

YAC Grant Priorities

The Youth Advisory Council compiled and assessed data from the 2023 Ottawa County Youth Assessment Survey to create the following priority areas:



COMMUNITY & CULTURAL WELL-BEING

- **Diversity, Equity & Inclusion:** Programs that embrace, celebrate, or educate on cultural differences in our community.
- **Social Engagement & Outreach:** Programs that provide opportunities for students to engage, empower, and create youth communities.



MENTAL & EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

- **Stress Management:** Programs that support students' ability to manage the pressure to succeed academically. The YAC will place specific emphasis on programs that incorporate post secondary and career readiness, social-emotional curriculum, time management and coping skills.
- **Bullying:** Programs that help to educate students on the harmful effects of bullying both in person and via social media.
- **Mental Health:** Programs concerning mental health issues such as depression, suicide, anxiety, and self-harm. The YAC is looking to support programs that incorporate mindfulness, coping skills, self-care, healthy daily routines.
- **Relationships:** Programs that support education on healthy romantic relationships, positive role models, and the importance of relationships that encourage emotional well-being.



PHYSICAL WELL-BEING

- **Nutrition and Wellness:** Programs related to healthy eating and lifestyle, sleep, and the importance of physical activity.
- **Social Media Use:** Programs related to decreased screen time and positive social media interactions. Also, programs that aim to track social media use and the effects it has on students' mental health.
- **Body Image:** Programs that seek to educate and decrease the effects of social media on students' body image.
- **Safety:** Programs that educate on the dangers of distracted driving, dating violence, physical & emotional abuse, and human trafficking.
- **Substance Abuse:** Programs that address the importance of education, prevention, and treatment for marijuana, electronic vaping, and alcohol.