



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Truth, Celebration, and Prevention:  
NextGen Youth Advocates™ Call All Marin Families to Join the  
Alcohol and Other Drug Town Hall on Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**

SAN RAFAEL, CALIF., May 28, 2025 (PRNewswire.com)—Drug and alcohol prevention starts with the community, and for San Rafael-based nonprofit Alcohol Justice’s NextGen Youth Advocates (NGYA)™, that community starts with the Canal District. The working-class, multilingual neighborhood has long hosted the public health advocacy organization and its youth outreach program, and this weekend, the program gives back during its summer Alcohol and Other Drugs Town Hall. The event kicks off at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, at the Alcohol Justice building at 24 Belvedere St. in San Rafael.

“At the core of Alcohol Justice’s mission is a solid commitment to empowering youth, educating the community, and driving impactful solutions to alcohol and drug-related issues,” said Chauncey Bryant, co-organizer for NGYA™ Youth Advocates.

More than just a prevention program, the Town Hall aims to open a dialogue between NGYA™ and the community it serves. Residents are encouraged to share personal experiences and propose bold new ideas for a healthy community. Conversation will be fueled by powerful testimonials from NGYA™ Youth Advocates, highlighting the self-advocacy that the group is designed to foster.

“We’re trying to bring prevention that goes beyond simply lecturing in front of a whiteboard,” said Susan Bryant, co-organizer for NGYA™ Youth Advocates. “We hope to inspire greater involvement, foster community resilience, and pave the way for our future leaders.”

“Our goal is to bring together local residents, youth advocates, and resources to amplify our communities’ voices while addressing real life concerns,” said Chauncey Bryant.

Along with the open discussion of alcohol and other drug concerns, the Town Hall will offer a variety of services for Marin families, including bilingual community resources, pre-registration for the free 6-week NGYA™ Summer Academy, and myriad ways to become involved with Alcohol Justice’s youth advocacy efforts. In between community empowerment events, guests can enjoy a taco truck, bounce houses for the little ones, and a chance to welcome the summer into the Canal.

*“There’s no reason why we can’t both solve problems and find joy,”* said Carson Benowitz-Fredericks, Research Director for Alcohol Justice. *“Joy in the kids, joy in a healthy community, joy in the summer and joy in a future free of harm from drugs and alcohol.”*

**Who: Speakers**

- Chauncey and Susan Bryant – co-organizers, NextGen Youth Advocates™, Alcohol Justice
- Participants in the NextGen Youth Advocates™

**What: Alcohol and Other Drugs Town Hall**

**When: Sunday, June 1, 2025, 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.**

**Where: Alcohol Justice - 24 Belvedere St., San Rafael, CA 94901**

**Why:** Substance use prevention is a community concern, and requires community voices and engagement to confront. This event provides the stage for direct dialogue with community residents, a chance to hear their experiences, and a foundation to work together on impactful solutions. The Town Hall will introduce Alcohol Justice's NextGen Youth Advocates™ and offer early registration for the free 6-week Summer Academy. Together, NGYA™ and local youth and families will generate invaluable insights through open discussion and interactive surveys, guiding Alcohol Justice’s efforts in cultivating a healthier future for all. Alcohol Justice youth programming is grateful for the support of the Sierra Health Foundation, Marin County HEAL Collaborative, and the County of Marin.