



## Young Advocates Institute Advisory Council Frequently Asked Questions

### **Who is the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault?**

The Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MSCASA) is a nonprofit organization that serves as the statewide expertise and alliance working to end sexual violence through training, education, advocacy and system change. MSCASA mission is to provide training and technical assistance that builds upon strong community partnerships with the goals of strengthening services for victims of sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking while promoting comprehensive prevention strategies around the state. MSCASA provides prevention education, intervention resources in an effort to end all forms of sexual assault. Our dedicated staff works with rape crisis centers across the state in addition to the medical professionals, military, law enforcement, college campuses, attorneys and allied professions to create a coordinated response to sexual assault.

### **What is the Young Advocates Institute?**

The Young Advocates Institute is a social justice summer camp that empowers and trains youth, ages 13-17, from across Mississippi during a weekend of prevention/intervention education, advocacy and leadership development seminars. The Institute will feature national speakers, peer to peer education, campus tours, and team building activities.

### **What is the purpose of the Young Advocates Institute?**

The purpose of the Young Advocates Institute is to give youth a voice, the opportunity to share their experiences regarding social justice issues, and to help them become an integral part of the solutions. Not only do young people from across Mississippi, who represent our state's rich diversity, have access to learning about violence prevention, healthy behaviors and leadership, but they also build relationships with peers and carve out their niche in creating safer communities.

### **What is the Young Advocates Institute Advisory Board?**

The Young Advocates Institute Advisory Council is a team of 5-10 youth, ages 13-17, which are committed to promoting advocacy and leadership. Members will shape the direction, content and marketing efforts of the Young Advocates Institute.

**Join Raliance and MSCASA in its work to End Sexual Violence in One Generation**



### **What are you looking for in applicants?**

We seek applicants who are enthusiastic, creative, willing to work with a team and possess a want to learn about varied social justice issues. We encourage youth ages 13-17 to apply. No previous experience is required.

### **What are the duties of the Young Advocates Institute Advisory Council?**

Selected council members will serve for a one (1) term and are expected to:

- Attend monthly meetings/conference calls held every third Saturday of the month
- Help plan and implement the Young Advocates Institute, including attendance at the planning retreat Spring 2017
- Assist with the marketing and social media relations related to the Young Advocates Institute
- Research, design and/or help lead youth-specific trainings and focus groups

The Advisory Council will have the access to:

- Skill-based trainings such as public speaking, leadership, group facilitation, education-specific topics (i.e., sexual assault, human trafficking, oppression), etc.
- Opportunities for engagement in the local, state, and national anti-sexual assault movements; and youth engagement, including networking opportunities
- Valuable real world experiences toward college and employment opportunities

### **How do I apply to be a member of the Young Advocates Institute Advisory Council?**

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Complete the online application available at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YAIAC> by **October 7, 2016**.

The selected council members will be announced on October 14, 2016. If you have any further questions, contact Deidre Johnson at (601) 317-2074 or via email at [yais@mscasa.org](mailto:yais@mscasa.org).