



Alexandria Children & Youth Community Plan (CYCP)

Strategy-Shaping Session with the Youth Services Coordinating Council





Today's Purpose

Identify early action opportunities for us to work on together.



How We Got Here:

Youth Needs Assessment & Follow-Up Engagement with Youth

Between Fall 2024-Fall 2025:

- **90 youth and adults** were trained to engaged
- **1,800+ middle and high school students** through
- **137 Youth Listening Sessions**
- Youth analyzed data, identified root causes, and proposed solutions

This work will shape the next Children & Youth Community Plan (CYCP). It's updated every five years to guide citywide efforts around shared goals, align partners, and advance equity.





Results-Based Accountability: How We're Framing This Work



Result: What conditions do we want for children and youth?



How are we doing? What does the data tell us about how youth are doing?



Story Behind the Trends:
What's driving current conditions?

**Today's
Focus**



Strategies: What could help improve conditions?



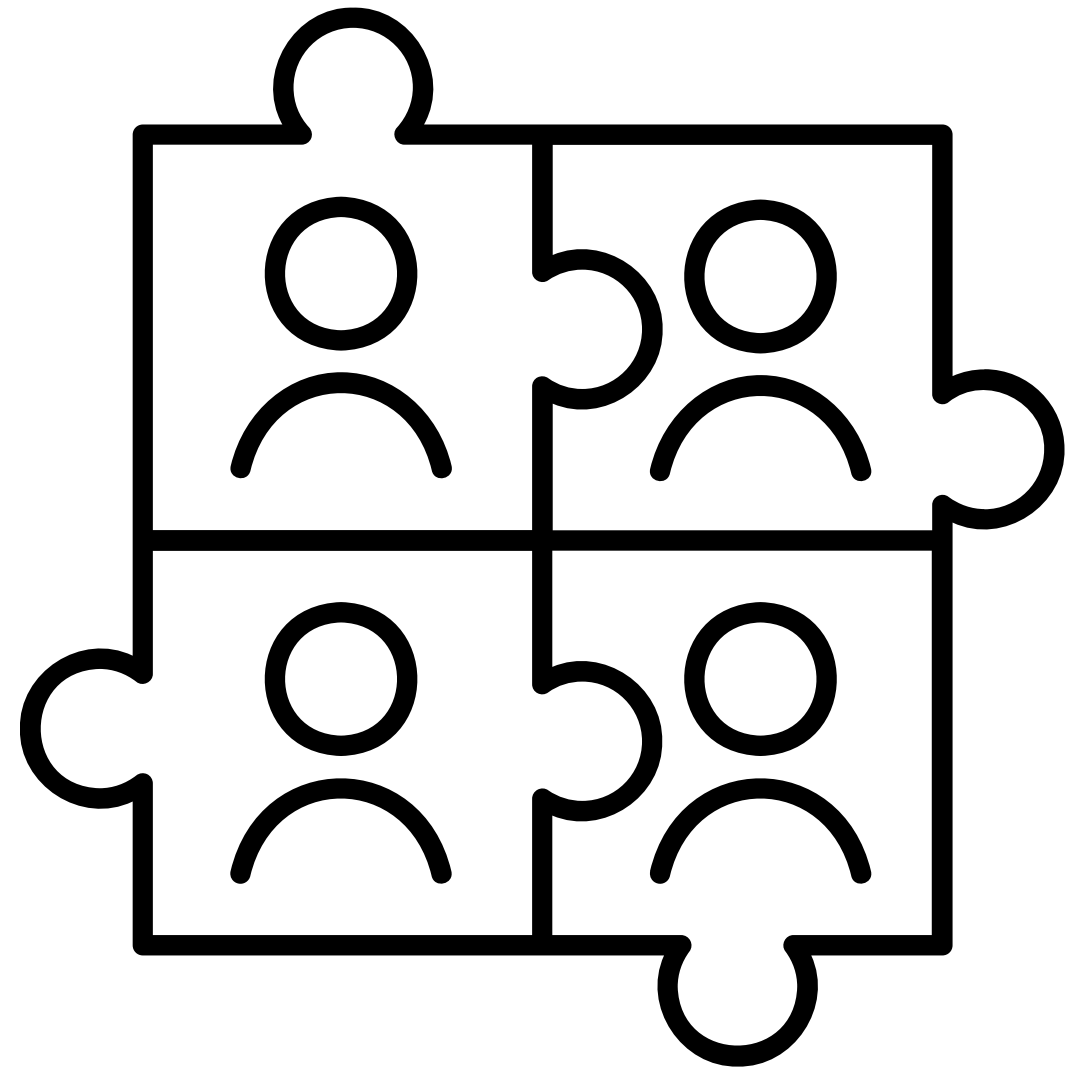
Partners: Who has a role to play?



Action: What are we going to do?



The Role of the YSCC in the CYCP



The Youth Services
Coordinating Council helps:

- align partners
- strengthen coordination
- identify gaps
- support implementation of youth-informed strategies



Three CYCP Priority Areas & their Results



Affordability for All



Result:

Every family has what they need to live with stability and thrive in Alexandria

Safety & Belonging



Result:

All youth feel valued, supported, and safe in the school and community

Supportive & Responsive School Conditions



Result:

All students learn in environments that are designed to support their learning and wellbeing every day



Where Each Priority Area Stands Now?

