



The Banyan Foundation
Youth Leadership Council
Q & A

Q: What is The Banyan Foundation Youth Leadership Council?

A: It is a Los Angeles based program that strives to develop young leaders and advance the field of service learning. The goal is to activate young people to create positive change in their community through lessons in philanthropy, social enterprise and leadership.

Q: When was The Banyan Foundation started?

A: The Banyan Foundation (formerly The Summa Children's Foundation) will launch its Youth Leadership council in the Fall of 2017. After 12 years of raising millions of dollars for Southern California based non-profits dedicated to improving the lives of at risk youth through their health, educational and social programs, The Banyan Foundation begins with a new name and mission.

Q: What are the requirements to become a member of The Banyan Youth Leadership Council?

A: We are looking for students who possess a genuine interest in making a positive contribution to their local community. These kids have a level of maturity that enables them to respect the diversity of our group's backgrounds and viewpoints. The leadership council will be comprised of young adults that exemplify leadership qualities and are of high moral and ethical standing. Our Youth Leadership Council members are required to maintain high academic standing.

Q: How does my child apply?

A: Applicants are required to fill out an online application and have an in house interview with our Executive Director. The board will then review all applicants and select the youth group in September for the current school year. www.thebanyanfoundation.org

Q: What is the commitment for my child?

A: Each youth member is required to attend Sunday morning meetings. Meetings will take place every third Sunday through February and then every other Sunday between March and mid May. They must be able to work along side and collaborate with other students as they engage in various activities focused in the area of philanthropy, leadership and social enterprise.

Q: Who runs the organization and meetings?

A: The Banyan Foundation has a four person Board, comprised of business professionals with diverse backgrounds and deep experience in the area of philanthropy. (See Bio's on our website) These board members, along with our strategic advisors and outside consultants and speakers will be called upon based on the week's agenda.

Over the course of year, the YLC members will be exposed to community leaders, philanthropists, entrepreneurs, business owners and others who bring perspectives and experiences integral to our program's success.

Q: What is the annual membership fee?

A: The annual membership fee is \$2000. Annual fees will be used to help support the Foundation's ongoing activities, including outside speakers/professionals. In addition, these funds will target non-profit organizations that are vetted and ultimately approved by the Youth Leadership Council. The annual membership fee is a tax-deductible contribution.

Q: Are there any additional costs?

A: No. The \$2000 membership fee covers all costs.

Q: Where and how often will the Youth Leadership Council meet?

A: Meetings will be held on select Sundays beginning October 1st and running through the middle of May. Meetings will run 9:30-12:00 PM at The Banyan Foundation's office located at 10880 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 2400 Los Angeles, CA 90024. Transportation will be provided for any off site visits to non-profits, etc.

Q: What happens if my child cannot attend a meeting due to a conflict, travel schedule, sickness, etc.?

A: Each member of the youth leadership council is required to attend 75% of the required meeting hours. We realize that some conflicts will occur but we have scheduled meetings around all major holidays and school breaks to try to avoid as many conflicts as possible.

Q: Do the philanthropic hours conducted at The Banyan Youth Leadership Council count towards any required school community service hours?

A: Yes. The Banyan Foundation will provide you with a signed letter of the hours committed during the course of the year.

Q: How long is the commitment?

A: The goal of the organization is to create the next generation of leaders and philanthropists. Therefore we are hoping that each young member stays with the organization for the duration of their high school years as act as mentors and leaders to the new younger members each year. Over time, we are committed to building a long lasting community of young adults who want to come back to the Foundation to share their experiences as they begin their professional careers.