



Halton Youth Initiative

2018-2021

The HYI elevated youth voices and empowered youth to have a positive impact in the communities of North Oakville, Acton, Aldershot and Milton.

The project was **youth-led**, with youth identifying local issues and identifying strategies for possible solutions.

PREPARING THE GROUND:

The Need



To increase awareness of **local resources** and topics that **matter to youth**

To increase **positive youth hangout space**

PLANTING THE SEEDS:

The Communities



Intentional outreach to youth in
Acton
Aldershot
Milton
North Oakville

THE PHILOSOPHY

Activities were grounded in an **asset-based approach** and focused on **relationship building** to create a culture of **authentic youth engagement**.

YOUTH VOICE

"I really like having someone listen and take in the information so you can see them absorbing it."

NURTURING THE CROP:

The Transition to Virtual



The Pandemic required the HYI to dissolve the geographic barriers and develop a **virtual model** that resulted in participation growing to over **300 youth and 50 adult allies**.

BEARING FRUIT:

Recruit, Retain, Recognize Relationships and Resources



Created resources for:

- The case for investing in relationships
- Recruiting, retaining and recognizing youth volunteers
- Using technology with youth



Funding for the Our Kids Network Halton Youth Initiative is provided by the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

For the full Halton Youth Initiative Report visit haltonyouth.com