

Happy New Year!

Moving into our third year of navigating this pandemic and looking ahead to our future, we are inspired by words from National Youth Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman's poem "The Hill We Climb."

*For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it.
If only we're brave enough to be it.*

Winter



RUNNING 50 STATES FOR CYN

Deputy Probation Officer Patrick Yalon is on the move and he is taking City Youth Now along with him! Patrick is on a mission to run a marathon in all 50 states. So far, he has run in Colorado, California and Idaho. Fitbod has been sponsoring his registrations. Find out more about Patrick's [journey and fundraising efforts for CYN here](#).

HOLIDAY CHEER

This holiday season was a challenge for many of the youth and families that we have the pleasure of partnering with. Thanks to the support of the Ticket to Dream Foundation, Project Glimmer, St. Paul's School SF and Allworth Financial, we were able to host a Holiday Gift Market which served 350 young people in our community.

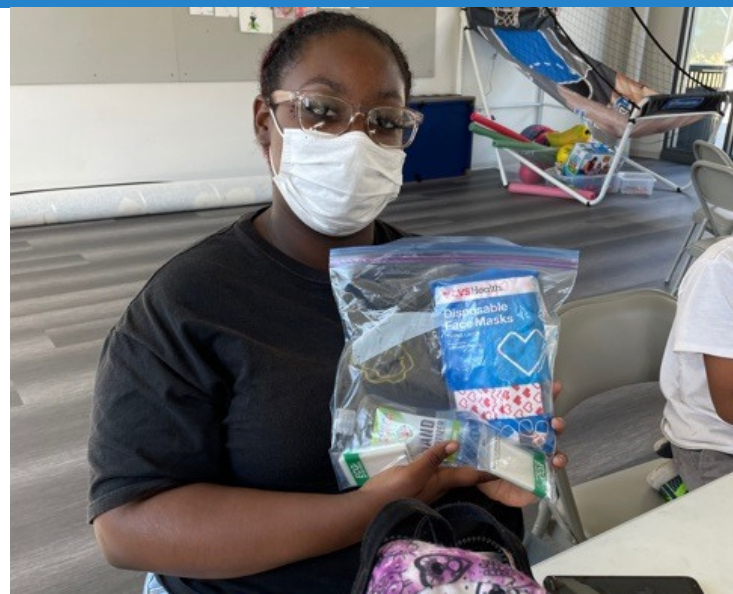
SWEATSHIRTS

It's officially sweatshirt season and we have [City Youth Now sweatshirts and patches!](#) These thick, comfy sweatshirts are available in sizes xs-3xl and make the perfect gifts. 100% of the proceeds from our sweatshirt sales are used to support our Free Store which is providing tangible support to many youth this year.

YOUTH PARTNERING FOR EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

COVID-19 Updates

With COVID-19 cases still on the rise in San Francisco, we are working hard to ensure that youth employed through our paid internship program are prepared, supported and well-informed. Each youth is being provided proper PPE and safety equipment as well as guidance for testing, safety measures and best practices. As we continue to navigate these challenges, we will be open by appointment only through the end of January. Please reach out to us via email at info@cityyouthnow.org. We are here to help!





OUR LEADERSHIP

From our Board Chair

At City Youth Now, we can see the light at the end of the tunnel, and we are inspired by the incredible support we have received while navigating this tunnel over the past year. We also continue to be in awe of the bravery and perseverance that our youth have displayed, despite the challenging circumstances they have faced -- with meeting their basic food and shelter needs, and accessing technology to keep up with their school work.

It has been my pleasure to guide CYN through this unprecedented time, and I am happy to announce that the strong leadership will continue into 2022. Toni Powell, the board's current Vice President, will become the new President, and current board member, Andrea Dew Steele, will step in as Vice President.

I am excited to see the continued growth of City Youth Now, and will remain in community as Toni and Andrea lead us through 2022 and beyond.

CYN FREE STORE

Personal Empowerment Program

During several youth engagement sessions, implemented by CYN in 2021, youth shared that they were having difficulty accessing everyday items to meet their basic needs, like hygiene products, socks, and food. In response, CYN allocated \$500 toward the purchase of critical need items and supplemented that with donations from our generous supporters in order to establish a Free Store, which opened on October 1.

Youth and families affected by the Foster Care and Juvenile Justice systems are referred to the store by a probation officer, social worker, or case manager. Appointments are then made to come "shop" for items when the store is open on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

From October 1 – December 31, the Free Store served 111 individuals, and we anticipate an increase in the number of individuals and families requesting support from the store in 2022. We are thankful for the many community members who provided donations, in-kind and monetary, to help us keep the free store stocked and open for youth.

Personal Finance for Teens

This month we are hosting a virtual Personal Finance Course for teens, ages 14-21. This five week series will cover everything from budgeting to credit scores and investing. Youth who participate in this course will earn a stipend of \$250 to help jumpstart their personal finance journey. This course will be taught by CYN staff, volunteers and community members. We are looking forward to learning and growing with the 15 youth who will be participating.



January 2022