

# Y2Y GUIDE: GETTING STARTED IN THE COMMUNITY



JOBCORPSY2Y.COM

Dear Y2Y Student Ambassador,

Once you have organized your Y2Y efforts on center, you can start preparing to share your message with the community.

All Job Corps centers are encouraged to hold an anti-violence event during Y2Y Week, which will take place from Sept. 14 to 18. The National Office of Job Corps will be supporting your activities by sharing updates, photos, and videos online using the following platforms:

- The Y2Y website, [www.JobCorpsY2Y.com](http://www.JobCorpsY2Y.com).
- The Job Corps Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/doljobcorps](http://www.facebook.com/doljobcorps).
- The Job Corps YouTube channel, [www.youtube.com/doljobcorps](http://www.youtube.com/doljobcorps).

Y2Y Week will provide you with an excellent opportunity to achieve Y2Y's objectives:

1. Talk about violence and aggression in our community.
2. Empower one another to prevent violence and aggression.
3. Share our stories and talk about solutions to help others prevent violence and aggression.

You can work with your center's Y2Y Staff Point of Contact and use the "Getting Y2Y Started in the Community" tips on the following page to help involve your community in your Y2Y efforts. From there ... it's up to you and your fellow students to make a difference in the community.

As you continue this important work of opposing violence, I hope you will keep a few things in mind:

- "Your community" can mean more than the neighborhood around your Job Corps center. Your community is also your hometown and the areas in which you and your fellow students will go to work after graduating from Job Corps, and the areas in which Job Corps staff members live.
- You can connect with the community by taking your message off center and by inviting members of the community to visit your Job Corps center. Both of these are good options for sharing your Y2Y messages.
- Y2Y seeks to "Share our stories and talk about solutions to help others prevent violence and aggression." This means that our expertise lies within our own experiences. Y2Y is not about telling others how to solve their problems. Y2Y is about telling others how we are solving our problems.

Good luck in your continued efforts to prevent youth violence. I am proud to join you in this vital work!

Sincerely,

Lenita Jacobs-Simmons  
Office of Job Corps  
National Director



/DOLJobCorps



#JobCorpsY2Y

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The checklist below can guide your Y2Y efforts in the community.

### TALK ABOUT VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSION IN YOUR COMMUNITY.

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- There are many types of violence: assault, bullying and cyberbullying, sexual violence and intimidation. Learn about what kind of violence may be present in your community by speaking with your Center Director, local police departments, or anti-violence organizations.
- Build a list of groups in your community that are already working to oppose violence. Review the list of organizations on the “Anti-Violence Resource Links” for examples to help get you started.
- Share the Y2Y website ([www.JobCorpsY2Y.com](http://www.JobCorpsY2Y.com)) and toolkit materials with leaders in your community.
- Work with staff members to invite community leaders to partner with or support Y2Y at your center.
- Work with state and local officials to request that Sept. 14-18 be officially proclaimed “Youth Anti-Violence Week” in your state and city.

### EMPOWER ONE ANOTHER TO PREVENT VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSION.

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- Download the customizable “Y2Y Letter Template” to update and share with potential community partners.
- Create a PowerPoint presentation using the “Y2Y PowerPoint Template” provided in the online toolkit.
- Review and practice the “Y2Y Sample Talking Points” before meeting with community leaders. Add information specific to your community.
- Use the “Event Invitation Template” to invite guests to your Y2Y events.

### SHARE STORIES AND TALK ABOUT SOLUTIONS TO HELP OTHERS PREVENT VIOLENCE AND AGGRESSION.

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- Work with your Staff Point of Contact and other staff members to meet with elected officials and community leaders to share your Y2Y efforts. Examples of elected officials and community leaders include your governor and other state officials, your mayor, city council and law enforcement, first responders, and your local chamber of commerce.

**Note that the Job Corps handbook states Job Corps centers will ensure that candidates for public office will neither be permitted to film nor take photographic images on center property within 60 days of an election, nor conduct any campaign activities during a center visit, and Y2Y Week falls within that period.**

- Meet with groups you identified in your community that are working to oppose violence.
- Consider reaching out to organizations on the “Y2Y Meeting Checklist” to tell them about Y2Y and invite them to join you as a Partner 4 Peace.
- Encourage community leaders to visit the blog on [www.JobCorpsY2Y.com](http://www.JobCorpsY2Y.com) to read stories about student efforts.
- Invite community leaders to join Y2Y Week events, which begin Monday, Sept. 14, and conclude Friday, Sept. 18. Sample community events such as a peace march, panel discussion, or open house can be found in the Y2Y meeting checklist.
- Invite community leaders, such as the local police department, to meet with your Y2Y group on campus and present at a student assembly.
- Report back! Share your stories and progress with your Y2Y group and on the “Share Your Story” tab on [www.JobCorpsY2Y.com](http://www.JobCorpsY2Y.com).

#### NOTE TO STAFF:

While Y2Y is a student-led initiative, staff members play an important role in supporting student efforts, organizing logistics, and assisting with community connections to spread the Y2Y message.

