Introduction presentation

Hello everyone! Welcome to the Amplifying Youth Community Engagement Workshop, thank you so much for coming. Today we're going to discuss how and why you can get engaged in your community and become a better Civic participant. We'll discuss the importance of Youth Community engagement, hear from guest speakers, discuss the methods we can use to become engaged in our community, and finally, each of you will work on a small community engagement project with each other to start down the path of community engagement. I'm so excited to get started, so let's jump right in!

Today we will be discussing how we as young people can amplify our voices and make meaningful change in our communities. We'll be talking all about the how and where and to whom later, but for now we need to talk about the why. Why is it so critical that we as individuals take steps to make our communities a better place? Especially because we're kids and because of that it's often perceived that we don't have the resources or authority to organize large-scale change. In short, why is civil engagement vital to our communities? Before we start to answer these questions, I want to start off with an introduction to civic engagement as a whole. I'm going to play this video on the subject, and then we'll come back together and move forward.

So. In short, civic engagement is involvement in one's community, in all its forms. Civic engagement can be entire groups or organizations working together, or it can be the small actions taken by everyday individuals like you and me. It can involve politics from all areas of the political spectrum, but it certainly doesn't have to. You don't have to be super passionate about politics to want the best for your community and to be committed to doing your part to achieve that. Ultimately, all you need to become a civil servant is the desire to make your community a better place to live.

America, fortunately for us, is a democracy; which I believe to be a great achievement in government historically speaking as well as credit to our lives. The beautiful thing about democracy is that we have the opportunity to influence how things are run, and this begins on a community level. So the point is we *can* make a change and more than that we should. Not everyone has to be a protest organizer or a candidate for public office. But every individual has the option of taking small actions in their everyday lives that when taken together have the opportunity to drive real change. And young people are by no means exceptions to this reality.

More than exceptions, the undeniable fact is that young people have always been at the forefront of change in our society. Young people have an acute sense of justice when it comes to society's issues. We can look at the world with fresh eyes, and see its problems as wrongs that can and should be righted. There is no reason in our minds why change isn't possible now, so we are eager to get involved. The fresh perspective young people bring to the world gives us a unique ability to think up creative solutions. Unconstrained by deep-rooted societal norms, youth can come up with new ideas and methods to better our communities. We have an important perspective; many of today's greatest social issues have a particular impact on young people. Our perspective and

voice is critical to incorporate in the solution to any community issue, because it reveals new dimensions of each issue and can drive change.

So I want to go through some historical examples of youth driving change in our society. On the left we can see an image from the Sit-In protests from the civil rights movement in the 60s, which was a movement that originated when young, college age African American students staged a sit-in at a segregated Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, and refused to leave after being denied service. The sit-in movement soon spread to college towns throughout the South and were a critical part of the Civil Rights Movement. The Sit-Ins were a critical turning point in Black history and American history, bringing the fight for civil rights to the national stage. Its use of nonviolence inspired others to take up the cause of integration in the South, furthering the cause of equal rights in the United States.

 In the center we can see an image from the March For our Lives, which is a protest that many of you might have participated in during middle school. This protest was organized and largely carried out by young people. March for Our Lives was among the biggest youth-led protests since the Vietnam War era . Estimates of participation at the main event in Washington, D.C., range from 200,000 to 800,000. And the speakers were all high schoolers or younger. The March For Our Lives marked a turning point in America's conversation on guns. And as a result, SAFER GUN LAWS WERE PASSED IN STATES ACROSS THE NATION.
Since the Sandy Hook massacre, lawmakers in states across the country have responded, turning over 280 gun safety bills into law. That trend accelerated in the aftermath of the Parkland shooting, as young leaders demanded action.

