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HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Young Leaders Against Violence Accepting Applications for 2018/19 School Year**

(GRAND RAPIDS, MI) -- Young Leaders Against Violence (YLAV) is now accepting applications for the 2018/19 school year through November 11, 2018. One in 4 teens experience abuse in their dating relationship. Every 98 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted. This violence doesn't have to happen, and you can be part of a movement to bring real change by stopping it before it starts!

YLAV is a youth-led coalition comprised of high school and college-aged members from Kent County focused on increasing awareness and preventing relationship and sexual violence. YLAV is mentored by the leadership of two local agencies: Safe Haven Ministries and the Kent County Health Department.

Being a part of YLAV provides the opportunity to be a leader and energize your community to take a stand against violence. YLAV meets twice a month during the school year to organize events, engage in grassroots advocacy efforts, plan social media and awareness campaigns and meet with community leaders. Members develop valuable professional and leadership skills, including public speaking, professional writing, advocacy and community organizing, resume building, interviewing and other skills valuable to their future careers.

For more information and to apply to YLAV, visit [www.YLAV.org](http://www.YLAV.org) or email us at [stopviolencegrteens@gmail.com](mailto:stopviolencegrteens@gmail.com).

YLAV is made possible through a grant from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to the Kent County Health Department.



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KCHD has been in the business of providing health services to Kent County since 1931. The Health Department is home to nearly 265 employees including public health nurses, sanitarians, health educators, technicians, public health administrators, and specialized staff at the Kent County Animal Shelter. The Health Department operates one main clinic and three satellite clinics located in Kentwood, Rockford, and Grand Rapids. To learn more about KCHD services, visit [www.accesskent.com/health](http://www.accesskent.com/health).

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