

January 2026

# Monthly Newsletter

Youth Options Shasta



## PEER COURT RECRUITMENT NIGHT

### A Strong Start to the Second Half of the School Year



On January 28th, students, families, and community partners gathered to learn more about Peer Court and how youth can step into leadership roles that promote accountability, restoration, and growth.

We were especially honored to have Shasta County Superior Court Judge J. Burgess, Judge P. Deedon, and Judge T. Wood in attendance. Their presence and support demonstrate the strong partnership between our local courts and Youth Options Shasta, and their encouragement continues to inspire the next generation of youth leaders.

Peer Court offers students the opportunity to:

- Develop leadership and communication skills
- Participate in restorative justice practices
- Serve their peers while building confidence and responsibility

We are grateful for every student who showed interest, every family who took time to learn more about this meaningful program, and our community partners who continue to stand alongside this work. Recruitment nights like this are vital as we prepare for the remainder of the school year.



This month, we were especially encouraged by the turnout and engagement at our Bi-Annual Peer Court Recruitment Night held on January 28th.



*\*Pictured are members of our YAC presenting at our Peer Court Recruitment Night.*

Events like this remind us that young people want to lead, serve, and be part of solutions in their schools and community.

January offered a meaningful opportunity to pause, reflect, and listen to the voices of our Youth Action Council members.

In addition to mentoring opportunities each month, YAC students complete monthly check-in forms as well as reflection surveys, providing thoughtful insight into their growth, experiences, and needs.

These reflections help guide our program direction and ensure that youth voice remains central to the work we do.



**We asked our YAC Peer Advocate Leaders to share how they are using their training to support or mentor others:**

*“I have been able to support new members of Peer Court as they figure out what the program is about.”*

*“I was able to provide a new point of view to participants of the drug and alcohol class and share my knowledge.”*

*“Practicing the skill of collaboration in meetings. I am learning the importance of having others to get more ideas for the group.”*



**What has been the most valuable part of your YAC internship so far?**

*“Being able to be a part of such a united community while learning incredible skills has been very valuable.”*

*“Being able to support my friends through public speaking, and learning how to lead discussions with people who don’t always listen.”*

*“Being able to work with others to improve the lives of my peers and overall community.”*

# COMMUNITY ADVOCACY

## C.O.R.E. Funding Update

In January, Youth Options Shasta presented an update to the Shasta County Board of Supervisors to report on progress made through the **Community Opioid Response & Education (C.O.R.E.)** funding we currently receive. We were deeply grateful for the individuals who stepped forward to represent Youth Options Shasta during open public comment, sharing firsthand support for prevention, intervention, and youth-centered solutions in our community.

Their voices helped highlight:

- The importance of early prevention and diversion programs
- The real impact of Youth Options Shasta's work with youth and families
- The value of continued investment in community-based solutions

## Gratitude & Community Connection

We extend our sincere thanks to those who took time to speak on behalf of YOS and advocate for the youth we serve.

## LOOKING AHEAD:

### February 2026:

- Mon, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Safety First** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Tues, Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> - **A.R.T. (Guys)** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Wed, Feb 4<sup>th</sup> - **Case Conferencing** | 4:30p-6:00p | at YOS
- Thurs, Feb 5<sup>th</sup> - **A.R.T. (Girls)** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Sat, Feb 7<sup>th</sup> - **Safety Skills & Harm Reduction Training** | 9a-3p
  - at the Redding Teen Center
- Mon, Feb 9<sup>th</sup> - **Safety First** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Tues, Feb 10<sup>th</sup> - **A.R.T. (Guys)** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Wed, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> - **Peer Court** | 5:30p-7:30p | at Redding City Hall
- Thurs, Feb 12<sup>th</sup> - **A.R.T. (Girls)** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Mon, Feb 16<sup>th</sup> - **Presidents' Day** | Office Closed
- Tues, Feb 17<sup>th</sup> - **No Class** | Presidents' Week
- Wed, Feb 18<sup>th</sup> - **Case Conferencing** | 4:30p-6:00p | at YOS
- Thurs, Feb 19<sup>th</sup> - **No Class** | Presidents' Week
- Mon, Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> - **Safety First** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Tues, Feb 24<sup>th</sup> - **A.R.T. (Guys)** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Wed, Feb 25<sup>th</sup> - **Peer Court** | 5:00p-6:30p | at Redding City Hall
- Thurs, Feb 26<sup>th</sup> - **A.R.T. (Girls)** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS
- Mon, Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> - **Bite of Reality** | 4:30p-6:30p | at YOS

### Upcoming Events: (see flyer attached)

- **Shasta Youth Leadership Camp**  
July 15-18, 2026 | at Simpson University Campus
- **SYLC Counselor Applications:**  
Opening soon on March 1st  
(current grade 10 - age 21)
- **SYLC Camper Applications:**  
Opening soon on March 1st  
(current grades 5-8)

*We are so thankful for our youth participants, families, school partners, community collaborators, and supporters.*

*Your trust and partnership allow this work to continue.*

*Here's to a strong, grounded, and hopeful second half of the school year.*



## Connect with us online!



[youthoptionsshasta.org](http://youthoptionsshasta.org)



[info@yoshasta.org](mailto:info@yoshasta.org)



[facebook.com/youthoptionsshasta](https://facebook.com/youthoptionsshasta)



[instagram.com/youthoptionsshasta](https://instagram.com/youthoptionsshasta)



# 2026 SHASTA YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP



July 15-18, 2026

Simpson University Campus

Follow us online and stay tuned for additional camp information for #2026SYLC!

- Counselor Applications will be open online in March (current grade 10-age 21)
- Camper Apps will open online in March (current grades 5-8)

Check us out:

 [www.shastayouthleadershipcamp.com](http://www.shastayouthleadershipcamp.com)

 [facebook.com/shastayouthleadershipcamp/](https://facebook.com/shastayouthleadershipcamp/)

