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September

Discover the power of your purpose
and save lives.

Youth Today, Leaders Tomorrow: Youth Leadership Summit

OMI is bringing its Youth Leadership Summit to Dallas, Texas, from September 17–19, 2026. The movement unites educators, leaders, innovators, and corporate partners to address youth mental health, curb violence, and foster long-term self-worth.

Taking place across three days, the summit will feature a welcome reception and direct school visits, engaging students on digital self-worth and AI. Attendees will also participate in a corporate business roundtable exploring tech-driven wellness solutions, as well as a strategy session to create lasting impact.

The gathering will serve as a national launchpad for future initiatives, like Game Changers, an event designed to leverage modern technology for constructive play. By bridging mentorship, education, and digital innovation, the summit aims to replace youth crisis with purpose, resilience, and community leadership.

[If you're interested in joining us, sign up here!](#)



Board:

- **President/CEO** - Lori Hoff
- **Vice-President:** Wayne Sims
- **Secretary:** Tashmarie Smith
- **Parliamentarian:** Ludjy Gedna
- **Technology Lead:** Bobby Carter
- **Media Lead:** Fareeha Mohammad

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Meet the Team



President: Lori Hoff

I want to be there for any youth that is lost or needs love ❤️, so they know they were created with a purpose and they are loved.

Favorite Food:
Collard Greens



Vice-President: Wayne Sims

I am a former educator and I love being able to pour into youth and in return learn from them. Our youth don't know how powerful they truly are!

Favorite Food:
Hot Wings



Parliamentarian: Ludjy Gedna

I strongly support OMI's mission and believe in the importance of CASE management and making these resources available in every community.

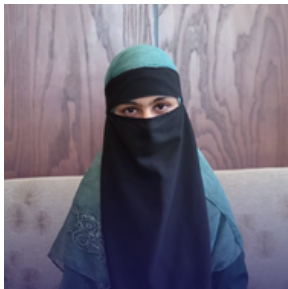
Favorite Food:
Shrimp Alfredo Pasta



Secretary: Tashmarie Smith

I care about people and their mental health.

Favorite Food:
Mangos



Media Lead: Fareeha Mohammad

I care about the well-being of today's youth and want to be part of the change to help make lives better.

Favorite Food:
Ramen Noodles



Technology Lead: Bobby Carter

I want to use my experience and perspective to help advance a meaningful mission, serve others, and create a lasting impact in the lives of our youth.,

Favorite Food:
Beef Wellington



President's Note: I know some of you might be concerned about what is happening with our youth, like teen takeovers and lack of identity and purpose. NYWUSA is back and better than ever. We will be sharing tips and techniques to help our youth navigate conflict, anger and overcome self-hatred. We will continue to help our youth discover the power of their purpose and save lives. As we enter suicide awareness month, we will be sharing all the many reasons we choose LIFE. It takes a village. We look forward to working with you!

Back to School Tips and Tricks

by Wayne Sims

As you finish your first month of school, the summer rust is starting to fall off, and you're hitting your stride. Now is the perfect time to set yourself up for a great year.

1. Set Goals.

Identify three things you want to accomplish this year. Write them down and put them somewhere you'll see them every day. Let those goals be your "north star" and guide how you spend each day.

2. Know Your Weaknesses & Get Help Early.

Struggling in a class? Don't wait until finals or testing season to ask for help. Pro tip: Teachers notice students who consistently put in the effort. Don't wait until you need a miracle.

3. Find Your Village.

Be intentional about your friendships. Pay attention to who supports you, encourages you, and wants to see you succeed.

4. HAVE FUN!

Most importantly, enjoy this season of your life. Be present. Make memories. You'll have plenty of time for social media and TV later.

Activity Page:

Tag us @nywusa.com on social media with your completed puzzle to have the chance to win a prize.

A	O	N	K	I	J	E	N	Q	D	V
X	T	Z	P	N	H	E	L	P	Y	S
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N	X	U	F	L	Z	W	C	H	Q	E
S	O	U	E	K	F	T	O	J	F	U
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L	G	A	O	T	L	B	T	C	U	J
I	H	E	O	V	A	D	A	L	T	A
W	H	Z	J	G	Z	O	C	A	J	F
S	D	N	E	I	R	F	T	E	O	C
Z	B	Y	Y	D	U	T	S	H	R	H
T	W	L	S	U	N	N	E	I	T	I
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G	U	E	K	Q	S	E	Z	R	D	R
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HELP

SCHOOL

CRISIS

HEAL

KNOW

STUDY