

Thriving Youth & Communities (TYC Program)

WORKING TOGETHER TO BUILD SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES WHERE YOUTH CAN THRIVE

The TYC program provides Santa Cruz City Schools with an avenue to support youth wellbeing, connect to school and community, and to reduce disciplinary incidents. Through a trauma-informed culturally and developmentally responsive model the program will support our student's academic, social and emotional wellness.

Three pathways provide services for all levels of need:

Pathway 1: Prevention - 8 weeks - Stanford Cannabis Toolkit and Invincible Youth interactive activities.

Pathway 2: Intervention- The Seven Challenges substance use program and Invincible Youth designed to motivate youth to evaluate their lives, consider the changes they wish to make and succeed in achieving goals.

Pathway 3: Cessation- 8 sessions of *Project EX*, a smoking and vaping cessation program.

Initial and ongoing assessments to best support student wellbeing.

Students may participate simultaneously between Pathways 2 and 3, intervention and cessation.

Invincible Youth and Friday Night Live are available to all students to build school connection and skills.

Supporting Our Students



Anyone can refer students and student self referrals are encouraged.

As front-line staff, engaging with youth daily, you can support students to reach their full potential.



Shifting the perception that everyone Uses.

The majority of our students do not use cannabis, in 2019, 81% of our 11th grade youth reported **not** using marijuana in the past 30 days.



Assessments and Pathways will occur both during and after school.

TYC Rapid Response Team members will conduct virtual or in-person assessments with youth and identify the appropriate pathway. Sessions will be on-going for youth to join at any point.



Intervene with students prior to referrals for disciplinary incidents.

Ease of access to substances is a key factor in youth use. In 2019, 65% of Santa Cruz City School 9th graders reported "fairly easy" to "very easy" access to cannabis. Students using or misusing substances can be supported as well as those facing disciplinary actions.



Complete a Referral Form Using this Link

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Partners



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Santa Cruz County



Who Qualifies for this Program?

Santa Cruz City
School Students
Middle and High School
Age Youth (ages 12-18)

How To Make a
Referral
Complete a Referral
Form Using this Link



Goals and Outcomes

Improve youth wellbeing and positive youth development by increasing protective factors and decreasing risk factors

If we

Engage cannabis using teens and complete intake and assessment

Then

Divert teens into one of three pathways

We will see

Increased understanding of the impacts of cannabis, Increased refusal skills, Decreased cannabis use and Increased youth connectedness

Prevent youth involvement in the juvenile justice system

If we

Engage system partners (schools, probation, law enforcement)

Then

Conduct outreach about TYC, Train partners on deferment program. Prevention/intervention strategies, referral process and supportive youth development strategies

We will see

Decrease in suspensions, Decrease in juvenile probation engagement, System Partners diverting youth to prevention/intervention/treatment resources.

Have Questions or Need Additional Information:

For Referral Questions Contact Adriana Mata
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For Programmatic Questions Contact Monica Nicholas
831-359-8450 or Monica.Nicholas@santacruzcounty.us