youth Service Council?

It is a privilege to serve on HYSC and the responsibility is not to be taken lightly. Members are expected to attend at least 67% of meetings *and* projects. In addition to scheduled service projects (there is at least one project per month), HYSC meets monthly to discuss, plan and coordinate upcoming projects. HYSC meetings are scheduled the first Wednesday of each month from 7:30-8:30 p.m.

How are new members selected?

For 2011 -2012 the Council has a total of four membership openings available. New members are peer-selected by a panel of Hanover Youth Service Council members. Applications are reviewed and scored using a rubric. Responses that thoroughly address the points in the question, are well-organized, elaborate and effectively communicate with panel members will score the most points. The highest scoring candidates will be invited to the Group Interview/Information Meeting. Candidates will learn more about the Council, participate in group activities and individual interviews. This round will be scored based upon interaction and interviews. Once selected, as long as you are a member in good standing, your membership is automatically renewed each school year.

Application Timeline and Important Dates

If invited to proceed to the second round of the membership process, all prospective candidates will be **required** to attend the following Group Interview/Information Meeting. Please make note of these dates when determining your ability to participate on the council.

Application deadline:

Friday, April 15, 2011 (must be postmarked or received by)

Notification of selection for the second round of the application process:

Last week in April 2011

Group Interview/Information meeting for prospective candidates:

Wednesday, May 18, 2011 @ 7 p.m.

Final notification of candidates:

Last week in May 2011/First week in June

First meeting:

Wednesday, July 6, 2011 7:30-8:30pm

Team building activity for new and current members:

July – TBA

Questions

Contact the HYSC advisor, Laura Robertson, at 365-4180 or larobertson@co.hanover.va.us with questions regarding the application or concerns with schedule conflicts.



2011-2012 Membership Application

Please read the attached Information sheet before filling out this application.

Biographical Information

Name

Date of Birth

Home Address

E-mail

Home Phone

School

Year/Grade in School

Approximate Cumulative GPA

Do you drive? If no, will transportation to meetings, etc. be a problem?

How did you hear about HYSC?

Have you applied in the past, and if so, how many times?

Please list other extracurricular activities/jobs/organizations, etc. you are presently involved with:

Please type out the following questions and your answers on a separate piece of paper. Or, contact lrobertson@co.hanover.va.us if you would like an electronic copy of the application.

Discussion Questions

1. List and describe your previous service experience. If no prior experience, that's ok, just explain your current interest in community service and why you wish to become involved.
2. Think of a high point or "peak experience" in which you felt most energized and excited to be involved in making a positive difference.
 - a. What was the experience?
 - b. What made the experience especially memorable to you?
 - c. What strengths or talents did you share or develop?
3. Why do you want to be a member of HYSC?

4. Without being humble, what do you value most about yourself as a family member, friend, student, citizen and so on? (*i.e. What are your best qualities?*)
5. What causes and issues do you feel most passionate about and why? (*There are no wrong answers.*)
6. Do you have any suggestions for new HYSC projects or partnerships? What are some ideas in how HYSC can make a bigger impact on the community?

Letters of Recommendation

Each applicant must provide two (2) letters of recommendation with their application. These recommendation letters can come from any ADULT, other than a relative, who has worked with the applicant on a one-on-one basis. Applicants are responsible for including the recommendation letters in the application packet or ensuring letters are received by the recommenders in a timely manner.

Verification

Applicant: I verify that the information in the above application is correct. I have read and understand the attached Information Sheet about the Hanover Youth Service Council, and I am interested in proceeding further in the selection process. Parent: I understand that my child is applying for this program and I agree to allow my child to participate if he/she is selected. Note: If selected, an emergency medical form will be provided to parents for signature.

Applicant Signature _____ Date

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date

Ready to Submit Your Application?

Be sure to include the following in your application packet:

- Application Form (with all questions answered)
- Two Letters of Recommendation
- Signed Verification

Send completed application packets to:

Hanover County Department of Community Resources
 12310 Washington Highway
 Ashland, VA 23005

Fax: (804) 365-4299 fax

Email: larobertson@co.hanover.va.us

****All applications must be postmarked or received by Friday, April 15, 2011****

hysc11