



## **Must! Charities Youth Board Application & Leadership Reflection 2026–2027**

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### **Welcome**

Thank you for your interest in the Must! Charities Youth Board! We're excited that you're considering joining a community of students who are passionate about making a difference in our county.

The Must! Youth Board is more than a volunteer program. It is an opportunity to learn about philanthropy, develop leadership skills, serve alongside other motivated students, and grow personally while making a meaningful impact in our community.

You do not need to have an extensive resume or hundreds of volunteer hours to be a great Youth Board member. We are looking for students, sophomores through seniors, who are curious, dependable, compassionate, and willing to learn.

We encourage you to answer the following questions honestly. There are no "right" answers—we simply want to get to know you. Feel free to print and fill out the application by hand or do it digitally.

### **About the Must! Youth Board Our Mission**

The Must! Charities Youth Board empowers local high school sophomores through seniors to become thoughtful philanthropists, collaborative leaders, and engaged community members through education, volunteerism, and meaningful service.

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### **Youth Board Expectations**

**If selected, I understand that I am expected to:**

- ☐ Attend approximately 8-10 Youth Board meetings and volunteer events throughout the school year.
- ☐ Participate and communicate actively in discussions, volunteer opportunities, and group messages
- ☐ Miss no more than one scheduled meeting or service event unless previously communicated.
- ☐ Represent Must! Charities with integrity, kindness, and respect.
- ☐ Respect confidential information shared during meetings or volunteer experiences.
- ☐ Encourage other students to become involved in community service and philanthropy.

**I have read and understand the expectations of being a Must! Youth Board member.**

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature (if student is under 18):** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



## Student Information

Student Name

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Preferred Name (if different)

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High School

Graduation Year

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Personal Email

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Cell Phone

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Address

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Birthday

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## Parent/Guardian Information

Parent/Guardian Name

Relationship to Student

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Email

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Phone

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## Leadership Reflection

Please answer each question thoughtfully. Feel free to type your responses or write neatly if completing by hand. If more space is needed, please feel free to attach additional paper or type longer answers.

### 1. Tell us about yourself.

If we met you for the first time, what would you want us to know about who you are beyond your grades, sports, or extracurricular activities?

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### 2. Why are you interested in joining the Must! Charities Youth Board?

What excites you about this opportunity? Why do you think you'd be a great addition to the Youth Board?

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### 3. Community Impact

What issue or need in our community matters most to you right now?

What experiences have shaped your perspective?

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### 4. Learning from Others

Tell us about a time you learned something from someone whose experiences or background were different from your own.

How did that experience change the way you think?

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## 5. Growth Through Challenges

Describe a time when something didn't go as planned.

What happened? What did you learn about yourself?

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## 6. Your Strengths

What strengths would you bring to the Must! Youth Board?

These could include leadership, creativity, listening, organization, empathy, communication, problem solving, encouragement, or something else entirely.

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## 7. Personal Growth

What is one skill, quality, or area where you hope to grow this year?

How do you think the Youth Board can help you develop it?

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## 8. Serving Others

Tell us about a time you made a positive difference in someone else's life.

This does not have to be through formal volunteer work.

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## 9. Just for Fun

What's something you're passionate about that people might be surprised to learn?

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**10. Is there anything else you'd like us to know?**

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## References

Please provide two references from a teacher, coach, counselor, employer, volunteer supervisor, or another non-family adult who knows you well.

### Reference #1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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### Reference #2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/School: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_



## Parent/Guardian Consent, Emergency Medical Authorization & Media Release

I give permission for my child to participate in activities associated with the Must! Charities Youth Board.

I understand that Youth Board activities may include meetings, volunteer service projects, educational presentations, and community events at various locations.

In the event of illness or injury, and if I cannot be reached, I authorize Must! Charities staff or authorized volunteers to obtain appropriate emergency medical treatment for my child. I understand that I am responsible for any medical expenses incurred.

I acknowledge that participation in volunteer and community activities involves inherent risks. To the fullest extent permitted by California law, I release and hold harmless Must! Charities, its directors, officers, employees, volunteers, and partnering organizations from claims arising from ordinary negligence related to my child's participation, except where prohibited by law or resulting from gross negligence or willful misconduct.

### Media Release

I grant permission for Must! Charities to photograph or video record my child during Youth Board activities for educational, promotional, fundraising, website, social media, and other nonprofit communications.

**I understand that no compensation will be provided for such use.**

☐ Yes, I authorize media use.

☐ No, I do not authorize media use.

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## Emergency Information

**Emergency Contact (if different from parent listed above)**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Relationship:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Medical conditions, allergies, medications, or accommodations we should know about:**

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**Parent/Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_



## Application Checklist

Before submitting your application, please make sure you have:

- ☐ Completed all sections of this application
- ☐ Included two references
- ☐ Signed the Youth Board Expectations
- ☐ Parent/Guardian completed and signed the Consent & Media Release
- ☐ Reviewed attached tentative calendar

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## Submit Your Application

**Application Deadline: September 30, 2026**

Email or bring your completed application to:

**Megan Leishman**

Manager of Company Culture  
Must! Charities

 [megan@mustcharities.org](mailto:megan@mustcharities.org)  
 (760) 712-8090

3340 Ramada Drive, Suite A2  
Paso Robles, CA 93446

**\*\*Please reach out to Megan before bringing your application in person to ensure the Office is open\*\***

Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of their application. Selected students will be notified of the next steps by mid-October.

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## Our Commitment to You

At Must! Charities, we strive to create an environment where every Youth Board member feels welcomed, respected, heard, and challenged to grow. We believe leadership begins with kindness, curiosity, integrity, and a willingness to serve others.

**We look forward to learning more about you!**



## **Tentative 2026/2027 Must! Youth Board Calendar**

*\*\*\*This is to give you a general idea of what the year will look like. These meeting dates and times are subject to change!\*\*\**

### **Tuesday, November 17th: Volunteering**

- One Cool Earth Volunteer Garden Work and First MYB Meeting at local elementary school. 3:00-5:30 PM.

### **• Saturday, November 21st: Volunteering**

- City Farm SLO planting, weeding, harvesting, and more.
  - 1221 Calle Joaquin, San Luis Obispo. **2-4:30 PM.**

### **Coats for Kids Volunteering December TBD**

- Coats 4 Kids Event Week Volunteering.
- More details to follow, but plan on Saturday for an AM or PM volunteer shift

### **Friday, December 18th 2-4:30 PM**

- SLO Food Bank Volunteering
- Warehouse food sorting, writing thank you cards, and various administrative help
- Yes this is a school day or your first day of winter break, but this is the time that works best for the Food Bank!

### **Sunday, January 24th: In Person Meeting**

- First-year members' meeting will begin at 2:30 pm.
- Returning members will join at 4 pm for the Volunteer Fair with non-profit representatives.
- Location TBD

### **January/February Volunteering Opportunities TBD**

#### **February 21st (Sunday): Zoom Meeting**

- Volunteer experience check-in and discussion

#### **March 21st (Sunday): In Person Meeting at Must! Charities Office**

- Discuss and decide on a project to raise funds for through Peer to Peer "friend-raising"

#### **April weeknight Volunteering Opportunities (Date TBD)**

- ECHO Meal Prep and Serve
- Fundraising check-in

**\*\*May Check Presentation and non-profit project partner visit Date TBD\*\***