



THE AYLUS TIMES

Alliance of Youth Leaders in the United States

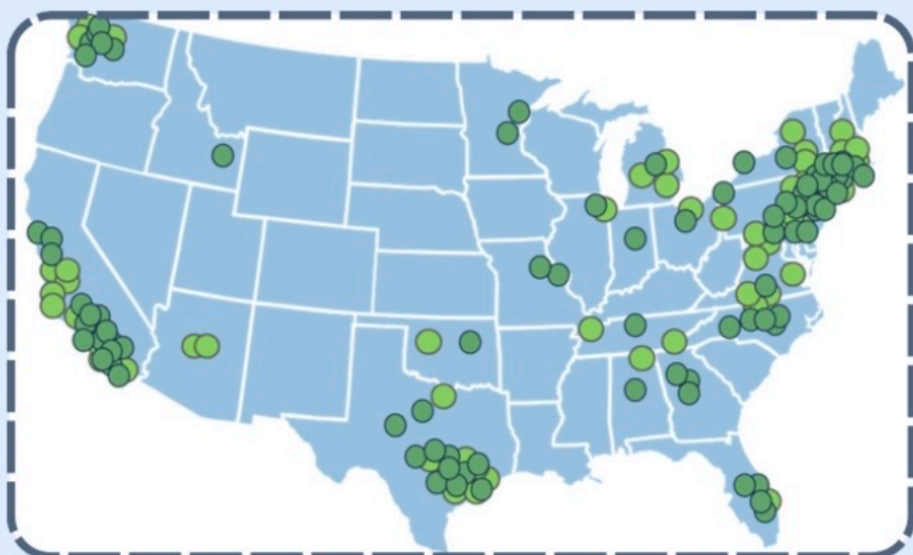
Issue Date: June 2026

No. 11

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to the Great Neck, San Diego, West Essex, Frisco & Plano, Murrieta, Basking Ridge, Roslyn, Chapel Hill, Pearland, Greater Buffalo, and Syosset branches for winning Branch of the Month for June 2026.

Congratulations to the Gainesville and Irvine branches for winning New Branch of the Month for June 2026.



MONTHLY THEMED CHALLENGE: MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health remains an underrepresented topic in East Asian communities, but volunteers across AYLUS have been breaking that barrier.

Collaborating with the Light and Salt Association, members in Pearland, Texas combined mental health advocacy with hands-on research. But it is clear to branches across the nation, including Chatham, Bridgewater, Queens, and San Diego, that conducting research is just the first step to finally closing the gap. Only by understanding our own students can our communities truly give indispensable resources.

To truly create tangible impact lies in being able to bring change to a larger scale, which is exactly what the Columbus branch achieved. After gathering data about students' mental health from several AYLUS branches and hundreds of members, their findings were shared to the advisors of AYLUS and displayed on the front page of the AYLUS website.

Protecting our most vulnerable groups does not come in the form of waiting for legislation to be passed, but rather our youth representatives stepping up.



*Written by: Rachel Zhang
Revised by: Max Yang*

LEARNING BEYOND THE CLASSROOM



As the school year comes to a close and summer begins, AYLUS branches across the country are helping students continue to learn beyond the classroom through tutoring, educational programs, and skill-building opportunities.

In New York, the Great Neck Branch hosted weekly tutoring sessions at the Station Library, assisting students with reading, writing, mathematics, French, and social studies. The Irvine Branch organized online tutoring in subjects such as math and Chinese, connecting volunteers with students across different locations. In Virginia, the McLean Branch supported younger students through Chinese school instruction, helping preserve language skills and cultural learning. Meanwhile, the Pearland Branch prepared for its Summer Robotics Class by developing lesson plans and educational activities designed to introduce students to STEM concepts in an engaging environment.

Through these educational initiatives, AYLUS branches are turning summer break into a season of discovery, ensuring that students continue to learn, grow, and thrive long after the final school bell rings.

*Written by: Audrey Kuo
Revised by: Max Yang*



THE RIPPLE EFFECT OF SERVICE

With over 180 branches across the United States, AYLUS demonstrates how youth leadership creates lasting change. This summer, volunteers nationwide turned service into real impact.