Before Parkland and the March for our lives, Florida had some of the weakest gun laws in the country. In 2018, lawmakers approved a legislative package that created an extreme risk protection law, established a higher minimum age for buying firearms, and strengthened waiting periods. Giffords Law Center's *Annual Gun Law Scorecard* raised Florida's grade from an "F" to an "C-" because of this progress. Florida was among eight states to raise its grade in 2018, the first year since 2012 that no state was downgraded an entire grade because of the passage of gun lobby bills. 67 gun safety bills were signed into law in 2018, including by Republican governors in 14 states. In addition, Voter turnout among young people ages 18–29 rose to 31% in the 2018 election, which marked the highest youth turnout in years. Young people across the country funneled their hunger for the change they called for at March For Our Lives into participation at the ballot box on Election Day. This record turnout would not have been possible without organizing by March For Our Lives. No matter how you feel on this particular political issue, it's undeniable the progress made by these students was huge and their effects on society great.

And for our next example, we have the Climate Strike, which again some of your schools may have participated in two years ago. The September 2019 climate strikes, also known as the Global Week for Future, were a series of international strikes and protests to demand action be taken to address climate change, which took place from

20–27 September 2019. The protests took place across 4,500 locations in 150 countries. The event was a part of the school strike for climate movement, inspired by Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg, who just in and of herself is a great example of the power of the youth voice. *The Guardian* reported that roughly 6 million people participated in the events, whilst 350.org—a group that organised many of the protests—claimed that 7.6 million people participated.

The 20 September protests were likely the largest climate strikes in world history. A second wave of protests took place on 27 September, in which an estimated 2 million people took part in over 2,400 protests. Numerous businesses including Ben & Jerry's, Patagonia, and Lush Cosmetics announced they would be closed on 20 September to support the strike. Over 1,700 Amazon employees signed an internal petition pledging to walk out over Amazon's lack of action on climate change. A day before the strike, Amazon CEO, Jeff Bezos, unveiled an extensive new plan to tackle climate change and committed to meet the goals of the UN's Paris Agreement ten years ahead of schedule.

My high school , Patrick Henry, which most of you also attend, actually had our own climate strike as a part of this movement, and I remember that participating in it and just seeing my school come together for a common cause was a very powerful thing. And even though it was just one high school being part of a larger movement, as I just gave examples of these smaller strikes together caused a huge turning point in policy for many companies. And it was student organizers that made it happen. The strike as a whole might have been influenced by bigger names such as Greta Thunberg, but it was people just like you and me who made it happen at my high school and some of yours perhaps. At my school's protest, a student named Dani Nowicki gave a speech that stuck with me when I was composing this presentation where she discussed the power of the youth vote.

In the state of California, you only have to be 16 years old in order to pre-register vote. Dani knew this, and she organized a booth that was open at our school where people could pre-register to vote. This is a powerful example of exactly what I'm talking about; young people taking an action to cause a benefit to their community. Dani saw that young people should be ready to vote when the time comes for them to be 18, and she made it happen. Now we're going to watch a video of Dani speaking on her experience with community service, and hopefully it can give you some guidance and inspiration for the power of civic engagement.

This is exactly what I'm talking about when I talk about civic engagement. Dani took her interest in political

science and applied it to a need she saw in her community, and her action led to more of her peers being registered

to vote when the time came. And in turn, her civic engagement led her to her interests in college. Community

service doesn't have to be something extra you do on the weekends, it can be tied intrinsically to your skills and interests.

So I hope from these examples, both the exemplary ones but also Dani"'s, you can take inspiration for how powerful the youth voice can be. A lot of the movements I discussed were on a larger scale than we'll be discussing today. But you don't have to shape the course of history in order to be a powerful member of your community.

So now that we've talked about the power of the youth voice, let's talk about why it is so important. The youth voice is critical not only to young people, but also to the communities that can benefit from it.

Youth community engagement can benefit everyone who participates in it. Young people who are actively engaged in their communities gain important skills: such as confidence, leadership skills, public speaking skills, and as a result of feeling more integrated in their communities ultimately become better members of society at large. Adults can benefit by learning from young people, and having new perspectives brought to the table that can widen their own personal viewpoints. But the largest benefactors of youth community engagement are our communities themselves. By having input from young people, communities become a more accurate representation of the people who live within them. Young people bring the issues of young people to the table, but also new and fresh perspectives on other matters that can benefit where we live.

