

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	May 16, 2022
Action Required:	Report
Presenter:	Hans Bai, Youth Council Member Zaneyah Bryant, Youth Council Member Harrison Greenhoe, Youth Council Member Caroline Jaffe, Youth Council Member Eve Keesecker, Youth Council Member Nicole King, Youth Council Member Christopher Procino, Youth Council Member
Staff Contacts:	Misty Graves, Director Dept. of Human Services
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Youth Council Year End Report</b>

**Background:**

In 2012, Charlottesville Alliance for Black Male Achievement, City Council, and the City Manager prioritized Black male achievement. The Alliance believes that when we all utilize our individual talents, and work together as a mighty fist, we can knock out the defeatist attitude of some, and empower our young men! Charlottesville Alliance for Black Male Achievement is dedicated to tackling long-standing systemic barriers to Black Male Achievement, so all young Black men have equal opportunity to lead successful and meaningful lives. The role of the Youth Opportunity Coordinator is to create equitable access to opportunities within the city and dismantle systemic barriers to achievement for our young people. The Youth Opportunity Coordinator also oversees the Youth Council. This group advises Council, informs the community about issues that affect youth, and makes recommendations on how they feel Charlottesville can be a better city. Youth who serve on the Council meet monthly, receive leadership training, are given opportunities to travel to national Youth Council conferences, and have the chance to make a real difference in our community. Currently, Youth Council is comprised of seven Charlottesville City residents between the ages of 13 and 17. They attend Charlottesville High School and St. Anne's Belfield.

**Discussion:**

This year's cohort of Youth Council wanted to gain a greater sense of what is going on in the local community and look for ways to become ambassadors and advocates for local causes. The intention of the final report is to share the knowledge they gained with their community as well as to help local organizations with recruitment and volunteering. Youth Council intentionally chose to engage in learning outside of the school system and to create opportunities to branch out and learn about the rich resources Charlottesville has to offer.

### **Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan:**

The Youth Council supports City Council's "Community of Mutual Respect" vision. It contributes to Goal 1: an inclusive community of self-sufficient residents specifically objective 1.1 prepare students for academic and vocational success and 1.5 intentionally address issues of race and equity. It also contributes to Goal 5: A well-managed and responsive organization, specifically 5.4 foster effective community engagement.

### **Community Engagement:**

Over the course of this year, Youth Council hosted a variety of community organizations not only to gain information and insight about resources, but also to dive in to how these organizations impact and intersect with youth. Presentations included:

- H.E.R Sports
- Community Attention Youth Internship Program
- Police Civilian Oversight Board
- Blue Ridge Health District
- Prolyfyck
- Sexual Assault Response Agency
- Shelter for Help in Emergency

### **Budgetary Impact:**

This report has no budgetary impact.

### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends continued support of Youth Council efforts.

### **Alternatives:**

N/A

### **Attachments:**

N/A