Fighting hunger, the Bridgewater branch volunteered at Feeding Hands, while the Morrisville branch packed meals with the Brown Bag Ministry. Meanwhile, the Irvine and Greater Buffalo branches brightened seniors' days at a local senior center and Bristol Village. The Great Neck branch tutored students at Station Library, and the Lake Washington branch hosted a five-day 3D Modeling Camp, giving students a hands-on learning experience. Additionally, the Oyster Bay branch protected endangered piping plovers at Jones Beach.

From food pantries to shorelines, these efforts capture the true impact of AYLUS: young leaders transforming compassion into action, strengthening communities one project at a time.



*Written by: Max Yang
Revised by: Max Yang*

The Art of Giving

From handmade cards to crochet and origami, creativity took many forms across AYLUS branches this June as volunteers used their artistic talents to support communities everywhere.



The Great Neck branch volunteered for the Accessible Art Program, helping children with disabilities express themselves through arts and crafts. Additionally, the McLean branch collaborated with Special Needs Assistance to host a card-making event, while the Roslyn branch collected art supplies for future workshops.

Continuing the creative spirit, the Frisco-Plano branch crocheted items for the Loops for Love event, and the Chapel Hill branch crafted heart pillows and origami for hospital patients. Moreover, the West Essex branch participated in the Color A Smile project, creating cheerful drawings to brighten the days of senior citizens and military troops.



Together, these initiatives showcase how AYLUS branches transform creativity into meaningful acts of service, using art to make a positive difference in their communities.



Written by: Angie Feng
Revised by: Zoe Cheng



BRANCH SPOTLIGHT

FRISCO & PLANO



The Frisco & Plano branch of Texas has become one of AYLUS's most active and fruitful branches. Founded in 2022 by Jenny Wang, the branch pledged to build a positive impact on their local community. Since then, many people have joined Frisco & Plano, rocketing their membership count from 50 to over 400.



One of the branch's central initiatives is their collaboration with the African Library Project, a nonprofit dedicated to establishing and improving libraries in Africa. Through collective book drives and fundraising, the team has donated over 7,000 books and assisted with the development of nine new libraries, with a tenth in the near future. Their efforts have made a meaningful impact on thousands of underprivileged students.

While their impact is global, Frisco & Plano knows that service starts within the local community. Volunteers have participated in the Loops for Love project, where they crocheted animals for patients at the Children's Hospital in Plano. Members have even established a crochet club in their own schools, proving how volunteer work often inspires lasting movements throughout the community. For the members of the Frisco & Plano branch, these projects help build strong connections and provide the wholesome feeling of giving back to the community.

In the future, the Frisco & Plano branch wishes to expand on their involvement with the Loops for Love project. With holidays coming up again, leaders are excited to launch a new season of festive, community-driven events.



Written by: Chloe Wang
Revised by: Zoe Cheng

The Fight Against Hunger

Nearly 50 million Americans struggle with food insecurity yearly, lacking consistent access to healthy, fresh food. This month, AYLUS branches throughout the United States actively contributed to the fight against food insecurity, collaborating with local food banks and leading their own initiatives.

Nearly 50 million Americans struggle with food insecurity yearly, lacking consistent access to healthy, fresh food. This month, AYLUS branches throughout the United States actively contributed to the fight against food insecurity, collaborating with local food banks and leading their own initiatives.



In the Houston and Fairfax branches, members dedicated their efforts toward packaging and inspecting fresh groceries, ensuring people received quality ingredients for meals. Other branches, such as AYLUS RSM and Murrieta, aided the distribution process at their local food banks by handing out food directly to residents. Members at San Diego and West Essex helped with meal preparation, where they assembled sandwiches and sack lunches.

Altogether, AYLUS strives to fight food insecurity, working



towards the day that the 50 million individuals drop to zero. These actions reflect our ongoing commitment to giving back to the community and supporting those in need.



Written by: Stella Zhao
Revised by: Zoe Cheng

The AYLUS Times Team

Editor-in-Chief

Henry Tang

Co-Editors

Zoe Cheng, Max Yang

Layout Editors

Taige Shi, Selina Yuan

Writers

Audrey Kuo, Angie Feng,
Stella Zhao, Chloe Wang,
Rachel Zhang, Emily Tang