

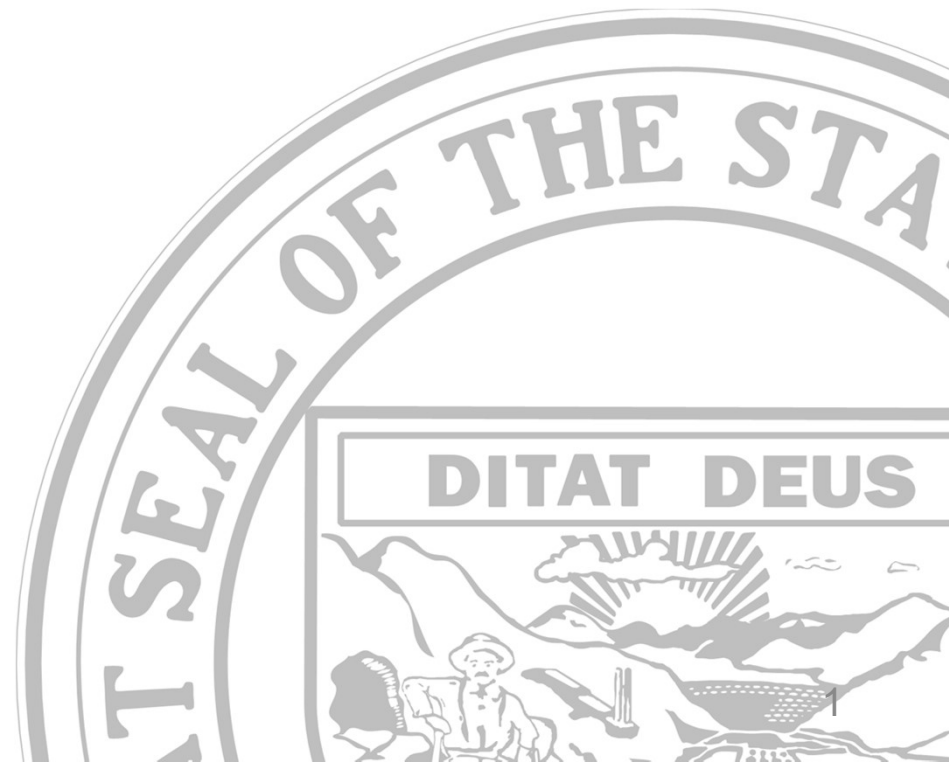
Deepening Youth Service and Leadership in Arizona: Landscape Analysis

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Governor's Office
of Youth, Faith
and Family



Governor Katie Hobbs' Priorities

Statewide Vision: An Arizona For Everyone.

Priorities

Improving Education: Educating the Next Generation of Leaders.

Housing and Human Services: Scaling Affordability and Empowering Consumers.

Health and Reproductive Rights: Expanding Access To Care and Helping Families Thrive.

