



Cherokee Youth Council 2016-2017

What is the Cherokee Youth Council?

A Drug Free Cherokee initiative, the Cherokee Youth Council (CYC) is a youth action team open to youth in grades 10-12, GED students, and homeschool students. CYC youth come from different educational, economic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds but unite to tackle the issues facing youth in our county, specifically related to substance use prevention.

These young leaders are committed to positive alternatives to drug and alcohol use and want to make a difference in their community through:

- Positive alternatives awareness and advocacy,
- Leadership and skills development,
- And community engagement.

The CYC achieves its goals through collaborating with community agencies and organizations, participating in prevention advocacy, creating and implementing positive alternatives campaigns and initiatives, and intentionally developing personal leadership skills.

What's In It for You?

- Make a difference for your Cherokee County peers!
- Receive community service hours for participation
- Personal leadership development and strategic planning experience
- Receive media and policy training from local and state organizations
- Opportunity to attend a leadership development conference at Kennesaw State University and the Summer Georgia Teen Institute

Tentative 2016-2017 Calendar

August	1 st Meeting (Orientation & Goals)	January	6 th Meeting (Kick Butts Planning)
September	2 nd Meeting (Media Literacy Training)	February	7 th Meeting (Kick Butts Planning)
October	3 rd Meeting (Zombie Fest 5K)	March	Kick Butts Day Event
October	Zombie Fest 5K benefitting Drug Free Cherokee	March	8 th Meeting (Fall 2017 Media Campaign)
October	Leadership Conference at KSU	April	9 th Meeting (Fall 2017 Media Campaign)
November	4 th Meeting (Spring 2017 Media Campaign)	May	10 th Meeting (2017 Youth Challenge)
December	5 th Meeting (Spring 2017 Media Campaign)	June	11 th Meeting (2017 Youth Challenge)
January	Group Retreat & Leadership Development	June	Georgia Teen Institute

Meetings will be held Sundays 2-4 pm (August 2016-June 2017), but official meeting dates will be decided when all members are selected.

Previous Youth Council Projects



Recording a Public Service Announcement (PSA)
aired on Radio 105.7



Participating in advocacy training by
Youth Empowered Solutions (YES!)



Hosting a Kick Butts 5K for National Kick Butts Day



Presenting to the Cherokee County Board of Education

If you are passionate about prevention awareness, committing to positive alternatives to drugs and alcohol, and developing your leadership skills, we encourage you to join this group of leaders!

Interested youth should fill out the following application packet and return via email (helen@cherokeefocus.org) to Helen Gras, Drug Free Cherokee Project Coordinator, by **Friday, May 27**. Participants will be selected by Friday, June 24.

Additional application submission instructions are listed at the end of the application packet below.



Cherokee Youth Council 2016-2017 Application

Youth Applicant Information

Name: _____

Birthday: _____

Grade (circle): 10th 11th 12th

School (circle): Cherokee HS Creekview HS Etowah HS
 River Ridge HS Sequoyah HS Woodstock HS
 Cherokee Christian King's Academy Lyndon Academy
 Northside Christian

GED Homeschool Other

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Parent Information

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Youth Applicant Interest

Why are you passionate about positive alternatives to drug and alcohol use? How do you live out this passion?
(100-200 words, use additional paper as needed)

Tell us about a time when you were a role model? (100-200 words, use additional paper as needed)

About which aspect(s) of the Cherokee Youth Council are you most excited? (select up to 3)

- Meeting and collaborating with new high school students in the county to positively impact the community
- Designing positive alternatives media campaigns
- Developing my leadership skills and abilities
- Creating prevention awareness in the community at community events, football games, etc.
- Learning more about how drugs and alcohol affect teen development and success
- Planning a county-wide positive choices events for youth

Which drug(s) do you believe the CYC should target in the upcoming year? (select up to 2)

- Alcohol
- Smokeless Tobacco
- Cigarettes and E-Cigs
- Marijuana
- Prescription Drugs

Briefly explain why you made this selection:

Will you be able to meet the following commitments? (check all that apply)

- Meet at least once per month from August 2016 to June 2017 (Sunday afternoon 2pm-4pm, dates TBD)
- Lead team-building activities for one CYC meeting
- Participate in various community awareness events
- Assist in developing a group capstone project
- Attend one group leadership retreat (tentative)

Please fill out this application and return by Friday, May 27.

Participants will be selected by Friday, June 24.

Please note that you may receive a phone call for further discussion or answer clarification.

Submit via email to:

Helen Gras
Project Coordinator
Drug Free Cherokee
helen@cherokeefocus.org

If you do not have access to a physical scanner, the Tiny Scanner app is a perfect substitute. If you cannot send through either of these methods, please email (helen@cherokeefocus.org) or call (770-345-5483) to arrange application submission.