

At City Youth Now, growth and change are part of our journey. As we step into a new season, we continue to embrace new opportunities to evolve, strengthen our programs, and expand our impact for the youth and families we support. From welcoming new staff to launching new programming, we remain committed to creating spaces where young people can learn, grow, and thrive.

With every new season comes new possibilities, and we are excited to keep building momentum, creating opportunities, and riding the next wave of impact together!



### OPEN HEARTS CONVENING

In March, our Executive Director traveled to Los Angeles to participate in the Open Hearts Foundation Arts and Mental Health Convening, where City Youth Now was one of only ten nonprofits invited nationwide. This powerful gathering brought together leaders committed to improving youth well-being through connection, creativity, and innovation. We are grateful for the opportunity to share our work, learn from others, and bring back new ideas that will strengthen how we support youth. We look forward to growing this partnership and expanding what is possible.



### WELCOME, AYLA!

We're excited to officially welcome Ayla Azim, our new Youth Services Coordinator! Since joining CYN in February, Ayla has already jumped in to strengthen youth engagement and support program growth. A Bay Area native and UC Berkeley graduate, she brings experience supporting youth through academic support, career readiness, and program coordination in Oakland schools. Ayla is passionate about helping young people discover their potential. Outside of work, she enjoys reading, spending time with family and friends, volunteering with cat cafés, and playing with her tuxedo cat, Churo. Feel free to send her a welcome email or stop by the office to say hello!



### RSA COHORT 1 UPDATE

We are proud to celebrate the success of our first Readiness Skills Academy Cohort! In February, we graduated 13 youth, with 11 securing internships aligned with their interests and career goals. Watching these young people take steps toward their futures reminds us why this work matters. We are now underway with Cohort 2 and excited to continue building opportunities for youth to learn, grow, and succeed. Congratulations to our graduates and thank you to STEPS for partnering with us to make this possible!

## CYN'S 2026 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



We are proud to announce our 2026 Community Service Award recipient, Denia Valdeolivar! As a dedicated social worker with the San Francisco Human Services Agency (HSA), Denia has been a true partner to City Youth Now and a powerful advocate for the youth we serve. Whether she is collaborating on solutions to meet youth needs, supporting our events, or helping lead partnerships like our Annual Charity Softball Tournament, Denia consistently shows up for our youth and young adults! Her commitment to collaboration and youth success embodies what this award represents, and we cannot wait to celebrate her at this year's Rise Awards.

Come and join us in celebrating Denia at our 2026 Annual Rise Awards: [www.cityyouthnow.org/rise-awards-2026](http://www.cityyouthnow.org/rise-awards-2026)

# ANNUAL SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

## The 33rd Annual Citywide Charity Softball Tournament is back!

City Youth Now is proud to once again partner with SF Human Services Agency (HSA) and SF Recreation & Parks for this long-standing community tradition. Join us on Saturday, June 13, 2026, at Moscone Field, with the first pitch at 8:00 AM.

Whether you're stepping up to the plate or cheering from the sidelines, this is always a day full of community spirit, friendly competition, and fun. We hope to see you there!



City YOUTH Now

### 33RD ANNUAL MAE LOUISE MAYS SOFTBALL Tournament

50/50 Raffle

Do you have what it takes to bring home the trophy? Join us for an action-packed day of competition, camaraderie, and unforgettable moments on the field.

**SATURDAY, 13 JUNE 2026 | 8 AM**

Moscone Field,  
1800 Chestnut St, San Francisco, CA 94123

San Francisco Recreation

QR codes and a 'Scan Me' button are also present.



## INTERVIEWS WITH OUR YPEE INTERNS



Terronnie recently graduated from his internship at United Playaz in March! When he went into the internship, he didn't know what he was doing or what to expect. Now that he has graduated from our program, he has officially been hired by United Playaz!!

When asked about his thoughts or ideas on what he wants to do after the program, he stated:

*"I want to help people. [Working at United Playaz] made me realize I basically want to help anyone and everyone."*

Hezzakiya recently graduated from her internship with the Don Fisher Boys and Girls Club, and now she is one step closer to achieving her dream of becoming an ultrasound technician! She enjoyed her internship and developed a love for working with young children through her work with City Youth Now- she also has a summer internship already secured!

Her advice to future YPEE Interns is:

*"Take the experience [the YPEE Internship] seriously!!"*