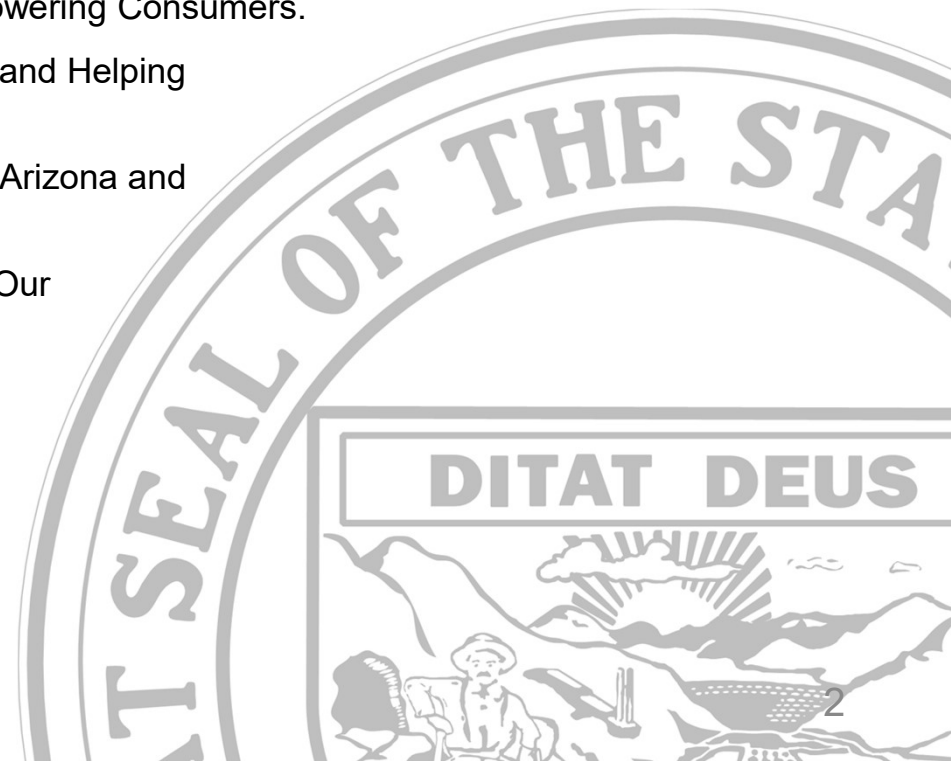
Resilience, Water, and the Environment: Building a Resilient Arizona and Securing Our Water Future.

Public Safety, Border Security, and Corrections: Protecting Our Border and Strengthening Our Communities.

Affordable and Thriving Economy: Unleashing Arizonan Innovation and Growing Our Workforce.



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Agency Vision: Strengthen the health and safety of Arizona's communities through collaboration and capacity building across the state.

Agency Mission: Develop, implement, and support programs, strategies, and initiatives to strengthen communities through partnerships with community and faith-based, private, public, and tribal partners.

Agency Description: GOYFF is a cabinet level agency that administers state and federal grant programs and engages stakeholders across all sectors throughout the state to improve services and service delivery to our citizens. Through a trauma-informed lens, GOYFF develops programs, coalitions, strategies, and initiatives to support the Governor's priorities related to workforce development, substance abuse, human trafficking, sexual & domestic violence, aging, child well-being, and juvenile justice. GOYFF also serves as the Governor's faith-based office and administers the state's AmeriCorps program. As part of our work, GOYFF staffs and convenes nine of the Governor appointed commissions.