And in addition to the importance to the community, "It is clear from the current political and social landscape that youth today crave recognition as equal contributors in shaping a just Society." This quote is from Helgeson and Schneider, two researchers, in a scholarly report titled "Authentic Community-Based Youth Engagement: Lessons From Across the Nation." I wanted to put this quote in here because I think it's 100% true. If there's one thing that brings my hopes up for the future of our world it's the passion that I see from young people on political and social issues. I think you can especially see this on social media, it seems like everyone nowadays is posting the next infographic on their Instagram story (the merits of which we'll discuss later, but nevertheless it's at least a sign of interest). But I can also see it in conversations and debates that I've had with my peers. I'm sure all of you have experienced this in some form or the other, but the days of teenagers not knowing who the vice president is are over. There will probably never be a time again when high school is a bubble from the issues of the world. Perhaps this is a good thing, perhaps not, but it is the state of our society. Young people now have opinions and passion that can and should change the world.

The City of San Diego conducted a series of "Pop-Up Outreach" efforts throughout different neighborhoods of two SD communities. The Pop-Up Outreach Program was inspired by a desire to reach out to the community in non-conventional ways and get resident's feedback on work that was being done in the community. . The outreach methods employed helped foster a dialogue in the community and engaged stakeholders in a format that encouraged them to think about their environment and the community plan.

Pop-Ups consisted of three different unconventional methods of gathering feedback from the community. The first was a Chalkboard Chat, a self-standing chalkboard located at key locations in both communities with questions intended to spark a dialogue. The second was a Feedback Tree that was installed at two key locations in each community for a period of two, half-day feedback sessions (morning and afternoon). City staff, MW Steele staff and student volunteers were present to talk with passersby and hand out information about the community plan update. The pop-up booth provided an opportunity to distribute information about the plan, display maps and other key graphics, and encourage stakeholders to interact with the graphics and staff. The last Pop-Up was a heavy-duty metal suggestion box bolted to parking signs and poles at four distinct locations for a period of one week in each community. A pad of paper and pens were provided at the bottom of each box for community residents and passersby to write their feedback. A thought provoking question was painted on the front of each box in both English and Spanish (e.g. what makes a safe street?). Aside from the fact that these Pop Ups are very creative ways to engage the community, they were also successful.

Overall, the Pop-Up Outreach program was well-received by the community and the goals of collecting community feedback were accomplished. Community residents respected the installations and engaged with them. A principal purpose of the Pop-Up Outreach Program was to reach out to a random sample of stakeholders who may not typically participate in the public process. What I find really interesting about this case study is that outreach was achieved, particularly with a younger demographic. I feel that the success of this project really demonstrates that community members typically are looking for ways to contribute their thoughts and ideas towards civil discourse, and this is especially true amongst young people.

Unfortunately, despite all this, youth voices are often missing in civil conversations.

So why is this? The issue is nuanced, but there are three main reasons that I want to address. The first is the concept that if somebody can't vote there are no other avenues through which they can change things, both in their community and beyond. And while voting is an essential part of our democracy, it is not the be-all end-all for civic engagement. We'll learn more about the ways we as young people who can't vote can get involved later, but first I just really want to highlight the idea that you do not need to vote to be an active member of your community.

The second reason I hear a lot from my peers is that they simply don't have time. And while I certainly understand this argument, it comes from the misconception that to become engaged in your community you have to start these huge projects that can take months or weeks to complete. While this may work for some people, it does not for most of us. I'm in my senior year, currently going through the college application process, and I understand not having time. But there are smaller ways we can become engaged in our communities that anyone can do.

And the last reason that we will largely be addressing today is that most people just simply don't know where to start. We will be going over a lot of the different avenues one can take to further their stance on an issue that they're passionate about, so I hope that by the end of this workshop this issue is no longer a problem for you.