Affordability for All



Ready to shape a draft
Year-1 action plan

Safety & Belonging



Ready to select a shared
strategy focus area

Supportive & Responsive School Conditions



Continuing alignment
conversations with ACPS to
clarify partnership opportunities



Why Coordination Matters

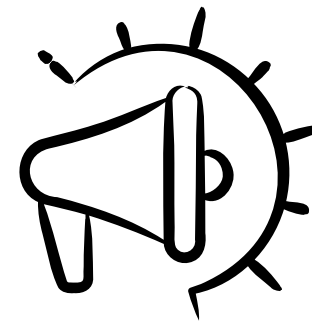
Across all priority areas, partners have noted:



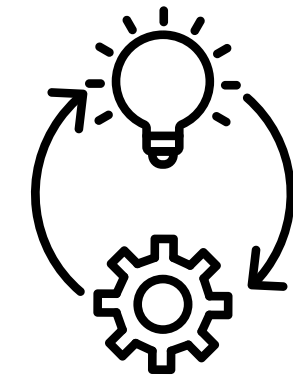
**strong
programs
already exist**



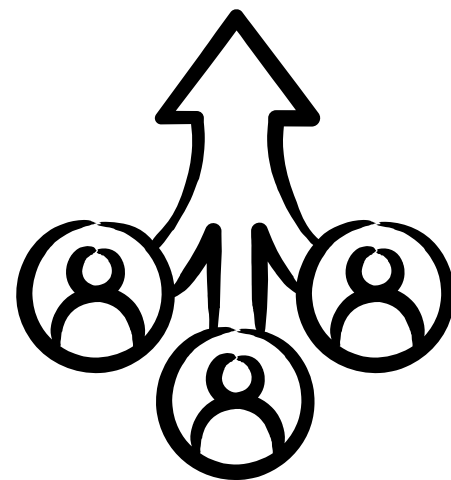
**access is
inconsistent**



**awareness
is uneven**



**implementation
varies across
settings**



This is an opportunity to work together to strengthen alignment and coordination across our system



What Could Help Improve Conditions?

Youth-Informed Strategic Directions

Affordability for All



Strategic Direction:

Make it easy for families to find help, understand their options, and feel welcome asking for support

Safety & Belonging



Strategic Directions:

Expand access to safe afterschool and enrichment opportunities

Build conflict-resolution and coping skills among youth

Expand youth leadership and peer-led solutions

Supportive & Responsive School Conditions



Strategic Directions:

Create school-based environments where students feel respected, heard, and supported by adults

Embed youth input into organizational operations, policies, and culture



What We Heard in the Last Session

From Our February Strategy Session

Affordability for All



Year-1 Action ideas:

- youth-friendly access points to resources
- stigma-reducing outreach language
- culturally responsive connectors
- annual resource fair

Safety & Belonging



Year-1 Action ideas:

- middle school program access
- conflict-resolution supports
- youth leadership pathways
- program awareness
- youth-centered security staff training

Supportive & Responsive School Conditions



Year-1 Action ideas:

- strengthening adult-student relationships
- increasing responsiveness to youth input
- expanding trusted support spaces



Today's Breakout Goals



Affordability for All

- Select one action to shape for Year 1

Safety & Belonging

- Select one strategic direction where coordination could improve conditions

Supportive & Responsive School Conditions

- Pause action planning while continuing alignment conversations with ACPS
- Contribute to one of the other groups



Breakout Group: Affordability for All



Strategic Direction:

Make it easy for families to find help, understand their options, and feel welcome asking for support

Which coordination opportunity should the YSCC focus on first?

- youth-friendly resource access points
- stigma-reducing outreach language
- culturally responsive connectors
- annual resource fair



Breakout Group: Safety & Belonging



**Which strategy area
is most ready for
coordinated action?**

Options:

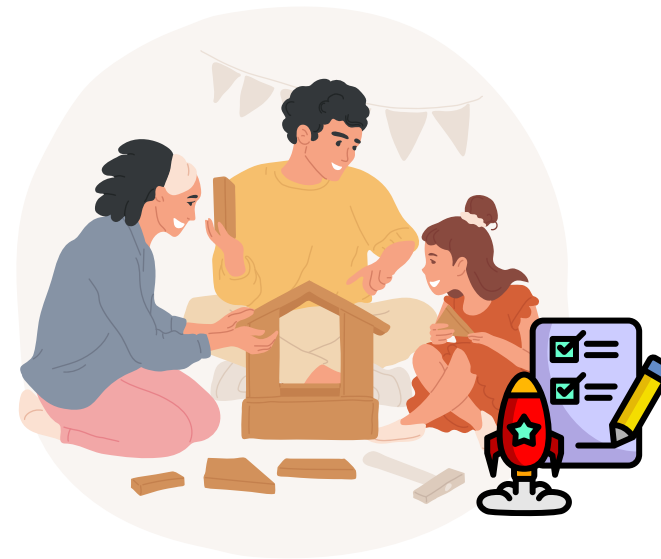
- middle school program access
- conflict-resolution and coping supports
- youth leadership pathways
- improving youth awareness of programs
- youth-centered security staff training



Breakout Group: Supportive & Responsive School Conditions



**Which group
would you like to
contribute today?**



Affordability for All

- Select one action to shape for Year 1



Safety & Belonging

- Select one strategic direction where coordination could improve conditions



Whole Group Share-Out

- What focus area did you select?
- What coordination opportunity exists?
- What first step could move this forward?
- Who should be involved next?



What Comes Next

- Draft action plans
- Confirm partners' roles
- Integrate actions into the CYCP draft



Thank you!

Contact

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