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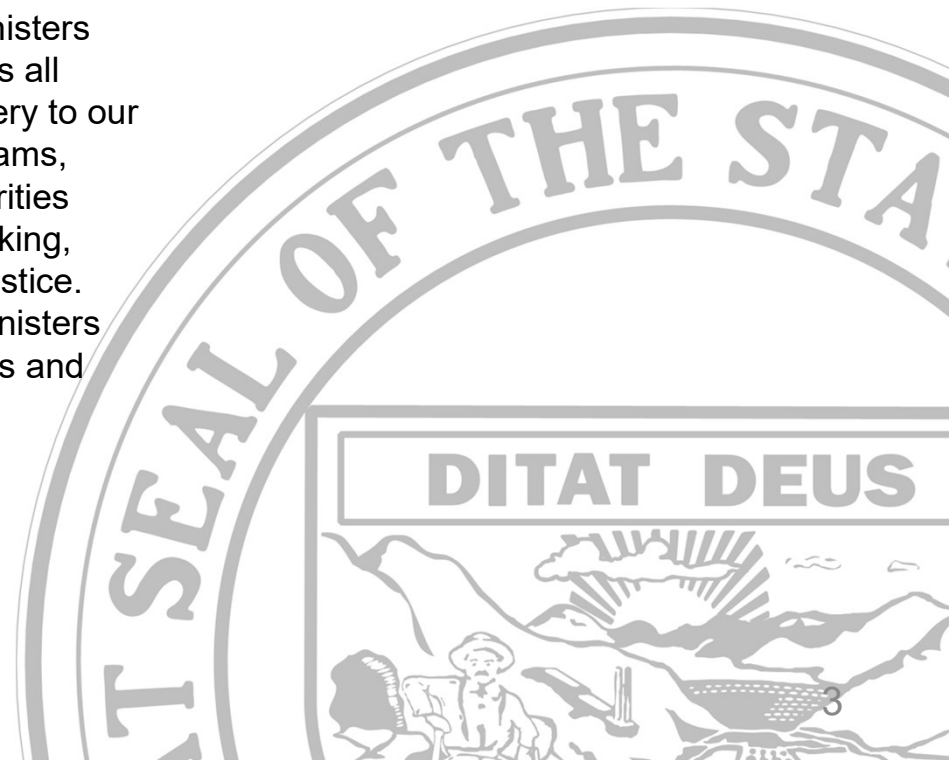
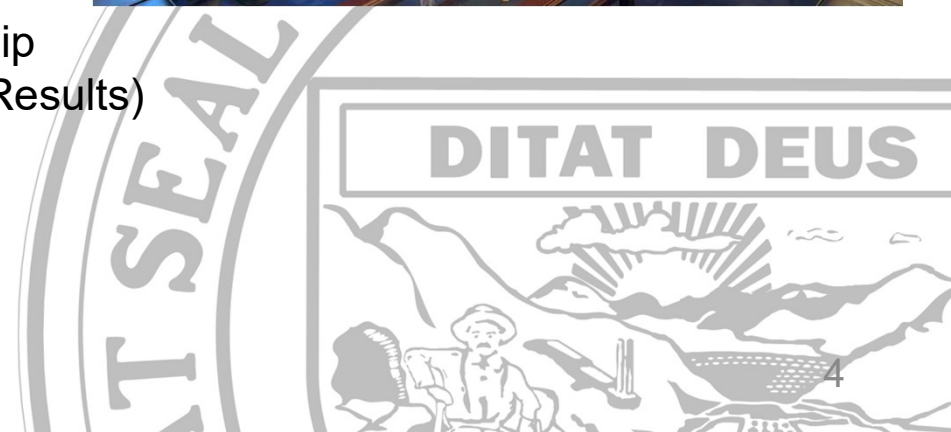


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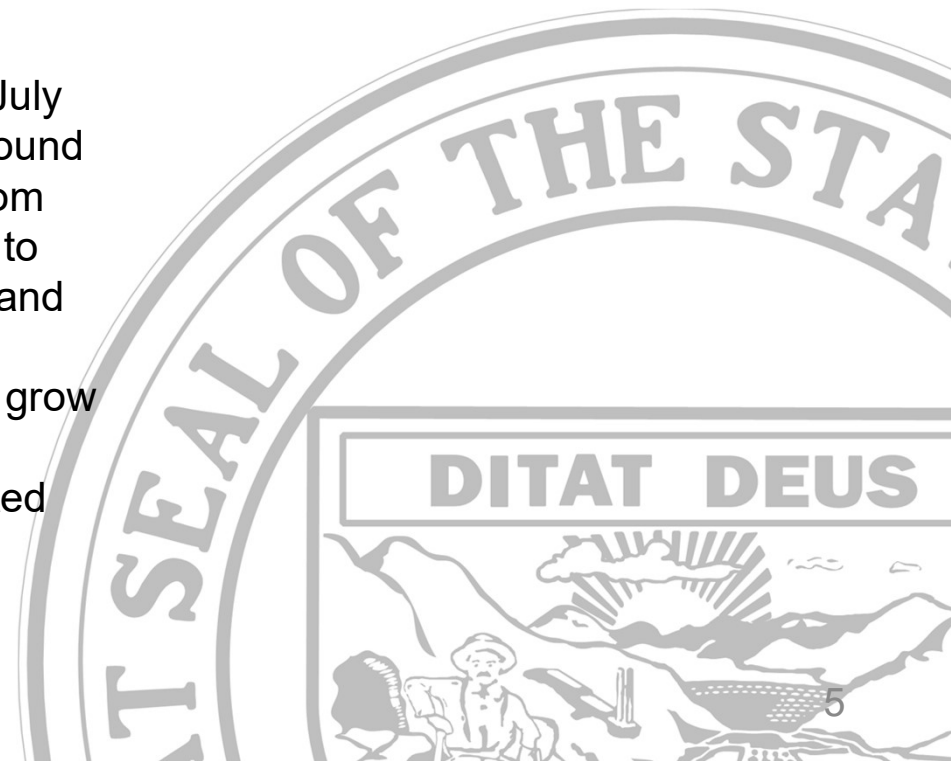
Overview of the Project

