



PEACEBUILDING AND  
CONFLICT PREVENTION

# RYLA 2026: PEACEBUILDING & CONFLICT PREVENTION

April 9-12, 2026

YMCA Blue Ridge Retreat Center, Black Mountain

## THURSDAY

<b>COACHES/SGL's ARRIVE @ 1:45</b>	<b>2:00-4:00</b>	<b>SGL/ROTARY COACH ORIENTATION</b>	<i>Vicki/Rik</i>	Weatherford - Monsanto Rm	GROUP
<b>YOUTH ARRIVE 4:00-4:45</b>	<b>4:00-5:00</b>	<b>YOUTH CHECK-IN</b>	<i>Volunteers, Staff, SGL's, Coaches</i>	BLUE RIDGE CENTER	
	<b>5:00</b>	<b>GROUP PICTURE</b>	<b>WEAR RYLA T- SHIRTS</b>	<b>EUREKA STEPS</b>	
	5:30-6:00	<b>WELCOME &amp; ORIENTATION</b>	<i>Vicki</i>	Weatherford - Lobby	LGE GRP
	6:00-7:00	<b>DINNER</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	7:00-7:45	<b>You Are Changing the World, Whether You Like It or Not!</b>	<i>David Lamotte, Peace Fellow</i>	Weatherford - Lobby	LGE GRP
	7:45-8:15	<b>Peace Garden Introduction</b>	<i>Vicki/Tracy</i>		
	8:15-10:15	<b>TEAM FORMATION</b>	<i>Tracy/Coaches</i>	GRP RMS	SM GRP
	10:15-10:30	<b>TEAM REFLECTION: "Hopes &amp; Fears"</b>	<i>SGL's/Coaches</i>	GRP RMS	SM GRP
	<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>PERSONAL/SOCIAL TIME (SGL/Coach Huddle 10:00-10:15)</b>			
	<b>11:00</b>	<b>LIGHTS OUT</b>			

## FRIDAY

<b>FRIDAY</b>	7:30-8:00	<b>"The Doctor Is In!"</b> (injury/illness/med checks)	<i>Dr. Shawn Hamm</i>	Weatherford - Monsanto Rm	
	8:00-9:00	<b>BREAKFAST</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	<b>9:00-12:00</b>	<b>HIGH ROPES (Groups C &amp; D)</b>	<i>YMCA Staff &amp; RYLA Coaches</i>	<b>LOWER FIELDS</b>	<b>Z BIG GRPS: (A+B, C+D)</b>
		<b>LOW ROPES (Groups A &amp; B)</b>			
	12:00-1:00	<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	1:00-2:30	<b>BELONGING &amp; INCLUSION IN LEADERSHIP</b>	<i>Vicki, Tracy &amp; SGL's/Coaches</i>	Washburn Auditorium	LGE & SM GRPS
	<b>2:30-3:00</b>	<b>PERSONAL/SOCIAL TIME: ...connect, work on a project, play outside, or nap!</b>			
	3:00-4:30	<b>SERVICE PROJECT: ADVOCATING FOR PEACE</b>	<i>Vicki, Tracy &amp; SGL's/Coaches</i>	Washburn Auditorium	ALL!

	4:30-6:00	<b>SERVICE PROJECT: PEACE GARDEN</b>	SGL's & Coaches	Washburn Auditorium	ALL!
	6:00-7:00	<b>DINNER</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	7:00-7:45	DEBRIEF OF SERVICE PROJECT	Vicki	Washburn Auditorium	LRG GRP
	7:45-8:30	4 ANIMALS PERSONALITY TEST	Chip Cross		SM GRP
	8:30-9:00	LDRSHP SKILLS & CONFLICT RESOLUTION	Chip Cross		SM GRP
	9:00-9:30	SVC-BASED LDRSHP I: SITUATIONAL LEADERSHIP	SGL's/Coaches	GRP RMS	SM GRP
	9:30-10:00	TEAM REFLECTION: SVC Based Ldrship I			
	8:00-9:30	<i>Emotional Support Person</i> Available	Hailey Brinke	Weatherford--Dining Room	
	<b>10:00-11:00</b>	<b>PERSONAL/SOCIAL TIME (SGL/Coach Huddle 10:00-10:15)</b>			
	<b>11:00</b>	<b>LIGHTS OUT</b>			

**SATURDAY**

<b>SATURDAY</b>	7:30-8:00	<b>"The Doctor Is In!"</b> (injury/illness/med checks)	Dr. Shawn Hamm	Weatherford - Monsanto Rm	
	8:00-9:00	<b>BREAKFAST</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	9:00-12:00	LOW ROPES (Groups A & B)	YMCA Staff & RYLA Coaches	LOWER FIELDS	0
		HIGH ROPES (Groups C & D)			
	12:00-1:00	<b>LUNCH</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	1:00-2:30	FROM INJURY TO IMPACT	Gregor Baum	Washburn Auditorium	LGE GRP TBLTOP
	2:30-3:00	<b>PERSONAL/SOCIAL TIME: ...connect, work on a project, play outside, or nap!</b>			
	3:00-4:45	"IN-IT-TO-WIN-IT"	Coaches/STAFF	Pavilion	Team Competition
	4:45-5:00	<b>TRANSITION TIME</b>			
	5:00-6:00	INSIDE-OUT LEADERSHIP	Rik Emaus	Washburn Auditorium	LGE GRP TBLTOP
			SGL's Lead Tabletop		
	6:00-7:00	<b>DINNER</b>		<b>DINING HALL</b>	
	7:00-7:30	SVC BASED LDRSHP II: "TAKE A STAND"	SGL's/Coaches	GRP RMS	SM GRP
	7:30-8:00	TEAM REFLECTION: SVC BASED LDRSHP II			
	7:00-8:30	<i>Emotional Support Person</i> Available	Hailey Brinke	Weatherford--Dining Room	
	<b>8:00-10:30</b>	<b>RYLA SOCIAL !!!</b>			
	<b>10:30-11:00</b>	<b>PERSONAL/SOCIAL TIME</b>			
	<b>11:00</b>	<b>LIGHTS OUT</b>			

<b>SUNDAY</b>					
<b>SUNDAY</b>	7:30-8:00	<b>"The Doctor Is In!"</b> (injury/illness/med checks)	<i>Dr. Shawn Hamm</i>	<i>Weatherford - Monsanto Rm</i>	
	8:00-9:00	<b>BREAKFAST</b>			<b>DINING HALL</b>
	<b>9:00-10:00</b>	<b>Clear Rooms, luggage to Dining Hall (Gallery Walk: Banners, Peace Garden, Letters, etc.)</b>			
	10:00-11:30	<b>What's Next?</b>	<i>Tracy/Vicki</i>	Washburn Auditorium	LGE GRP
			<i>SGL's/Coaches</i>		TBLTOP
	11:30-12:00	<b>What Did We Experience</b>	<i>SGL's /Coaches</i>		LG GRP
	<b>12:00-12:20</b>	<b>SURVEY &amp; NETWORKING</b>	<b>ALL</b>		<b>LGE GRP</b>
	12:20-12:30	<b>RYLA 2026 VIDEO</b>	<i>Dr. Shawn Hamm</i>		LGE GRP
	12:30-1:00	<b>CALL TO ACTION!</b>	<i>Rik</i>		LGE GRP
	<b>1:00</b>	<b>DISMISSAL &amp; DEPARTURE</b>			