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All right! Now that we have gone over the basics, the why factor, let's start to talk about what you could change in your community. In short, what are you passionate about? This is going to be a discussion-type situation, so I'll have some questions starters for you guys and then we'll kind of popcorn around the room and get everyone's thoughts. The popcorn format I know can be stressful to some people but I really want to get everyone talking right now so what's going to happen is I'll start by picking someone, they'll share their thoughts, and then they'll say the name of another person in the zoom to go next. If you don't have anything to say, that's okay! It's perfectly fine if something doesn't jump to the forefront of your mind, we can all try and contribute at least a little to get the ball rolling. We'll do popcorn for the first question and then from there we'll just let whoever wants to speak to speak. So the first question I have is:

- What bothers you?
- Why?
- What do you want to change about that?

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Up next we have a presentation by our guest speaker! Today's guest speaker is (Name, short bio)

With that introduction, I'll hand over the mic to (Name

<mark>25 min presentation</mark>

Thank you so much (Name)! Now we're going to open the floor for questions, So if there's absolutely anything you want to know or are curious about (guest speaker)

1. (example questions if there is awkward silence)

<mark>Tie-In</mark>

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Get Engaged

I hope that that presentation and everything before has given you a good idea of why youth community engagement is so vital and why you should turn your passions into change. Now we're going to go about talking about more tangible ways you can get involved in your community. What are the different methods and avenues that you can go down in order to make an impact in your community? As we go through these I really want you guys to think back on those passions that we talked about in our group discussion earlier in the presentation. I want to think about how each of the areas we discuss can be applied to your issue on a local scale.

What we're going to talk about are the 8 domains of youth community engagement. Each of these "domains" are sort of categories, types of ways you can become more integrated into your community. We will go over each

one and discuss some examples of how you can go about doing each one. You'll see what I mean as we go forward, but first I want to talk about the thought process I want each of you to go through as we proceed through this presentation.

Getting involved in one's community starts with having something you want to change, or some type of way you want to go about getting involved. As we move through this part of the presentation I want everyone to hold any ideas they've gotten thus far in the presentation and as I give examples think of new ways you want to change things in your community, and how you want to go about doing it.

The fist type of youth community engagement that I want to talk about is also the one that I see the most young people engaging with on a daily basis: youth media. On a daily American consumers spend an average of over 7.5 hours consuming various forms of media, from social media to the news to youtube. The media has immense control over what is being discussed in popular society every day. Young people have a very powerful tool to use when it comes to creating content on the internet.

For our generation, this comes primarily in the form of social media posting; specifically, instagram infographics. So what are these infographics, and why are they important? First let's go over their characteristics. These infographics are usually artsy and aesthetically pleasing, both for the purpose of fitting into a cohesive instagram theme and to attract viewers to take a second look. And there's a proven benefit to these bubbly, colorful advocacy tools: the information they present can reach a larger audience than would have originally been exposed to the information. They can spread like wildfire and be powerful tools of amplifying a message and getting discussions started in our society. The main critique of these infographics of course is that they in and of themselves don't actually cause any tangible change and because of their popularity often can be considered a rather "safe" form of activism. In short, they can be considered performative. I personally feel that both the benefits and cons of these infographics should be considered in their usage. They can be used to spread awareness, but shouldn't be the limit of our civic engagement. So how can you go further?

Well we can start with our next domain of community engagement: youth service. Youth service is a direct way of you contributing your time towards a service project in your community. This could involve volunteering or organizing community service work. You could volunteer at a local food bank, clean up a local park, or any other thing that you see a need for in your community. This is one of the already more popular methods of civic engagement among teenagers, with between 20% and 55% of all young people already volunteering. Whether it's for a school club, a local religious group (like a youth group), or any other affiliation, volunteerism is one of the most direct ways you can impact your community. Volunteering allows you to connect to your community and make it a better place. Even helping out with the smallest tasks can make a real difference to the lives of people, animals, and organizations in need. And volunteering is a two-way street: It can benefit you as much as the cause you choose to help. Volunteer work looks great on college applications and job applications alike, as it shows a certain level of work experience and dedication to one's community. You might consider thinking about

something that your community could benefit from, such as cleaner parks or beaches, or a community garden and how you can go about donating your time to make that happen.

