

Y2Y WEEK 2024 EVENT GUIDE



In honor of both Mental Health Awareness Month and Job Corps' 60th anniversary this year, Job Corps is recognizing a nationwide Y2Y Week from May 20–24!

All Job Corps campuses and Y2Y chapters across the country are encouraged to participate in a variety of activities related to the Y2Y initiative. The goal of the weeklong event is to highlight the impact of the program on our nation's young people, bring awareness to mental health issues, and provide solutions through activities that all the centers can participate in and customize to meet the needs of their student body.

Y2Y Week 2024 is a weeklong celebration, and centers are encouraged to plan small activities throughout the week, with a larger event scheduled for Friday. Feel free to choose from any of the events on the reverse side of this flyer or come up with your own Y2Y-related events that work best for your center.



///WEEKDAY EVENTS SUGGESTIONS:

60-minute mental health break

Set aside an hour to host a relay race, or maybe set up a picnic with different foods and desserts, or gather students to participate in an art class to draw, paint or create a project.

Appreciation wall – 60 reasons we are thankful for Job Corps

Have students write on sticky notes why they are thankful for Job Corps, and then put them on a centrally located wall in your center.

Plant seeds for flowers or trees on their campus.

Start a garden, or add to it, by planting different flowers or trees around your campus.

Wear green for MHA Month.

The green ribbon is the international symbol of mental health awareness, so pass out green ribbons or encourage all students to wear the color green.

Have students stand together to create a peace sign or “Y2Y” with their bodies.

Gather students in the gym or an outside area to position them to spell out Y2Y or create a peace sign symbol, and then document by taking a photo from an aerial/raised position.

Invite local partner organizations or experts to come speak to students about self-care, suicide prevention, etc.

Reach out to local mental health organizations or medical professionals to have a representative come speak to students about important topics.

Paper burning/tearing

Have students write “stressors” on pieces of paper and then put them in a bonfire or tear them up.

///TENTPOLE EVENTS SUGGESTIONS:

A tentpole event is a high-profile, highly anticipated event that supports a central initiative and individuals can rally around.

Host a peace walk in the community and invite community partners to participate.

Partner with local volunteer organizations, employers or other local businesses to organize a peace walk in your city.

Invite a motivational speaker to come to your center.

The speaker could touch on topics related to mental health, self-help and self-esteem, or career development.

Host an alumni panel with local Job Corps graduates.

Contact center alumni to come to your campus to answer student questions and share their stories/career advice.

Mural or vision board – Create an art piece that reflects students’ goals and dreams for the future.

Some supplies you might need include a canvas, cork board, magazine clippings, markers, colorful paper or tape. Then you can place this art piece in a centrally located area of your campus.

Have an open mic/talent show.

Create a sign-up sheet or allow students to volunteer on the day of the event to share their talents such as poetry, comedy, singing, etc.

E-mail y2y@doljobcorps.com with any questions and to let us know what your center is planning for Y2Y Week 2024! Check out the [Y2Y Event Planning Guide](#) for more ideas and inspiration.

And don't forget to share your Y2Y Week photos and videos with JCDigital@mpf.com for a chance to be featured on Job Corps' socials!

