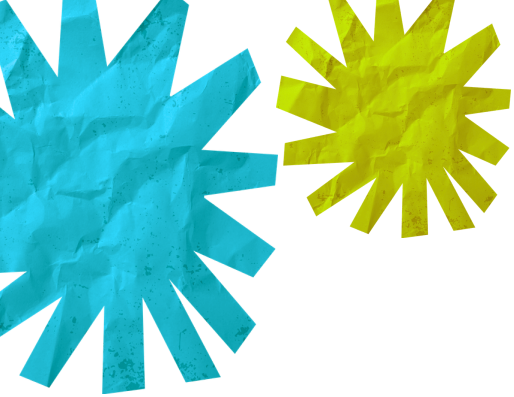
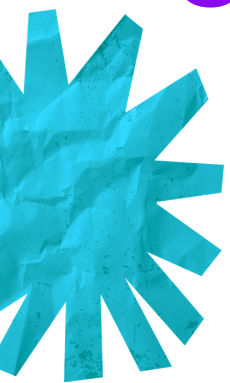
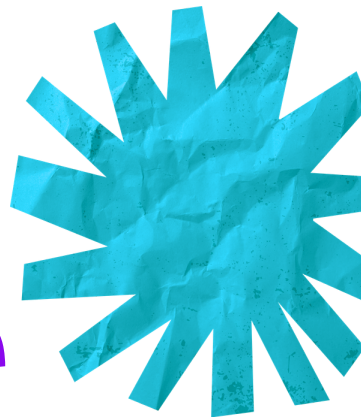




THE MOCKINGBIRD SOCIETY

**2026 COMMUNITY
PARTNERSHIP
OPPORTUNITIES**



Youth Advocacy Day - January 28, 2026

Youth Leadership Summit - August 4-5, 2026

Fall Fundraiser & Block Party - October 17, 2026

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OUR MISSION

Our mission is to transform the foster care system and end youth homelessness.

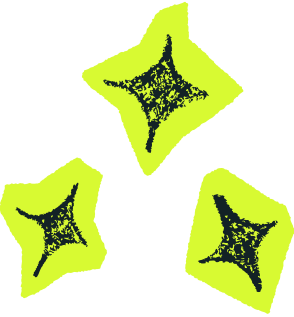
Mockingbird creates, supports, and advocates for racially equitable, healthy environments that develop young people at risk of or experiencing foster care or homelessness.

OUR VISION

Each and every young person, regardless of race and individual experience, reaches adulthood with an equitable opportunity to thrive.

OUR IMPACT

For more than two decades, The Mockingbird Society has advanced policy and supported young people and families by engaging and empowering those most impacted by the child welfare and homeless youth systems. Our youth advocates have successfully won 70+ major policy reforms, including being the driving force behind creating the state's Office of Homeless Youth.



A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Mockingbird Community,

In February of 2026, I had the honor of stepping into the role of Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society. As I have brought both my lived and professional expertise into various spaces since I joined the organization, I have been encouraged and inspired by the dedication and passion of the young people, families, and community partners committed to our mission of transforming foster care and ending youth homelessness.

As we step into this next chapter of The Mockingbird Society, we are exploring new ways to lean into the values at the heart of our work, such as racial equity, advocacy, and community partnership. This also includes our ongoing implementation of Community-Centric Fundraising (CCF) principles and practices.

As you explore our 2026 Community Partnership Opportunities, I invite you to reflect on the path of engagement that best aligns with your organization's values, priorities, and available resources.

We also encourage you to consider what meaningful recognition for your generosity and partnership looks like—what feels authentic, reciprocal, and reflective of the impact we hope to create together.

Finally, we ask you to imagine what a truly relational and collaborative partnership with us could be.

We believe this kind of partnership are the essential ingredients—not only to sustaining our work, but to driving systemic change and strengthening our collective momentum across Washington State, the United States, and beyond.

We have a vision of moving beyond transactional philanthropic relationships and into true partnerships rooted in authentic community, and we would be honored to have you join us on that journey.

