



HARTFORD COMMUNITIES  
THAT CARE, INC.

# Greater Hartford Youth Leadership Academy



**2021:**  
**YEAR IN REVIEW**





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**The Greater Hartford Youth Leadership Academy (YLA)** consists of a cohort of 15-20 school-aged youth trained to be peer leaders/ peer educators. They research issues that impact them, their peers, family, and community, delving into topics that include Community Violence & Trauma, Education Under the New Normal during COVID-19, Child Maltreatment Prevention, Community Organizing, and other health and economic disparities.

Participants meet weekly to research and engage peers and adult coaches to gain knowledge of the various topics to develop and facilitate youth-led forums, conferences, and other opportunities to educate the broader community on ways to address these complex societal problems.

**The Greater Hartford Youth Leadership Academy (YLA)** – is a unique effort to help our youth become informed problem-solving advocates by:

- Responding to emerging health and social justice crises by researching real-time topics.
- Building new regional partnerships in preparation for our annual summits, “Raising Youth and Community Voices.”
- Extending the reach of GHYLA with an “Each One Reach One” initiative to support futures beyond high school.
- Launching recruitment efforts for the next cohort of youth leaders



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**100%**

high school graduation  
rate since 2017.

**95%**

of our high school  
graduates are now  
attending an HBCU, CT  
State University, pursuing  
entrepreneurial/ trade  
efforts, or joining to serve  
in the U.S. military.

**100%**

of our participants  
shared that they would  
return to our program,  
and or support our  
efforts within their  
collegiate years and  
after high school  
endeavors.





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## THIS YEAR WE...

- Hosted a Virtual Safe Sleep Awareness Conference in partnership with Saint Francis (Trinity Health of NE) and Hartford Parent University (reaching over 85 parents, youth, and families).
- Made our second appearance since 2018 at the CT General Assembly Virtual Public Hearing to testify on Gun Violence and Prevention.
- Hosted our 4th Annual "Raising Youth Voices" Youth Summit (Virtually) with over 100 participants.
- Were invited to be guest speakers for the annual UCONN Health Disparities Institute's - State of Health Equity among Boys and Men of Color Virtual Summit.
- Co-hosted a 6-8-week summer youth employment and learning program series with our partners at Blue Hills Civic Association.
- Facilitated a Child Safety Forward initiative community knowledge and perspective focus group in partnership with Saint Francis (Trinity Health of NE)
- Took a day trip to explore the beautiful sites in New York City
- Participated as one of four Community Safety Coalition organizations featured on a "Finding Peace" youth panel discussion at the Wilson Gray YMCA in Hartford, to help develop a strategic approach for addressing youth violence in our city.

## ACCOLADES

- 💰 Recipient, WECA 100 Neighbors Campaign quarterly donation.
- 💰 Recipient, Town Fair Tire Hartford County Annual Community Award grant.
- 💰 Recipient, The Prosperity Foundation Annual Grant Give Program.

## Special Thanks to our Partners



# CONNECT WITH US

## ON THE WEB/SOCIAL MEDIA



@RaisingYouthVoices



Raising Youth Voices



[www.hartfordctc.org](http://www.hartfordctc.org)

## CONTACT US

Interested in enrolling youth in our program  
to become community problem solvers?

**Contact us today!**



[hctcyouthleaders@gmail.com](mailto:hctcyouthleaders@gmail.com)



Call or text (860) 580-6831