



June 13, 2022

To our Provider Network, Youth, and Young Adult Stakeholders,

The Young Leaders and Advocates Network (YLAN), in partnership with the New York State (NYS) Office of Mental Health (OMH), is seeking young people 12-20 for a Youth Advisory Board (YAB) Experience. YLAN is a peer-led organization working to engage young people in collaborating to build better service systems in New York State.

The work of the young people who participate in the YAB Experience will include one virtual meeting (date TBD with participants), preparation time and the two-day in person meeting (August 10-11, 2022, at the Albany Holiday Inn Express Downtown) **Young people who participate in the YAB Experience will be paid for preparation time and participation in all meetings, including being reimbursed for travel expenses.** Travel expenses are determined on an individual basis prior to the event.

During the YAB Experience participants will have the opportunity to provide input into the mental health needs of and trends experienced by young people and youth serving systems across NYS. This experience will offer an opportunity to collaborate with key staff and decision-makers at the NYS OMH on future program and policy development.

YLAN and OMH Leaders urge all provider networks to help get the word out about this important opportunity for young people who have personal experience receiving mental health services in New York State. Please share the link below and the enclosed flyer with any youth who may be interested. <https://forms.office.com/r/1zqB5QwRQz>

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