With Gratitude,

Yvonne-Monique Aviva
Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society





OUR PROGRAMS

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Partners with youth and young adults (YYA) ages 13-26 with lived experience in foster care and homelessness to become leaders and advocates for systemic change. Youth Programs focuses on building the power, agency, and opportunity of the youth and young adults who participate in the programs using advocacy and engagement in policy change. Our programs prepare youth to launch their careers through increased professional and leadership skills; provide positive identity development, empowering youth to bring their voice to the systemic failures they've experienced and educate others on the need for change; and facilitate young people becoming effective advocates for themselves and others. Through the engagement of six statewide chapters, we elevate the voices of these lived experience experts so they can collaboratively create informed solutions to the issues that impact them most.

PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY

Collaborates with our YYA participants to educate and activate the community, media, and policy makers, and to ensure that young people are included at decision-making and policy implementation tables. Mockingbird elevates the voices of young people with lived experience in foster care, empowering them to share their stories, identify systemic barriers, and co-create solutions. By centering youth perspectives, Mockingbird ensures that the policies it champions are responsive to real-world challenges and designed to meet the diverse needs of communities impacted by foster care and youth homelessness.

Mockingbird restructured its Public Policy & Advocacy team in late 2024 to more strategically leverage local (county) and statewide advocacy efforts in tandem. The revised team structure is designed in response to Mockingbird's shift to a Biennium advocacy cycle and will enable our young advocacy to engage in more immediate policy change locally, rather than solely focusing on our statewide efforts.

MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™

MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™ is a globally recognized, award-winning foster care delivery method that is redefining systems of care by strengthening safety nets for children, youth, and caregivers. Through MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™, experienced foster parents provide support and guidance to 6 to 10 foster families, which creates the structure of an extended family. Developed by The Mockingbird Society, this evidence-based approach is implemented in collaboration with public and private child-placing agencies across the United States and internationally to create sustainable, community-driven solutions for foster care. MOCKINGBIRD FAMILY™ is present through partner agencies in WA, CA, NY, Nova Scotia, the Netherlands, Australia, the UK, and Japan.



OUR WORK WITH YOUNG ADVOCATES

Our work with young advocates through Youth Programs focuses on three strategies: co-creating community with young people; supporting young people as they build their skills as changemakers; and elevating the voices of young people in impactful spaces. These strategies lead to young people gaining self-confidence, taking leadership in systems change, and building power as individuals and as a group.

Throughout the year, young advocates with lived experience in foster care and/or homelessness engage in our work (through one of 6 regional chapters across Washington) to develop their leadership and advocacy skills, help them heal from the trauma of these systems, and feel empowered to fight for change. Our programs provide direct leadership opportunities for young people to engage in advocacy at multiple levels. Participants actively shape policies, join influential panels, and sit on coalitions and statewide commissions. Through engagement in workgroups, monthly chapter meetings, and statewide events like Youth Leadership Summit and Youth Advocacy Day, youth also co-develop problem statements, draft policy proposals, and mobilize peers to influence systemic change.

The Mockingbird Society's Youth Programs are deeply rooted in Positive Youth Identity Development, using a Positive Youth Development (PYD) framework that fosters the five "C"s: Competence, Confidence, Connection, Character, and Caring. These core principles create the foundation for a sixth "C"—Contribution, which empowers youth to engage actively in their communities as leaders and advocates. By fostering these protective factors, we equip youth with the skills, courage, and confidence to understand their experiences, develop a strong sense of self, and drive systemic change.

Advocacy is a critical protective factor for young people. Our programs provide young people with the tools to articulate their lived experiences, challenge systemic injustices, and reclaim their narratives. By engaging in youth-led advocacy, participants build resilience, develop a strong sense of agency and belonging, and improve mental health and well-being. These experiences positively impact their educational, career, and life trajectories, setting them on a path toward long-term success.