The Arizona Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family received a grant from the Charles S. Mott Foundation through the America's Service Commission in spring of 2024 to complete a landscape analysis of youth service and leadership in Arizona with a focus on Youth Commissions/Councils.

The landscape analysis included 56 interviews from May-July 2024 with a variety of stakeholders across Arizona and around the country. This report includes the qualitative findings from those interviews. In early August 2024, a survey was sent to youth members of Arizona Youth Commissions, Councils and Tasks Forces interviewed to get their views about their experience and recommendations on how to improve and grow youth service and leadership in Arizona. A final report and updated PowerPoint incorporating this info will be completed by Aug. 30, 2024.



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Why Youth Service and Leadership is Important

“Participation in service is about far more than just altruistic intention but an understanding that youth have the agency and power to effect positive change in the world. Increasingly, youth report participation in service as a vehicle for building relationships, creating proximity to people who hold different world views, and finding ways to work together to address issues that they face.”

Source: Dugan, J.P., Skendall, K.C., & Weatherford II, G. (2024). Leveraging the Potential of Youth Service: A Call to Action. The Allstate Foundation and the Center for Expanding Leadership & Opportunity. p. 7.



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Why Youth Service and Leadership is Important

“Based on US census data, only 23% of youth ages 16-24 engaged in annual, formal volunteering (i.e., helping others through organizations) in 2021 (AmeriCorps, n.d.).... Yet, emerging research from service-based organizations along with data collected for this report paint a far different picture. When participation is measured across the wider array of service concepts (e.g., community service, service-learning, civic engagement, advocacy, and volunteering), the numbers increase exponentially.” p. 12

Source: Dugan, J.P., Skendall, K.C., & Weatherford II, G. (2024). Leveraging the Potential of Youth Service: A Call to Action. The Allstate Foundation and the Center for Expanding Leadership & Opportunity.

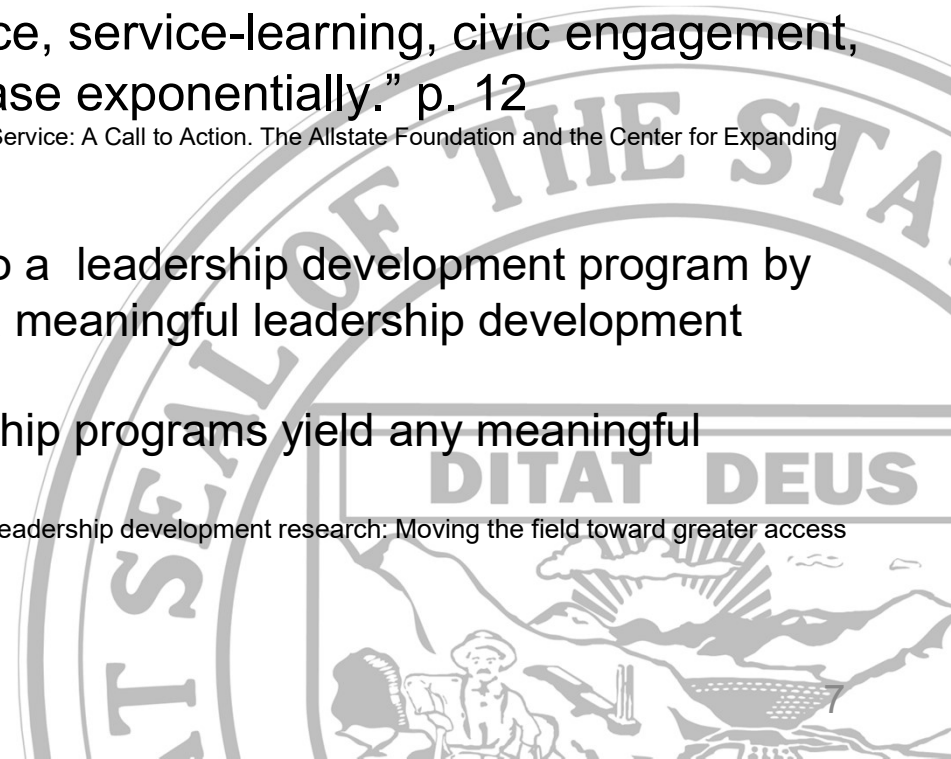
ACCESS: Fewer than 32% of youth have exposure to a leadership development program by age 25. Fewer than 16% of youth have exposure to a meaningful leadership development program by age 25