The second domain that I want to talk about is youth decision-making. This occurs when young people are in a position of authority in their communities and are given the chance to actually contribute to issues that impact the community. If you want to be a part of youth decision-making, you could consider applying for leadership positions in your community. An example of a leadership position that you guys might be interested in is one that my project advisor is involved in called the San Diego Youth Commission.

The Commission serves as an advisory body to the Mayor, City Council, and City Manager on issues of interest to youth and pertaining to youth in the City of San Diego. The city cites the reason for this commission as "youth and young adults are impacted by the decisions of City officials, but seldom have the opportunity to directly participate in the process." This commission facilitates participation of youth and young adults in local government, as well as provides City officials an opportunity to hear and address their ideas and concerns. Members of the commission will work to identify critical issues affecting youth in the City of San Diego and provide advice and recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, City Manager, and other City officials on issues affecting youth in the City of San Diego.

If this sounds like something you would be interested in applying for, I have a link to the application form up on the screen that you can access with your phone. I'll also put this form up again when we're working on our Take Action project, I want to give working on an application for this position as an option for your projects. If you want to know even more information feel free to stay after we wrap up and I'll be able to point you towards more information about this really great opportunity.

The next type of youth community engagement that I want to talk about is youth philanthropy. I put philanthropy in air quotes because I know the word is usually associated with someone who is relatively wealthy donating large sums of money to various charities or funding other types of projects. I completely understand that everyone here is a teenager and does not have extra funds lying around to donate. So when I say philanthropy I just mean dealing with money in general and maybe donating things that aren't just money to the community as well. Money makes the world go round as we all know, so contributing funds to community projects and or charities is a great way to help projects come to fruition in your community. You could host a fundraiser like a bake sale or garage sale or something more creative to raise money for a cause. You could raise money for a charity organization or for a political campaign that you support. Or you could donate something else, like maybe giving your old clothes to a redistribution center as opposed to selling them on depop. There's so many ways that you can contribute to the causes you care about without spending a dime of your own personal savings.

The next form of Civic engagement I want to talk about is youth political engagement. This is sometimes the first thing that people think of when they think of community engagement, and it's certainly an important part of it. Although everyone here is below voting age there are so many more ways to get involved in your community's politics than just voting. And politics also goes beyond large-scale elections, like the presidency. Your local District representative and perhaps council members in the community also run political campaigns and are just as important to your day-to-day life as the president in washington. So how can you get involved in your local political scene?

You can join the campaign of a local candidate. For example when District representative elections are ongoing you could look on the website of your favorite candidate and see if you could volunteer to do door-to-door campaigning. Or you could join or start a political club at your school, such as Democrats of America or Teen Age Republicans. You can write letters to local legislators. The U.S. is a federal republic, which is a type of representative democracy. That means that we elect people to represent our interests… but they can't know what their constituents want unless we tell them! As a young person, it's likely that your voice wasn't a part of electing your current representative, but that doesn't mean you can't make them listen. Write a letter, make a call, send an email, or use social media to track bills and reach out! Whatever it is, put the political issues you care about at the top of the list however you can.

 Closely aligned with youth political engagement is youth activism. Youth activism goes beyond strictly political issues and encompases all kinds of advocacy. Activism consists of efforts to promote, impede, direct, or intervene in social, political, economic, legal, or environmental reform with the desire to make changes in society toward a perceived greater good. Activism can consist of educating yourself and others, boycotting products made by companies whos policies you disagree with, and physically protesting.

Starting and signing petitions that align with your beliefs is also a great form of activism to get started using your voice. This relatively low-investment action can have major payoff down the line. There are a variety of websites dedicated to helping petitions gain traction. Change.org and We the People are the big two, but there are others out there that might be of interest as well. Just sign up, sign your name, and know that you're turning your opinions into tangible action.