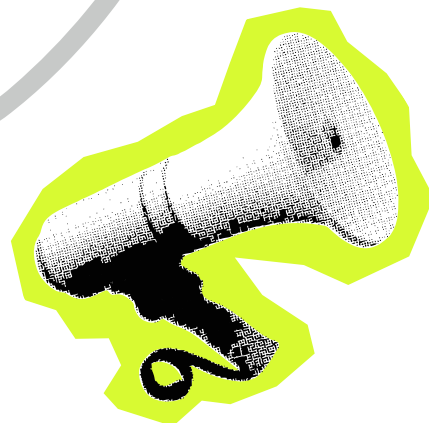
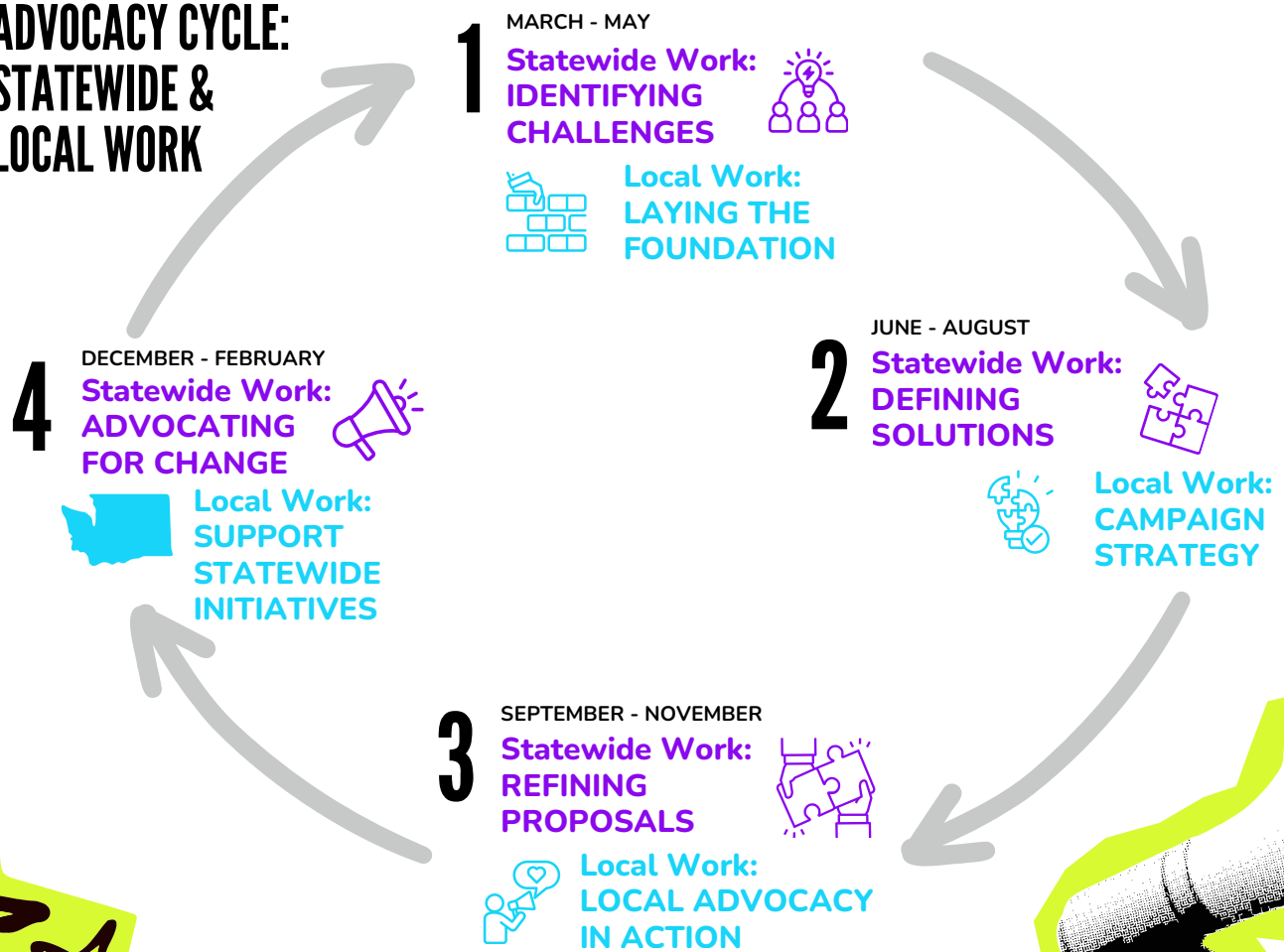
Through these approaches, we ensure that youth develop a strong, positive sense of identity, understand their intrinsic value, and feel empowered to create meaningful change in their lives and communities.