QUALITY: Fewer than 50% of existing youth leadership programs yield any meaningful impact.”

Source: Dugan, J. P., Patterson, S., Skendall, K. C., & Associates.(2023). Advancing youth leadership development research: Moving the field toward greater access and quality. Aspen Institute. p. 5



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Why Youth Service and Leadership is Important

CELO's publication "Leveraging the Potential of Youth Service" names the following as research-based benefits of youth service: Character and Social Responsibility, Academic Outcomes & Workforce Readiness, Sense of Belonging to School and Community; Health & Mental Well-Being, Social Trust, Democracy, Justice & Community Engagement

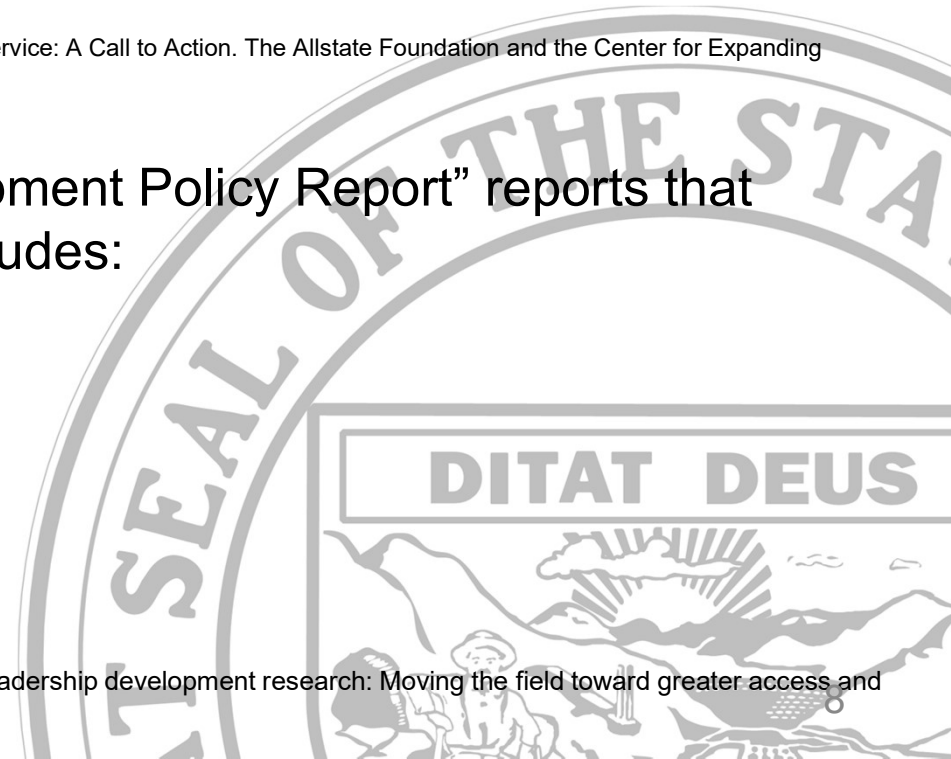
Source: Dugan, J.P., Skendall, K.C., & Weatherford II, G. (2024). Leveraging the Potential of Youth Service: A Call to Action. The Allstate Foundation and the Center for Expanding Leadership & Opportunity. p. 7.

