

Valparaiso Invites Applications for Mayor's Youth Council

The City of Valparaiso is inviting youth to apply for a place on the second annual Mayor's Youth Council, designed to encourage youth to interact with City government, build leadership skills and enhance civic engagement. The Council will include 15-20 members for the 2022-23 school year and students entering their junior year in Fall, 2022 are encouraged to apply.

"Our inaugural year for the Youth Council was fantastic as we shared our mission and how city government works and also learned from the students themselves," said Valparaiso Mayor Matt Murphy. "This is a nonpolitical, educational council. We introduce the many areas of service within city government and perhaps spark some aspirations in the process," he said. The current Youth Council class is culminating their experience by hosting a Color Fun Run on May 20. See details below.

The Mayor's Youth Council provides youth with an opportunity to network and build relationships with mentors, enhance skills and knowledge that could lead to serving their community and add to experience that could be used for job or education applications.

The new Mayor's Youth Council will be sworn in by the Valparaiso City Council on Aug. 22, 2022. The Council will meet monthly on a Wednesday evening, gather for a daylong retreat in August and meet for volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

For more information and an application packet, visit the Mayor's page on the City of Valparaiso website Valpo.us or contact Community Engagement Director Maggie Clifton at MClifton@valpo.us or (219) 462-1161.

Youth Council Color Fun Run

As one of their final activities, the inaugural Mayor's Youth Council is hosting a Color Fun Run as a fundraiser for Valparaiso Parks. The Color Fun Run will be at 6:00 pm on Friday, May 20 at Fairgrounds Park, 704 McCord Rd. The event offers fun for the whole family, including a 1.5-mile course for walking, running and colorful fun, along with obstacle stations for added challenges. The run will begin and end by the baseball fields at Fairgrounds Park (north end). Cost is \$25 per entry, \$15 for students, with a \$10 discount for families of four or more. To register, visit RunSignUp.com and search "Mayor's Youth Council Color Fun Run." The event is also available on Facebook through the city's page at Valparaiso Now.

Caption: The inaugural Mayor's Youth Council is wrapping up their year with a Color Fun Run. To apply to be on the Mayor's Youth Council for 2022-23, visit the Mayor's page at Valpo.us.