Now I want to show you a short clip of a TED Talk that was given by a high school student at Rancho Bernardo High School on the power of activism and how small acts of protest can lead to just as large of results as the massive ones.

And she's right, it is true. One person's advocacy, especially on a more local community level, can have a major impact on how legislators act.

I've given a lot of examples of various ways you can get engaged in a community, but ultimately you don't have to do any of them. What you do to become an actively engaged member of your community is completely up to you. Are you an artist? A writer? A programmer? Maybe you're a dancer or you love to solve complicated math problems. No matter what your talent is, you can probably turn it into civic action. If you're thinking that you're too young to solve a problem or too young for anyone to pay attention to your ideas, just remember that everyone who has ever done something amazing has been where you are. Make a painting, write an opinion piece, create a website, put on a fundraising performance, or come up with a better way to handle the budget (hey, it's a long shot, but you never know)! Whatever you're best at can be your tool to get involved with your community.

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Kahoot: https://play.kahoot.it/v2/?quizId=66196421-e5ab-46e0-8632-4d4d72f69deb

1. Civics is the study of the rights and duties of citizenship! The term actually derives from the Latin word "civicus" meaning "relating to a citizen." Being civically engaged means doing your part as a dutiful citizen of your community.
2. Remember, youth service means contributing your time and efforts directly to the community. Organizing a demonstration at your local high school would be youth activism, while hosting a fundraiser for a community project and donating to a food bank would be youth philanthropy.
3. Not always! Youth philanthropy usually involves fundraisers and donating things other than money, like canned food or clothes.
4. All of the above is correct! Young people can benefit by voicing their opinions and learning new leadership skills, adults can learn from young people's new opinions and voices, and communities become a more diverse and inclusive place
5. Approximately 15.5 million youth – **50 percent** of young people ages 12 to 19 – volunteer each year. This rate is close to double that of adult volunteerism, with a rate of 29 percent. Youth dedicate more than 1.3 billion hours to community service each year.
6. False, not necessarily! There are lots of ways to benefit your community that have nothing to do with politics. You can clean up a local park, or petition for improvements to a community center, you can volunteer, or run a clothing drive. There are so many different avenues you can go down without politics being involved.
7. False! According to data from Tufts University, approximately 52.1% of youth regularly discuss political/social issues with friends or family. We can also see this on social media, where I'm sure all of you have seen the rise of activism via instagram story. Young people are very interested in the political and social issues of the day, it's just a matter of making their voices heard.

8. 16 is correct! If we remember back to Dani's presentation earlier, we can remember that she was able to register people from her highschool that were 16 and older. That means some of you might be eligible to pre-register to vote!

9. 8%! That might not seem like a lot, but all forms of boycotting are great methods to take a stand on a social or political issue. This can include being vegetarian to protest our unsustainable farming habits, or not buying from clothing retailers that use child labor.

10. False! There are many ways you can advocate for a local candidate: joining the campaign of a local candidate, volunteering to do door-to-door campaigning, joining or starting a political club at your school, or writing letters to local legislators.

11. Social media is by far the most popular platform that young people use for activism. Social media is a convenient tool in raising voice, awareness, and calling for social change. It allows people to have access to a level of communication to a large group of people instantly. Through social media, people can now easily call out wrong practices, injustices, and have a voice in different situations. It's easy, fast, and reaches many people at once.

12. This might be sad, but it's true. Various forms of media, social and otherwise, are all-surrounding in our society. Our exposure to them is constant and largely impacts what news we hear and what we think about during the day. That's why utilizing the media as a form to spread awareness on an issue can be incredibly powerful.

13. False! There's lots of opportunities, like the San Diego Youth Commission as one example.

14. They all are! There are no limits to how you can get involved with your communities. Utilize your skills for an issue you care about and it will benefit your community greatly.

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Alright! Now that I've said my piece, we've heard from other's experiences, and discussed ourselves. It's time for each of us to start our own path towards civic engagement. Each of you will do this by way of a small community service project.

