

CYFCC Goal Group Strategic Directions (January 2026 DRAFT)

In January 2025, each Goal Group selected a strategic direction informed by youth and identified concrete actions they wanted to pursue this year.

Priority Area: Supportive & Responsive School Conditions	Priority Area: Affordability for All	Priority Area: Safety & Belonging
CYFCC Members: Meredith, Leslie, Angi, Suzanne, Michelle, Isabel, Laura D, Carrie	Participants: Gennet, Christine, Kobie, Donna, Allen, Catherine	CYFCC Members: Amber, Laura, Rose, Abby, Daniel – Staff: Barbara
Strategic Direction (long-term focus): Center student voice in operational decisions that affect daily school conditions.	Strategic Direction (long-term focus): Reduce the burden of basic needs through partnerships, with an initial focus on food access.	Strategic Direction (long-term focus): Strengthen student voice and community partnerships to create safe, inclusive spaces for youth free of violence and bullying.
One-Year Action (Draft): CYFCC will advocate for and support the creation of a student advisory structure at ACHS to establish a two-way communication system for identifying and addressing school conditions concerns.	One-Year Action (Draft): CYFCC will work with ACPS and community partners to map existing food access programs across schools, identify gaps, and determine where advocacy or coordination is needed.	One-Year Action (Draft): CYFCC will convene youth-serving partners and youth leaders to better understand where young people feel unsafe and explore strategies for co-creating safe spaces in the community and at school.
Why it Matters: Students will be champions of their school and have greater investment in the school environment if they have a role in decision making to solve problems	Why It Matters: It will strengthen access to existing organizations or we will advocate starting/assisting a new organization. Some services or programs do not currently exist at every school.	Why it Matters: Data from YNA indicates many youth don't feel safe in their neighborhood and don't have third spaces where they can go to feel safe
Partners to Engage 1st: Principals at ACHS	Partners to Engage 1st: ALIVE!, and DCHS – Food Security Action Plan Coordinator, Harumi Reis-Reilly	Partners to Engage 1st: Gang Prevention Community Task Force and Youth Ambassadors
One Year Success: Students know where to raise concerns about school conditions and can point to visible improvements informed by student input.	One Year Success: Clear understanding of where food access exists, where gaps remain, and a path forward for improving access or coordination.	One year success: Greater awareness of youth safety needs and a clearer pathway toward creating or strengthening safe spaces for youth.

Next Step: Each goal group meets with their key partner to understand what's already happening, where there's alignment, and how the Commission's advocacy can add value.

Guiding questions:

1. What work is already happening that aligns with our proposed action?
2. Where are the gaps or barriers that policy, coordination, or advocacy could help address?
3. How can CYFCC best support or elevate this work over the next year?

Output from the Next Meeting:

Each group should leave with:

- a refined version of their one-year action
- clarity on how the Commission shows up (advocacy, convening, oversight)
- confirmation that this action belongs in the CYCP