

# The ForYouPage.Org Manifesto [2023 Original]

ForYouPage.org is a youth-led NGO and a global coalition of youth advocates on a mission to unite young leaders and mobilize our peers in grassroots advocacy for our individual flourishing and our collective social justice.

By joining forces, we aim to amplify our voices and empower individual advocacy by providing each of us with resources, opportunities, and support of a community.

By joining forces, we aim to inspire more of our peers to advocate locally and globally, to not only build a more equitable and sustainable world by our own hands, but to make friends, take risks, and to nurture our own growth within.

At ForYouPage.Org, we are committed to the following principles:

Principle 1. Youth Advocacy for Youth Flourishing

**We firmly believe the key to youth flourishing is to empower the youth to take risks and exercise agency through advocacy.**

We believe the cause of youth mental health crises is the feeling of powerlessness - to not feel in charge of our lives and to feel hopeless on many urgent issues of our time. and we believe the solution is advocacy. Advocacy provides a platform for us to step out of our comfort zones and channel our passions into meaningful action, exercising our own power to contribute to the causes we care about.

[Our Approach 1] We lower the barrier for advocacy by connecting youth with a network of youth led social ventures and local volunteers and help with causes of their choice.

Principle 2. Youth Advocacy is for Everyone

**We firmly believe youth advocacy encompasses any grassroots action that involves giving back to and exercising kindness in our communities.**

We believe that youth advocacy does not need to consist of grand actions only by the 'cool' and the 'accomplished.' Whether it's organizing a neighborhood cleanup, volunteering at a local shelter, or raising awareness about important social issues, we believe every act of leadership or kindness is youth advocacy. Transcending notions of popularity or achievement, together we aim to create a culture where every grassroots community action is recognized, celebrated, and valued as a vital part of youth advocacy.

[Our Approach 2] We are fully open to all youth to participate in community advocacy at any level of commitment. We invite all grassroots youth to join us and we aim to serve all youth by providing the requisite knowledge and connections.



[Our Approach 6] We coach our youth volunteers in communication **and perspective taking** skills and we organize youth led community meetings where stakeholders and youth can come together to have dialogue.

#### Principle 7: ?Self Organization as Empowerment

**We believe that self-organization is a vital ingredient in empowering the youth and fostering community-level engagement.**

Fostering community-level engagement, self-organization builds stronger social connections, nurtures a sense of belonging, and empowers young people to be catalysts for change within their own communities. By providing the necessary tools, support, and guidance, we aim to facilitate the process of self-organization on all levels.

[Our Approach 7] We facilitate self-organizing advocacy by curating knowledge, providing resources and assisting individuals to take the lead, identify their passions, and drive their own initiatives. We facilitate community self-organization by providing community group chats and organizing community meetings.

#### Principle 8: ?Youth Advocacy as Fun

**We believe that youth advocacy can transcend the boundaries of seriousness and embrace an element of joy and fun.**

By infusing our efforts with positivity, creativity, and a sense of playfulness, we attract a broader audience, inspire greater participation, and foster a vibrant and inclusive advocacy community. Embracing a fun-filled approach enables us to break down barriers, ignite passion, and generate a lasting impact in a way that resonates with young people worldwide.

[Our Approach 8] We strive to actively infuse fun and humor in all our external messages. And we encourage everyone to infuse humor when contributing knowledge to our database of resources.

#### Principle 9: ?No Monetary Incentive Involved

**We believe that maintaining a platform free of monetary incentives is of utmost importance.**

Our commitment to this principle ensures that all operations within our platform are driven solely by the genuine desire to create a positive change. By eliminating financial motivations, we create an environment where individuals engage and contribute without any form of obligations. All members strive to promote authenticity, transparency, and integrity in all our endeavors, focusing on the collective goal of advocating for a better world rather than a world full of personal gain.

[Our Approach 9] The donations received will only go towards server costs, event hosting costs, and towards the stipend for our core operations team. All working groups, organizational initiatives, and wiki databases are maintained by volunteers. We make most of our work public through wiki and keep it open for anyone to freely contribute. There are no strings attached to anyone who wishes to directly contribute to our platform.

#### Principle 10: ?A Coalition for You

**We firmly believe it is critical that this coalition doesn't serve us, but serves you and your advocacy.**

We strongly believe that by fighting for the justice you believe in, by exploring your life, and finding your purpose, you empower the rest of us. Every member of this coalition strives to listen to you, support you, and serve your advocacy. By acting on your dream to advocate for change, you directly help this coalition be more impactful by creating real change, connecting communities, and uncovering knowledge and opportunities.

[Our Approach 10] With ForYouPage.org, the best way to help us is to help yourself. What community project and mental health initiatives do you want to do? How can we, our volunteers and our community best help you to achieve your advocacy dream?

By empowering each of us to become advocates, ForYouPage.Org aims to cultivate a generation of socially conscious leaders and equip ourselves with the skills, resilience, and determination to shape a better future by our own hands.

**Be together to change together.**

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