



## CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

**FROM:** The Office of the City Manager    **DATE:** May 15, 2017  
**SUBJECT:** Youth Advisory Committee 2017 Project Presentation  
**PRESENTER:** Kristin James, Assistant to the City Manager

### **SUMMARY:**

Members of the Youth Advisory Committee will be presenting their 2017 project regarding mental health issues in North Richland Hills and how the city can partner with other organizations in the area to help those in need, specifically those in our school system.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

The city is fortunate to have the opportunity to use the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) to better understand the needs of the youth within the community, as well as educate them about municipal government. One way the committee achieves this is by developing a project that will affect the youth of North Richland Hills.

The goal in having YAC complete this project was to allow members the opportunity to learn and be involved in the decision making process of local governments. It started with their ideas, and then they were required to do the necessary research, prepare the presentation and now bring it before City Council as an idea that may be pursued in the future.

In January the Youth Advisory Committee met to discuss various ideas for the project proposal. After much discussion and debate they decided address in their project mental health issues and resources within the community. The committee first met with the City's Mental Health Officer to see what efforts the city is already doing to provide help to those who face mental health issues. They also conducted interviews with their School Resource Officers and school counselors. After additional research was conducted, the committee focused in on how the city and Birdville ISD can partner in addressing mental health in our schools.

As mentioned above, the primary purpose of this item is to help educate YAC members in the decision making process of local governments and to receive input from the potential future leaders of the community. This agenda item is for informational purposes and no action is being requested from City Council at this time.