

## GET ELECTED AND APPOINTED OFFICIALS ON BOARD

We don't know if the people who make decisions really want to hear from us or care what we think.

Here are some ideas:

- Invite lawmakers and other public officials to meet with young people.
- Educate lawmakers in the principles, practices, and benefits of positive youth development.
- Get state level lawmaker support and passage of the Next Generation Fund; pursue other means of funding positive youth development; involve youth in decisions about how money is allocated and spent.
- Pass a bill on employer release of employees as volunteers, mentors, and to participate as parents in school activities. Consider a tax credit.
- Pursue more equitable school financing.
- Allocate additional funding to youth programs and services.



- Secure legislation encouraging all cities, counties, and municipalities to have youth advisory councils.
- Pass legislation that provides adequate and equitable health insurance to all youth.
- Pass a bill creating incentives for parent participation in school.
- Request that a legislative session be devoted solely to youth issues and programs.



## LINKS TO ACTION

**Las Cruces Mayor's Youth Advisory Board:** 505-524-3991 (Jan Syling)

Go to your local library for a list of the elected officials in your community.

Contact your Tribal Office of the President and/or Governor of the Pueblo for a list of tribal officials.

New Mexico State Board of Education: 505-827-6571

New Mexico State Legislature: [www.legis.state.nm.us](http://www.legis.state.nm.us)  
(e.g. Next Generation Trust Fund, SB 48, 2000 Regular Session)

Senator Bingaman's Student Leadership Institute on six different topics of public policy: 505-988-6647