

Meet our 2026-27 Youth Advocates

Young people bring important perspectives to the conversations and decisions that shape our community. Through the Norwalk ACTS Youth Advocate program, local high school students can strengthen their leadership skills, connect with peers, learn about issues affecting local youth, and help elevate youth voice in community discussions and initiatives. The Youth Advocate program is a component of Norwalk ACTS' Social Emotional Health (SEH) Initiative, which strives to convene and provide resources that develop the social emotional skills of Norwalk's children and families that are essential for lifelong success.

We are excited to introduce this year's Youth Advocate cohort! Representing different schools, interests, and experiences, each student brings a unique perspective and a shared commitment to making a positive impact in Norwalk. Throughout the year, they will share their ideas, participate in local policy and advocacy initiatives, contribute their lived experience, and help strengthen the connection between young people and the community organizations, leaders, and systems that serve them.

Meet Sam Agbobli



Samuel is a ninth grader at Norwalk High School. He enjoys trying different foods and spending time exploring his interests. He joined the Youth Advocate program to learn more about his community and discover ways to grow as a leader. One of his favorite quotes is from Mick Rory which says, "You can't change the things

you did. But you can change what you become." Sam hopes to bring that mindset of growth and self-improvement to his experience as a Youth Advocate.

Meet Danna Avila



Danna is a junior at Brien McMahon High School and loves running and playing field hockey. As an athlete, she understands the value of leadership, commitment, and supporting her teammates. Danna hopes to bring those same qualities to her role as a Youth Advocate while helping create opportunities for other young people in Norwalk.

Meet Shafin Chowdhury



Shafin is a junior at Brien McMahon High School with a passion for engineering. He enjoys solving problems and thinking creatively about how systems can work better. Shafin joined the Youth Advocate program because he wants to better understand the challenges facing local youth and contribute ideas that can help strengthen the community.

Meet Jasmine Fair



Jasmine is a senior at Brien McMahon High School and brings enthusiasm and curiosity to everything she does. She enjoys roller coasters, loves the winter season, and is always eager to experience something new. Returning for her second year as a Youth Advocate, Jasmine looks forward to deepening her understanding of the community she calls home, celebrating its strengths, and learning more about the challenges it faces.

Meet Blerta Hoxha



Blerta is a senior at P-TECH and a returning Youth Advocate. She enjoys connecting with others and building new relationships. During her second year in the program, Blerta looks forward to learning even more about her community and welcoming students who are new to the Youth Advocate experience.

Meet Londyn McCrae



Londyn is a ninth-grade student at P-TECH who loves traveling, spending time with friends, and trying new things. She hopes the Youth Advocate program will introduce her to new experiences and help her learn more about her community. Londyn is also excited for the opportunity to grow alongside her peers and expand her social and emotional skills.

Meet Hiya Patel



Hiya is a senior at P-TECH who is eager to learn more about her community and discover new ways to get involved. She enjoys traveling and exploring new places, and she brings that same sense of curiosity to her role as a Youth Advocate. Hiya looks forward to learning more about Norwalk and finding ways to make a positive impact.

We look forward to working with this talented group of young leaders, learning from their experiences and ideas, and partnering with them to help shape a brighter future for Norwalk.