

SAVE THE DATE!!



Organized by the Youth Advocacy Council:

Youth and young adults with disabilities, ages 14 to 25, who connect with other students in Vermont, advocate for youth resources, and lead while providing community service.

3rd Annual Youth Summit Driven for Youth by Youth

“Education, Empowerment, Equity”

The Youth Summit is specifically for youth and young adults, and those supporting youth in achieving their hopes and dreams are also welcome. The maximum attendance is 175 with priority given to youth and young adults.

Presentations will focus on:

- **Self-advocacy**
- **Opportunities after High School**
 - **Special Education**
- **Accessibility-Communication for All**

May 20th, 2021 - 9am to 1:30pm

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/3rd-annual-youth-summit-tickets-149145172225>

For more information, contact Tara Howe at
tara.howe@vermont.gov.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER:



[Nick Vujicic](#) (“voo-yi-chich”) is an Australian-American born without arms or legs who has become a world-renowned speaker, New York Times best-selling author, coach and entrepreneur. Nick is an anti-bullying advocate who travels the globe speaking to millions of students in partnership with Education Departments of several Governments. Nick has created an innovative Social Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum called “Attitude Is Altitude,” wherein he teaches students to make positive changes in their lives and their communities.

WORKSHOP PRESENTERS OUTSIDE OF THE COUNCIL:

[Christina Irene](#) has presented on invisible disabilities from the Pueblo of Jemez, New Mexico to London, England for non-profit organizations, government entities, academic institutions, and corporations. She has published two books on the subject: *Talking Splat: Communicating About Hidden Disabilities* and *Splatvocate: Supporting People with Hidden Disabilities*. Christina's past careers include nationally touring stand-up comedian and high school English and theatre teacher. She lives with physical, mental health, and cognitive disability.

[Sarah Vazquez](#) is a national motivational speaker, advocate, and author. She is a true believer that everyone can pave their life's path by way of having dreams. Having dreams is the basis of Sarah's achievements. Vazquez currently works for non-profit organization Neighbours-Inc which helps adults with disabilities find community-based supports so they can enjoy the benefits of self-directing their lives. Whether she is giving advice to transitioning youth; facilitating workshops about self-advocacy, or challenging an audience of educators to adopt more inclusive practices, Sarah Helena Vazquez's message expresses a commitment to high expectations and her unwavering belief that people with disabilities are an important part of the fabric of society.

Contributing Partners:

- Vermont Vocational Rehabilitation
- Vermont Division for the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Vermont Center for Independent Living
- Vermont Family Network
- Vermont Department of Mental Health
- Vermont Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
- Vermont Afterschool Program
- Vermont Department of Health
- Vermont Agency of Education
- Vermont Department of Labor