

# Engaging Young People to #StayHomeOhio

We know it takes everyone committing to fighting this disease to really slow the spread, this is why we are #InThisTogetherOhio. One segment of a city's population that is especially important to engage in this commitment are young people, those in high school, back from college, and young adults. While the disease may not be as extreme with them, they can be carriers that transmit it to more vulnerable residents. So how can we work to ensure they understand the importance of social distancing and continuing the commitment to staying at home?

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## Host a Virtual Youth Town Hall:

Work with your school district(s) to convene the students for a virtual town hall (via Google Hangouts, Zoom, or Facebook Live) to discuss the current COVID-19 situation and how they can engage in the effort. With classes not convening in-person anytime in the near future, students are handling additional stress created by the pandemic.

Panelists for the town hall can include yourself, council members, school board members and superintendent, the local health director, and someone focused on mental health and coping strategies.

Give a presentation to the students laying out the current situation, why continued isolation is so important, and how to connect with friends in ways that do not put themselves or their families in danger. Leave plenty of time at the end for questions from the students.

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## Engage Youth #StayHomeOhio ambassadors:

Using the template for [#StayHomeOhio ambassadors](#), look for young people in your communities that serve as leaders amongst their peers. These could include school athletes, student body presidents, school group leaders or other young community leaders. Ask them to use social media and their online networks to spread the #StayHomeOhio message to their followers and peers.

Hashtags: #StayHomeOhio #StayHome[your city] #InThisTogetherOhio  
Resources link: [ohiomayorsalliance.org/stayhomeohio/](https://ohiomayorsalliance.org/stayhomeohio/)

**Local leadership.  
Statewide impact.**