PHASES OF MOCKINGBIRD'S ADVOCACY CYCLE

Activities in monthly regional chapter meetings follow our annual advocacy cycle and are planned and co-facilitated by two stipended young people with lived experience. Staff guide participants through a curriculum of leadership development, government systems and legislative process, grassroots organizing, and professional development—building their skills in public speaking, civic awareness, and community engagement while identifying issues, co-creating problem statements, and crafting policy proposals to facilitate positive change.

In addition to our traditional statewide advocacy cycle, we are beginning to implement our simultaneous local advocacy cycle. This new local work allows for the promotion and inclusion of youth voice in Youth Action Boards across the state, deepened relationships with city and county officials in WA, better coordination and diversification of coalitions, continued advocacy for youth engagement year-round, and the development of key strategies and priorities for addressing youth homelessness (and intersecting issues).

ADVOCACY CYCLE: STATEWIDE & LOCAL WORK



YOUTH ADVOCACY DAY

JANUARY 28, 2026 | OLYMPIA, WA

Youth Advocacy Day is The Mockingbird Society's annual lobby day, when young advocates, community members, and leaders from across Washington gather in Olympia to raise awareness of our advocacy topics, meet with state legislators, and ask these legislators to support our advocacy agenda. Each year, our advocacy agenda items are shaped and influenced by young people with lived experience of foster care and/or youth homelessness. Youth Advocacy Day is a powerful and tangible way for Mockingbird stakeholders and community members to take action and stand with young people as they advocate to transform foster care and end youth and young adult homelessness.

During a typical Youth Advocacy Day, Mockingbird young people and staff lead a morning program for all of the participants at an event space in Olympia, then the full group marches together to the Washington State Capitol Campus. From there, participants split into groups to meet with legislators and share about Mockingbird's advocacy agenda and priorities. Young people take the lead in these spaces to share about the challenges they face in the systems that impact them, as well as how the proposed advocacy items would provide solutions to some of these challenges. After these legislative meetings, all Youth Advocacy Day participants regroup for a rally in support of young people and the advocacy items that they have brought forward. Finally, the group marches back to our event space to enjoy lunch together, spend time in community, and celebrate the day.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

AUGUST 4-5, 2026 | SEATTLE, WA

The Youth Leadership Summit is a critical milestone in our annual advocacy cycle, intended to give young people the opportunity to gather in community, engage in trainings and workshops for their personal and professional development, and share their concerns, ideas, and priorities for their advocacy. It represents a unique opportunity for system leaders to hear directly from Mockingbird's fierce young advocates with lived experience in the foster system and/or homelessness as they share the issues they've personally faced, as well as their exceptional insights around potential solutions.

Over several months of regional chapter meetings, Mockingbird's young advocates identify and prioritize key opportunities for systems change and collaboratively develop related problem and solution statements with the support of Mockingbird staff.

On the second day of the Summit, Mockingbird's brave young advocates present these proposals and recommendations to relevant policymakers and state agency partners at the Office of Homeless Youth and Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care for their feedback, guidance, and suggestions around next steps. This event is intended to be a productive tool for empowerment, community-building, and collective action—as well as the identification of allies, collaborators, and legislative champions to advance finalized proposals via legislative or administrative action.



Here is a quick overview of what young people typically experience at the Youth Leadership Summit:

- **Day One**
 - Workshops and training sessions for young people to learn about public policy and advocacy on both state and local levels.
 - Practice and time for final editing of chapter presentation scripts for Day Two of Summit.
 - Training and support for public speaking.
 - Educational workshops focused on understanding statewide and local advocacy systems and procedures, such as state and local budgets.
 - Time for relationship building and community connection
- **Day Two**
 - Chapter Presentations to system leaders about the advocacy topics that young people have identified.