CELO's publication "Youth Leadership Development Policy Report" reports that benefits of Youth Leadership Development includes:

- Learning Outcome Gains
- Increases in Social Capital
- Ability to Buffer Stereotype Threat
- Increase Social Cohesion
- Education Persistence
- Workforce Readiness

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Source: Dugan, J. P., Patterson, S., Skendall, K. C., & Associates. (2023). Advancing youth leadership development research: Moving the field toward greater access and quality. Aspen Institute. p. 5



Why Youth Service and Leadership is Important

In the Center for the Future of Arizona's report based on the Gallop 2020 Arizona Survey [“The Arizona We Want: The Decade Ahead”](#), Arizonans named “Civic Engagement and Leadership” as one of the top 7 shared public values.

“SHARED PUBLIC VALUE: Arizonans want to work together to improve our communities, solve problems and keep building a democracy that works for all.”

Specifically, Arizonans agree that we need to “create a pipeline of civic leaders who are thinking long-term about the future.” p. 56.



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Lessons from National Youth Service and Leadership Organizations and Other State Commissioners

Interviewed organizations InnerView, Institute for Citizens and Scholars, National Youth Leadership Council and Youth Service America and State Commissions from CT, Iowa, Michigan, North Carolina, Ohio, & Utah.

- InnerView works with several other state commissions. Their data shows that AZ youth are most interested in: Education, Climate Action, Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-Being, No Poverty.
- Institute for Citizens and Scholars have been helping youth do service work as a cohort inside or outside of school. It is a paid opportunity with training and coaching support. They have funded youth in Arizona in coordination with PHX Union and Valley Leadership.
- NYLC supports state out of school time networks with service learning and they will have their next cohort/grant opportunity available in summer 2025.
- YSC is seeking funding to help every state have a State Youth Service Associate to build back a state network of youth service support that was in place in the days of Learn and Serve. Looking to offer first opportunity to State Commissions. Plan to rebrand the Global Youth Service Day to “State” Youth Service Day starting in 2025.
- Of the commissions, CT serves as a facilitator and covenior. Utah used a framework created by Stanford for college students and uses for high school students and have invested in service learning pilots with four school districts to design locally to meet their communities needs.



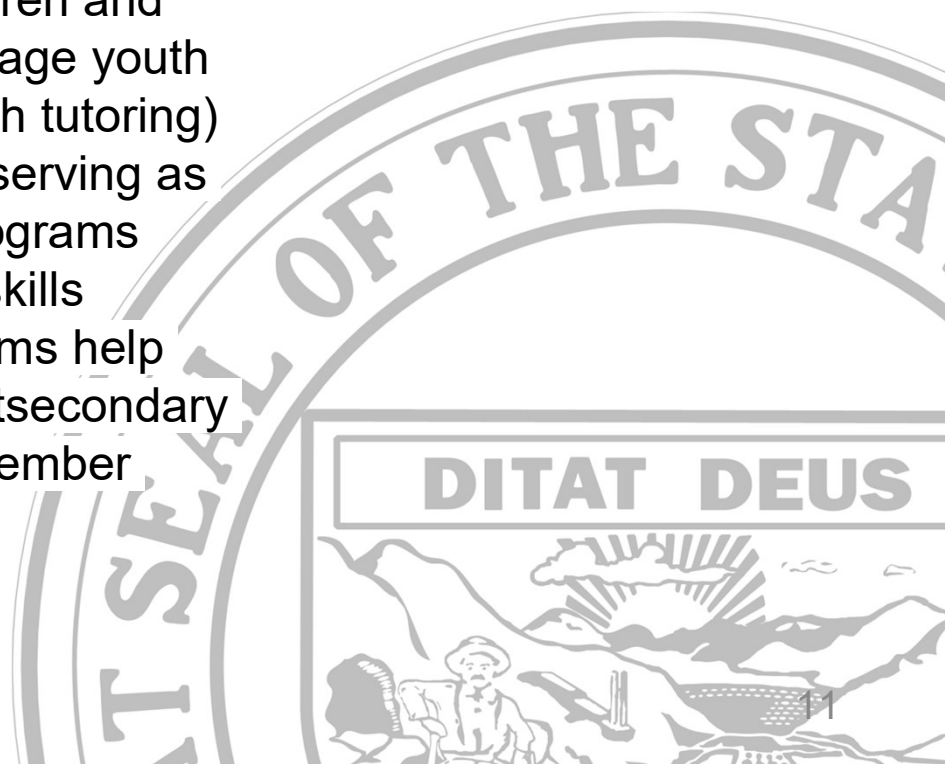
Overview of AZ Youth Service and Leadership Organizations

