

Youth Council Members are passionate youth ambassadors for the Make-A-Wish mission. This council is made up of high school students in grades 9–12 who want to make a real impact by raising funds, increasing awareness, and helping grant life-changing wishes for children fighting critical illnesses.

Youth Council members bring their voice, creativity, and leadership to their networks and communities. Members will gain meaningful service experience and professional skills while having fun.

Why Join?

- Make a real impact. Your support helps grant wishes.
- Build leadership, fundraising, and communication skills.
- Strengthen your resume, college applications and expand your professional network.
- Connect with other motivated students across Alaska and Washington.

Your Role & Responsibilities

Grow Awareness & Fundraising Support

- Set a personal fundraising goal of \$500 per school year.
- Lead or support a fundraiser, such as a Wish Week (a week of awareness and fundraising activities), with the goal of making it an annual event. If your school/club is fundraising for the first time under your leadership, that total can count toward your fundraising goal.
- Create an awareness activity about Make-A-Wish (for example, share at a school assembly or tabling event, present at a Rotary meeting, make a display board).

Participate & Lead

- Attend and actively participate in monthly virtual (Teams) meetings.
- Take responsibility for assigned tasks and follow through on commitments.
- If you are a senior, help recruit younger students from your school/club to apply in future years.

Be a Mission Advocate

- Represent and share the Make-A-Wish mission with enthusiasm at school/network and in your community.
- Make one meaningful connection by introducing someone in your network to Make-A-Wish (for example, if your neighbor likes to volunteer, you could share about Make-A-Wish and introduce them to a staff member).
- Promote Make-A-Wish-led initiatives and events, such as the chapter's mileage drives and giveback promotions.

Bring Your Creativity

- Share ideas that inspire peers to get involved.
- Co-create this inaugural Youth Council to reflect your talents and passion.

Details & Expectations

Eligibility

- Grades 9–12 during the council term.
- Completion of application and virtual interview.
- Parent/guardian must provide consent, sign photo/media release and sign Conflict of Interest form.

Time Commitment

- Approximately 2 hours per month for meetings and council projects.
- Fundraising projects will require additional time, approximately 10 hours throughout the year.
- One full school-year term, with the option to reapply.

What Does a Typical Year Look Like?

- Virtual (Teams) monthly meetings run September to May (no meeting in December) with an orientation in September and wrap-up/celebration in May.
- Meetings are held in the evening (likely 7-8 p.m.) on a consistent day of the month.
- Guest speakers may include wish alumni, wish parents, medical referral partners and Make-A-Wish staff leadership.
- Members plan and complete one or more fundraisers and awareness activities throughout the year.

Support from Make-A-Wish

Youth Council members are supported by Make-A-Wish staff with training, fundraising tools, templates, and mentorship throughout the year. All activities are supported by staff and follow youth safety and fundraising guidelines.

Get in Touch: Jessica Quijada, Events Manager, 206-588-8959, jquijada@akwa.wish.org or
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