So what is a community service project? In short, it can be anything as long as it gets you involved in your community. We'll work through how this will work together and I'll try to give you some ideas, and then you'll have time to work collaboratively before we come back together and share what we've been working on.

So how do we take action? We've gone over the various types of ways young people get involved in their communities, but how do you apply this to an issue that you care about? I want everyone to think back on that discussion we had earlier about what we are passionate about and would want to change in our community. I hope that you've been holding that in your mind as we've been going through this presentation and you might even already have some idea of how you can make an impact. But for now I want you to think about the **root causes** of the issue. In short, why is the thing you have a problem with the way it is? For example, let's use Dani's

project that we spoke about earlier. The problem she saw in her community was that voter turnout among young voters was lower than she wanted it to be. She identified a root cause of this: not all young, eligible voters were registered to vote. So she took action by pre-registering high school students at her school. A problem, a cause, and an impact. These are the three things we should have in a successful community service project.

So now let's talk about you. I want everyone here to think of this project as an opportunity to dip your metaphorical toe into the world of civic engagement. This is a first step, and while I understand that some of you might want to hit the ground running, for others this step might be tentative and small. For this reason the scale of this project is completely up to you. Do you want to organize a beach cleanup with 10 of your friends? Go for it! Do you want to write an email to your district representative? Amazing! Do you want to make an instagram post containing information about climate change and links to petitions for your followers to sign? That's great too! This project is completely within your control, so please do what you want with it. All I ask is that you take the time we have today and turn it into something you can meaningfully contribute to your community.

Before you go and start on your own, I wanted to run through some brainstorming ideas with you guys to get the ball rolling. The first idea I have for you guys is to make your voices heard directly by applying for the Youth Commission that I mentioned earlier. I'll be handing out a packet momentarily that will include the link for the application if you're interested in filling it out, as well as other resources/ideas to get your project started.

The second idea is fundraising! This can be as simple as planning a bake sale to have in front of your local rec center for a cause you care about.

Next we have **legislation** advocacy. Take the time to write a letter to legislators encouraging them to pass legislation, or create a post for social media describing the bill and why its important that it be passed.

Next we have service! Do some research and find a worthy way for you to volunteer in you community and schedule a date. Or you can text your friends and schedule a time to clean up your local park or community center.

Nexts we have protests! Like we discussed earlier, acts of protest don't have to be large scale demonstrations like the Women's March or Climate Strike. This can be as simple as taking some time to compile a short list of a few brands you'd like to start boycotting and/or spreading awareness on.

And lastly we have educating others. Ways you can go about doing this include composing a social media post or drafting an informative blurb about an issue to send to friends and family. Education means spreading awareness!

So let's get started! First, what I'm going to do is put a link in the chat with website that I put together. It has all kinds of information in it, from contact information for representatives to relevant legislation to community

projects that need funding that I hope will help give you some guidance if you need it. I'm going to open a bunch of breakout rooms that you are free to jump in and around to find a group to work with. All I ask is that groups not exceed 2-3 people, and you are completely welcome to work individually as well. I'm going to give everyone 15-20 minutes (depending on how much we need) to start - and hopefully finish, depending on the scale you went with - your own personal community service project. I'll be hopping around all the breakout rooms to help give you guys ideas and guidance. After our work time we'll come back together and everyone will present information abou they're project including the issue they chose and how they decided to go about changing it. I'll open the breakout rooms now, and I'll see you soon!

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Welcome back everyone! I hope you guys were able to make some really great progress on your projects, hopefully even finished them! What we're going to do now is go around and share what you're working on. I made a little list of all the groups that were working together so I'm going to call on you guys one at a time and one of you can share a little bit about your project. I want you guys to share what the issue is you chose to work on, why you chose that issue, and what your project was. With that, I'm going to start with...

Intro (20)
Discussion (5)
Guest Speaker (30)
Kahoot (15)
Get Engaged (15)
Take Action Intro (10)
Take Action (15-20)
Share Work/Conclusion (10)