FALL FUNDRAISER & BLOCK PARTY

OCTOBER 17, 2026 | SEATTLE, WA

The Mockingbird Society's annual Fall Fundraiser & Block Party brings our community together. In 2024, we shifted the model of our annual fundraising luncheon to a new community-centered celebration of Mockingbird's mission to transform the foster care system and end youth homelessness. This shift was met with positive feedback from our young people, families, and supporters, so we are excited to create a similar atmosphere filled with fun, joy, and a passion for justice this year.

Free and open to the public, this event centers our young advocates and shared belief in Mockingbird's work, while raising critical funds to support our cause. Young people, families with children of all ages, community partners, and invested supporters are invited to enjoy live music, entertainment, games, and delicious refreshments from local food trucks— while enjoying time in community and connecting to supports via a mini resource fair.

This event gathers around 300 Mockingbird stakeholders and community members to celebrate and builds momentum around our work to create, support, and advocate for racially equitable, healthy environments for all children, youth, and young adults who have experienced foster care or homelessness.





CHOOSE YOUR ENGAGEMENT PATH

Because relationships matter more than transactions, we invite you to co-design your partnership by choosing to...

- **Sponsor an Event:** Select Youth Advocacy Day, Youth Leadership Summit, or Fall Fundraiser (there is more information about event sponsorship at the end of this document)
- **Host a Conversation:** Invite youth advocates or Mockingbird leaders to speak at your workplace
- **Share Skills or Space:** Provide pro bono services, meeting space, or mentorship opportunities
- **Provide In-Kind Support:** Contribute catering, printing, transportation, or auction items

Mockingbird will recognize all forms of contribution equitably, ensuring that visibility and appreciation are not tied solely to financial size but to community impact.

WHY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP MATTERS

Supporting Mockingbird means:

- Investing in youth-led systems change
- Practicing community accountability — giving back to the young people most affected by inequities
- Building an ecosystem of care where government, nonprofits, and businesses act as partners, not patrons
- Embodying a Community-Centric Fundraising approach that values collaboration, transparency, and shared benefit

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP LEVELS FOR SUPPORTING EVENTS

Instead of fixed tiers, Mockingbird invites partners to give in alignment with their organizational size, resources, and values.

Every contribution is recognized equitably — the difference lies not in how much you give, but in how we show up together.

If your organization's annual revenue is...	Suggested annual contribution per event:
Under \$1M	\$500
\$1M – \$5M	\$2,500 – \$7,500
\$5M – \$15M	\$7,500 – \$15,000
Over \$15M	\$15,000 – \$25,000+

LET'S CO-CREATE OUR PARTNERSHIP

If your organization plans to sponsor, host, or collaborate, our team will work with you to design a recognition plan that aligns with your brand, values, and community presence.

Contact:

Cindy Hoang, Director of Development

cindyh@mockingbirdsociety.org





MIX & MATCH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OPTIONS

Please fill out this form and send to cindyh@mockingbirdsociety.org to indicate support interest.

Organization Name:

Contact Person:

Contact Phone Number:

Contact Email:

Sponsors can choose how they want to partner and how they wish to be recognized. Please select the ways in which you would like to support.

How would you like to support Mockingbird Society this year?

Event Partnerships (please review our suggested community partnership levels for supporting events):

- ☐ Youth Advocacy Day | Partnership Amount:
- ☐ Youth Leadership Summit | Partnership Amount:
- ☐ Fall Fundraiser & Block Party | Partnership Amount:
- ☐ All Three Events (Comprehensive Annual Community Partner)
- ☐ Please follow up in Q2

Other forms of partnership:

- ☐ Host a conversation
- ☐ Share Skills or Space
- ☐ Provide In-Kind Support
- ☐ Other:

Please select all preferred forms of recognition of partnership. Opportunities include:

- ☐ Verbal acknowledgment by event speakers
- ☐ Logo/name placement on digital & print materials
- ☐ Tagging on social media and inclusion in newsletters
- ☐ Recognition in Mockingbird's Annual Report
- ☐ Optional on-site activation (e.g., resource table, interactive display, or branded giveaway) (Available only for Fall Fundraiser)
- ☐ Other form of recognition:

