

SRI SATHYA SAI CENTRAL COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA
National Youth Wing

Youth Wing

Referred to as “Young Adult programme” 2.8 in the Operations Manual for Centres & Groups of the International Sathya Sai Organization

GENERAL GUIDELINES 2015:

1. What is the Purpose of the Youth Wing? The “WHY”

- It is a forum to address the unique needs of devotees aged 18-35.
- It should serve to provide sufficient opportunity to serve and engage in spiritual practises with devotees in their age range, with the hope of achieving individual transformation.
- Provides opportunity to develop leadership skills and assist with continuity of Leadership within the Centres and Regions.
- To assist with transition from SSEHV (Teen youth) into the Youth Wing.
- To Integrate and Support all wings with Youthful energy and creativity
- Only Youth can Transform Youth

2. Officers (Young Adult Representative/ Advisor):

The selection of Youth wing co-ordinators will follow the same process as Centre Officers (Refer to page 24 Appendix- Selection of Centre Officers).

The Youth Wing Co-ordinator; one male and one female will be appointed by the President (Centre/ Region). **Please note one Co-ordinator will also suffice, context dependent.**

The term of the officer is for two years and may be selected for another two years.

3. Qualities/ Qualifications of a Youth Wing Co-ordinator:

- Faith in Swami (devotion)
- Dedication to your duty
- Selflessness
- Knowledge of HIS message
- Enthusiasm and Yearning to Serve
- Competence
- Leadership (energy, initiate, pro-active)
- Steady Sadhana
- Time and ability(preparedness)

AND

- Sincerity

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- Simplicity
- Sai Lion Qualities: Just, Majestic, Self Reliant and Courageous

Sources: President's address 13th April 2013- KZN OB Conference, Baba's discourse 10th Jan 1999, Sri Sathya Sai Baba, inaugural address to students, Summer Course 1992

4. Responsibilities of a Youth Wing Co-ordinator: The "WHAT"

To instil, a sense of enthusiasm and love for Bhagawan and His teachings.

To **provide opportunities** for youth to evolve **spiritually**.(not just functions and activities)

To **groom youth members** into well balanced individuals, who excel in all aspects of life.

To help **develop youth talents and abilities** and to show youth that a spiritually joy filled, value oriented lifestyle is possible.

To groom dynamic and inspired, **future leaders** of the Sai Organisation...

To preserve continuity of the Youth Wing Co-ordinator Role and other leadership Roles in the Organisation- Young Adults to buddy/ shadow Officers from other wings...as per detail in Young Adult Apprenticeship Programme in the Operations Manual).

To undertake special programmes to **encourage youth participation** within the Sai Organisation through its activities (Centres, Regional, National, International)

To preserve the continuity of spiritual and educational activities of SSE & SSEHV students. (Teen- Youth Focus)

To take such actions as may be necessary for **conducting, expanding and intensifying** youth activities.

To **develop a year plan** of service, devotional and Educare activities as separate Youth Wing activities and participate in Centre and Regional Activities. **Integration:** To engage and work closely with the respective Wing Convenors.

Reporting: To submit or keep track of all the activities (content, theme, purpose, goal).

Breaking it down: The "HOW"

- Support
 - provide it
 - Build a support team around you and share the tasks at hand
 - Support centre and regional initiatives
- Guidance
- Communication is Vital
- Know your team

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- Be innovative
- Youth require projects...don't allow for idle minds
- Integration – 2 way process
- Influential ... “Only Youth can transform Youth

Activities: The “HOW”

- Discipline
 - Separate seating of males and females should characterize meetings and satsanghs
- Self –discipline
 - Modest attire
 - Mutual respect and love
- Youth meetings and programs should include devotional, educational and selfless service activities.
- Special focus should be given to teen students who are in the SSE Program or who have just completed the program.
- Youth should develop programs suitable for their ages with the aim to bring forth and develop their talents and self esteem. Some examples are participation in Sports, theatre and music activities.
- The study of Sai's teachings should be present. Possible topics to include are:
 - Character building
 - Leadership training
 - Developing self confidence
 - Developing communication skills
 - Guidance in relation to professional growth

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