

# Families & Allies of Virginia's Youth

## Sign up to Occupy the Board of Juvenile Justice!



Join us to respectfully "occupy" the Board's public comment period with  
**poems • letters • skits • songs • art • short statements**  
 from our experiences with youth prisons and juvenile probation.

**Wednesday, April 11, 7 pm DJJ Cedar Lodge, 1701 Old Bon Air Road, Richmond, VA**

**Please sign up using this sheet OR the online form at [www.favyouth.org](http://www.favyouth.org)**

***Families:** We especially encourage you to ask your loved ones who have been in the juvenile justice system to send a poem, letter, short statement or artwork. You may read it at the event, or if you can't come or don't want to read it, we can have a volunteer read it.*

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

Here's what I will do (check all that apply):

- I will come and present my own or my family member's writing or art
- I can't come, but will send in some writing or art
- I volunteer to present something created by someone who can't attend
- I will be there in solidarity
- I will spread the word and bring friends and family
- I will donate\* to support this event (see below)

Transportation:

- I need a ride to the event
- I will get myself there
- I can give others a ride
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please use the other side for your comments. Please mail to the address below:**

The BEST way to reach me is (check all that apply):

- TEXT my cell #: \_\_\_\_\_
- EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_
- CALL: \_\_\_\_\_
- SEND mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



**FAMILIES & ALLIES OF VIRGINIA'S YOUTH**  
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 703-338-3289 or [Liane@FAVYouth.org](mailto:Liane@FAVYouth.org)

**\*Please make checks payable to Virginia Organizing and put FAVY in the memo line or go to [www.FAVYouth.org/donate](http://www.FAVYouth.org/donate).**

*Virginia Organizing is officially registered with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, P. O. Box 1163, Richmond, VA 23209. You can write to this Department for all relevant financial statements and procedures regarding the solicitation of contributions. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

**This event is part of our Families & Allies Speak Out Action Campaign**

## Ideas for sharing your experience of the juvenile justice system

**W**e want Board of Juvenile Justice members to see families and youth in the juvenile justice system as whole people, with hopes and dreams — and strengths and gifts to offer society. We also want them to hear our views on Virginia's juvenile correctional centers (youth prisons) and juvenile probation. Please write or create something you would like to share with the Board — a letter, poem, short statement, skit, song or rap, drawing, painting, photo or collage — and send it in by **April 4!**

Here are some ideas to help you get started:

### **Families**

- What does it feel like to have a loved one locked up or in trouble with the law?
- How have you — as a family member — been treated by the juvenile justice system?
- What are your hopes and dreams for your loved one? What are their gifts and strengths?

### **Young people currently or formerly in the juvenile justice system**

- What does it feel like to be locked up or in trouble with the law?
- If locked up, what do/did you miss most? What are you looking forward to when you get out?
- What are your hopes and dreams for yourself? What are your gifts and strengths?

### **Everyone**

- What do you think most needs to change about youth prisons or probation? Why? Is there something that is working well?
- What do you think members of the Board of Juvenile Justice need to know that they might not know?