AmeriCorps

Many AmeriCorps programs in Arizona serve children and youth. Some programs have built pathways to engage youth served by programs (ex. in summer school, through tutoring) into leadership opportunities that can also lead to serving as an AmeriCorps member as young as 16. Many programs provide professional development and document skills gained through AmeriCorps service. These programs help Corps members with career development and postsecondary education pathways. Serving as an AmeriCorps member can influence a young person's career direction.



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Overview of AZ Youth Service and Leadership Organizations

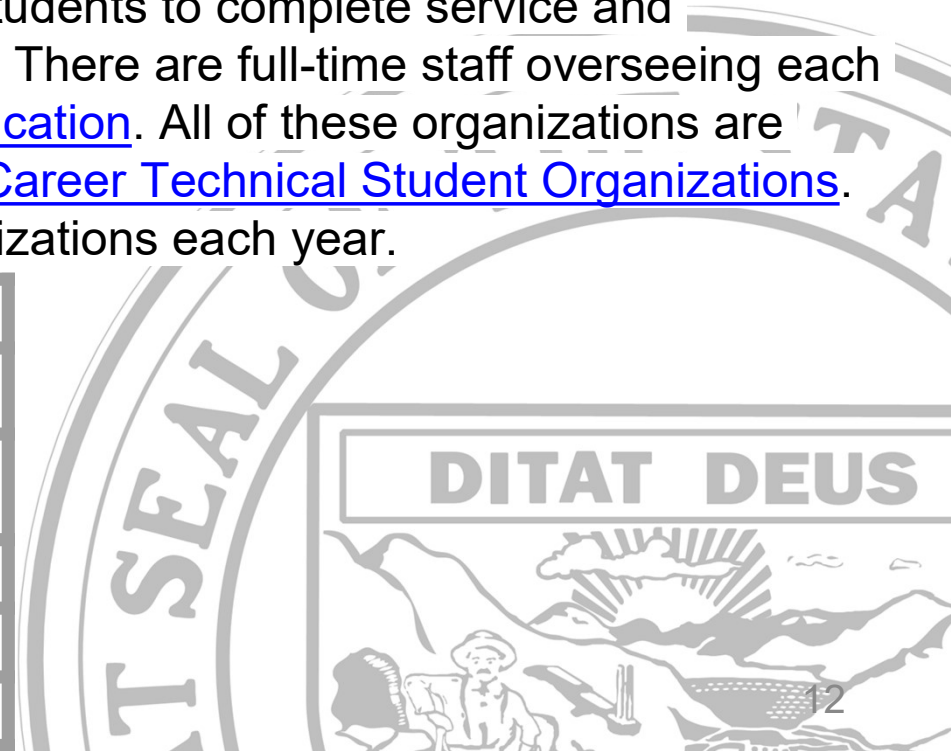
AZ Career and Technical Student Organizations

Service Learning in AZ is part of CTE at the Arizona Department of Education. CTE also is the home of CTSOs. CTSOs require participating students to complete service and leadership as part of this intercurricular opportunity. There are full-time staff overseeing each of these organizations at the [AZ Department of Education](#). All of these organizations are connected to the [National Coordinating Council of Career Technical Student Organizations](#). Over 55,000 AZ students participate in these organizations each year.

