



## Statewide Young Adult Council (SYAC)

The **Statewide Young Adult Council (SYAC)** is a subcommittee of the MA State Mental Health Planning Council (SMHPC) and serves as an advisory board to the SMHPC and DMH's TAY Initiative.

### What is SYAC?

#### SYAC...

- Brings together youth, young adults, and providers to advise the Department of Mental Health (DMH) and other young adult service organizations - ultimately creating a cohesive, supportive network of families, peers and service providers throughout the Commonwealth;
- Seeks to inspire hope and recovery among youth/young adults across the state;
- Empowers youth/young adult voices within DMH;
- Encourages young people to advocate for themselves and to assist them in making their own choices/decisions with transitional life skills, including education, employment, housing, and healthcare;
- Works together to find equality and advocate for all youth/young adults.

### Who can attend SYAC meetings?

- SYAC welcomes youth and young adults (age 16-30) in MA to participate in meetings!

### When are SYAC meetings?

- SYAC meetings are currently held on the **4th Tuesday of every month from 3:30-5:00pm.**

### Where are SYAC meetings?

- SYAC meetings are currently held **VIRTUALLY via Zoom**. For meeting information or to be sent a calendar invite, please contact the SYAC leadership team.

### SYAC Leadership Team:

- **SYAC Co-Chair:** Colby Mills (he/they) – [cmills@ppal.net](mailto:cmills@ppal.net)
- **SYAC Co-Chair:** Dev Kaplan (he/him) – [devkap28@gmail.com](mailto:devkap28@gmail.com)
- **DMH Liaison** – Izzy Marchand (she/her) – [isabel.marchand@mass.gov](mailto:isabel.marchand@mass.gov)
- **DMH Director of Young Adult Services** – Heidi Holland (she, her) [heidi.holland@mass.gov](mailto:heidi.holland@mass.gov)

Learn more about the State Mental Health Planning Council here: <https://www.mass-smhpc.org/>