



The Next Wave of  
Leaders for the  
Future Now.

# Black Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition



## About BYSPC

**The Black Youth Suicide Prevention Coalition (BYSPC) is at the forefront of tackling the rising suicide rates among Black youth in Oregon.**

This initiative is part of the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Black Youth Suicide Prevention Initiative (BYSPI) and is led by REAP in collaboration with organizations like Multnomah County, the Oregon Health Authority, and AdultingIRL.

BYSPC brings together 11 dedicated youth leaders and 8 student representatives from across Oregon to:

Provide input for the 2025-2029 Youth Suicide Intervention and Prevention Plan (YSIPP).

Implement community and statewide initiatives.

Conduct Black Youth Suicide Participatory Action Research to deepen understanding and inform policy change.

# Key BYSPC Initiatives

## Oregon's Green Book

A comprehensive guide for Black individuals navigating life in Oregon. It highlights:

- Black-owned businesses (barbershops, eateries, etc.).
- Cultural contributions in music, film, and literature.
- Community resources for empowerment and connection.

## BYSPC Cookout

An annual event bringing together Black communities across Oregon to foster connection, support, and cultural celebration. Events provide safe, welcoming spaces centered around Black culture, wellness, and community empowerment.

## BYSPC Research

A Participatory Action Research Project designed to explore Black youth suicide prevention through qualitative research. This project:

- It is co-created with a Community Psychologist.
- Engages students as co-researchers.
- Provides opportunities for academic publication and conference presentations in psychology and mental health fields.

## BYSPC Training

Workshops and training programs focused on hope, resilience, and community-building for Black youth. These sessions help strengthen youth engagement within their wider communities.

## BYSPC Chapters

A statewide network allowing Black students to stay connected, collaborate, and engage with BYSPC in their local areas while maintaining ties to the broader coalition.

## Town Halls

Community-driven discussions addressing the root causes of Black youth suicide. These gatherings bridge the gap between institutions, organizations, and community voices to drive impactful change.