DECA
Future Business Leaders of America
Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
Future Farmers of America (FFA)
Future Health Professionals (HOSA)
SkillsUSA



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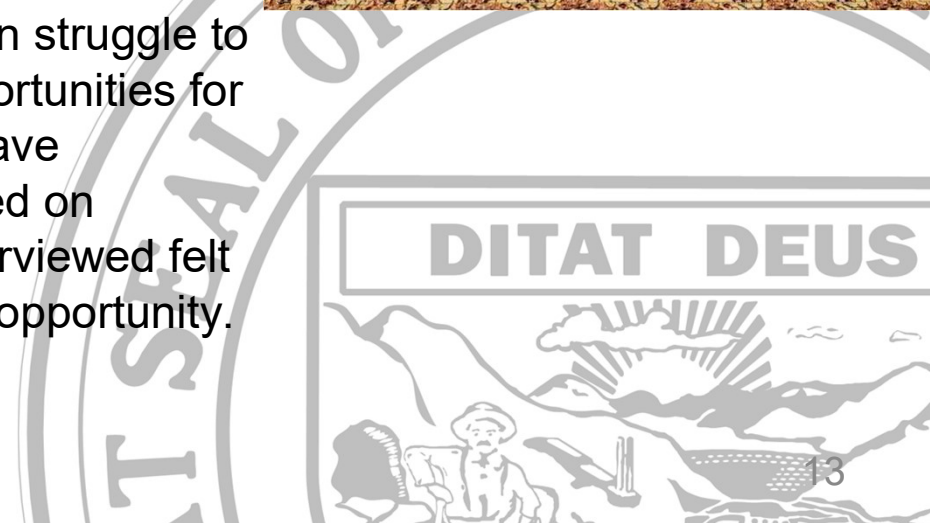
Overview of AZ Youth Service and Leadership Organizations

Nonprofits/Faith Based

Arizona has a rich network of nonprofits and faith based organizations that support youth in out of school time, that provide programming during the school day in partnership with schools and in the community such as Junior Achievement Arizona, JAG Arizona, Arizona Alliance for Boys and Girls Clubs, YMCA, United Way, Girl Scouts of Arizona and the Jewish Community Foundation. Some of these programs can struggle to keep high school students involved. Some have opportunities for high school youth to serve on their boards. Others have programming just for high school youth that is focused on service, leadership and civic engagement. Many interviewed felt that not enough youth and families knew about their opportunity.



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Overview of AZ Youth Service and Leadership Organizations

Civic Leadership

Arizona has the Seal of Civic Literacy which requires high school students to participate in three approved in school and out of school civics learning programs like [ASU's Civic Leadership Institute](#). It also requires 30 hours of civic engagement with many organizations that were part of this landscape analysis: Girl Scouts, AmeriCorps, YMCA, Tribal Communities and serving on youth commission/council, etc.

Additional organizations are working with youth specifically around civic engagement such as Valley Leadership, Center for the Future of Arizona, and The Flinn Foundation. Many of these organizations are already working together to grow their impact.



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Overview of AZ Youth Service and Leadership Organizations

Schools/Government

There are Youth Councils/Commissions/Tasks Forces in many AZ cities, towns and counties and for many municipal departments—especially Health Departments—focused on a variety of youth prevention efforts and Parks and Recs to help design teen focused programming. AZ Arts Commission is a State government entity that has a robust Arts Youth Council.

The AZ School Board recently started a Student Advisory Council and the Arizona Charter Board is launching their first Student Advisory Council during the 2024-2025 school year. Some school districts and charter schools have youth sit on their board. Schools have a very rich student council/governments. Youth Advisors to Youth Commissions/Councils shared that many youth that participate in Youth Councils/Commissions have prior experience on their school student councils.



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