



# Monthly Newsletter

September 2026

## Locked Up for Youth Raises \$36,000 for Local Youth

### THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHTS:

Locked Up  
for Youth  
Fundraiser

9/11  
Sunrise  
Patrol Day

Shasta County  
Board of  
Supervisors  
Presentation

Shasta Dam  
Kiwanis Club

Looking Ahead

Youth Options Shasta's first Locked Up for Youth fundraiser brought together community leaders, local businesses, media partners, and supporters for an afternoon of fun and all in support of local youth.

Held September 3 at Whistle Stop Park in Redding, the event challenged local community leaders to spend the afternoon behind bars in a makeshift "jail." Their freedom came with a price: participants had to raise bail through donations supporting our youth programs.

And the community showed up in a big way.

Together, our participants and supporters raised \$36,000 to help Youth Options Shasta continue providing positive opportunities, prevention services, leadership development, and support to youth and young adults throughout Shasta County.

The event featured 15 local community leaders who volunteered to be "locked up" for the afternoon. Huge thanks to Darin Hale, Troy Parrott and Cinnamon, Melissa Church, Bill Jostock, Niki Simonsen, Eddy Gilmette, Chief Steve Lowe, Amy Ramirez, Benjamin Bradshaw, Christina Prosperi, Jason Morton, Tonja Donoho from Everyday Fitness, Cindy Lane, Kevin Crye, and Jack Potter. We couldn't do it without you.



# Community Leaders Answer the Call

Action News stopped by to cover the fundraiser and highlighted the community's participation and the more than \$32,000 raised at the time of their coverage.



One of the sweetest moments at Locked Up for Youth came when Little Lexi sang the National Anthem to help raise bail for her mom, Niki Simonsen, the “Diploma Dealer.” As Lexi finished her performance, community members rushed over to make donations toward Niki’s bail, turning her heartfelt performance into an unforgettable moment of community support!



Meanwhile, Heather Ryan kept the event lively as our MC and brought sound by C&H Creates. Also, a live remote from K-Shasta took their audience along for the fun with a broadcast, including coverage from the makeshift jail.



A special congratulations goes to Jack Potter, who topped the fundraising leaderboard by raising more than \$7,950 in support of Youth Options Shasta!

The enthusiasm from our community helped make the inaugural Locked Up for Youth fundraiser a tremendous success.



## YAC Members Honor 9/11 Through Sunrise Patrol Day

On September 11, members of Youth Options Shasta's Youth Action Council (YAC) came together to participate in Sunrise Patrol Day, an annual community event honoring the lives affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

One especially moving moment came from Morris, who shared a personal message about his father's service in the U.S. Navy during the Iraq War. His reflection offered a personal connection to the broader themes of service, sacrifice, and remembrance that are central to the September 11 commemoration.

We are proud of Aiden, McKinley, Elizabeth, Jae, Malana, and Morris for representing Youth Options Shasta and the Youth Action Council at this important community event.



## Youth Voices in Action: YOS and YAC Connect with Our Community

September was a month of meaningful community engagement for Youth Options Shasta. YOS had the opportunity to present at a Shasta County Board of Supervisors meeting. These presentations help strengthen connections with local leaders and keep our community informed about the positive work happening through the CORE grant.

Youth leadership was also on display when YAC interns Aiden and Lou presented at a Shasta Dam Kiwanis Club meeting. They shared their experiences with YOS and YAC, allowing community members to hear directly from young people about their involvement, leadership, and the importance of creating positive opportunities for youth.





**American  
Foundation  
for Suicide  
Prevention**

Join our team, make a donation.

**SCAN ME!**



**EVERY LIFE MATTERS.  
EVERY LIFE DESERVES HOPE.**

Youth Options Shasta is proud to participate in the Shasta County Walk on November 7th, to Prevent Suicide. We are joining communities across the country to raise awareness, support prevention, and bring hope to those affected by suicide. We believe every person deserves to feel valued, supported, and connected. Your support helps the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) fund research, education, advocacy, and resources for individuals and families affected by suicide.

**October 2026:**

**LOOKING AHEAD**

- Mon, October 5 - **Safety First** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Tues, October 6 - **Aggression Replacement Training** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Wed, October 7 - **Case Conferencing** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Mon, October 12 - **Safety First** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Tues, October 13 - **Aggression Replacement Training** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Wed, October 14 - **Peer Court** | Redding City Hall
- Mon, October 19 - **Safety First** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Tues, October 20 - **Aggression Replacement Training** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Wed, October 21 - **Case Conferencing** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Mon, October 26 - **Safety First** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Tues, October 27 - **Aggression Replacement Training** | at 1700 Pine St (YOS)
- Wed, October 28 - **Trunk or Treat** | Mt. Shasta Mall



**Connect with us online!**



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