



## TEEN SUMMIT RVA FAQ

**What is Teen Summit RVA?** A high school leadership summit allowing students to have their voices heard through diverse experiences on topics ranging from gun safety and violence, mental health and wellness, equity and gender identity.

**Who will participate?** A diverse group of 600 high school students from The City of Richmond, Chesterfield, and Henrico school districts.

**How will students be selected?** An equal number of high school students will be selected from each school district. The selection process will be unique for the city and counties.

**Why have a Teen Summit?** To amplify students' voices against violence and to address mental health and other social challenges. To allow students to network across districts. Reduce violence victimization and reduce the underlying causes. Students will have the occasion to exchange ideas on leadership and change in RVA.

**What will happen at Teen Summit RVA?** Students will select three interactive, engaging experiences matching their interests. The experiences are based on topics students identified, via a survey conducted at the start of the school year. Students will also be able to explore vendors and exhibitors dedicated to the future workforce and educational development as well as other opportunities for volunteerism and engagement in their respective communities.

**What are some of the topics to be covered?** Mental Health, Culture (personal and social), the Definition and Nature of Violence, Gun Violence in School and Community, Speak Your Truth, Arts and its Social Impact, Music Therapy as a Tool for Healing, Where to Find Healthy Personal and Community support, Mental and Personal Healing and much more.

**Who will lead the EXPERIENCES?** Experienced professionals in their fields will navigate student interactions to maximize effective exchanges of ideas and potential future actions.

**What are some goals and outcomes?** To expand students' regional network, and social and networking relationships; return to their communities as ambassadors for change. They will expand their personal and community insights and opportunities to address and work on corrective solutions to social issues in their community while improving their environment. An inaugural event for ongoing gatherings to lift youth voices in addressing serious, sometimes life-threatening, issues teens and their communities face.

**Is food provided?** Yes. Breakfast, lunch and snacks throughout the day.

**Will there be security?** Yes.

**Will there be transportation?** Chesterfield, Henrico, and Richmond School districts will provide transportation.

**Can participants drive their personal cars to the event at the Richmond Convention Center?** Each jurisdiction will provide transportation for participating students. More information on transportation will be provided once registered.

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