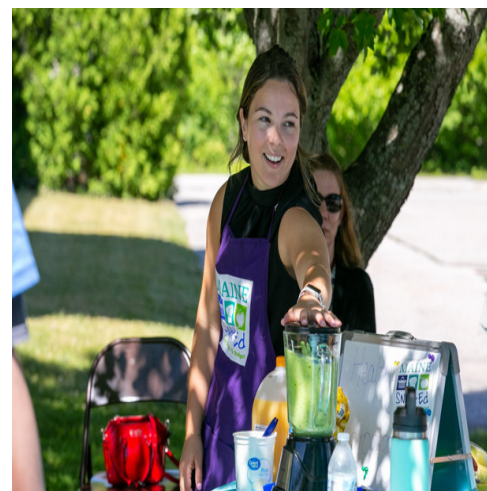


# YLAT

## "2022 Teen Conference Our Voice, Our Time, Our Future"

Healthy Androscoggin's SNAP Educator, Kaylee Leclerc was pleased to take part in the 32nd Annual 2022 Youth Leadership Advisory Team (YLAT) Teen Conference, held at the University of Southern Maine Lewiston-Auburn Campus. The Maine Department of Health and Human Services, Maine's Youth in Foster Care, and The Muskie School of Public Services at The University of Southern Maine collaborate in the continuing project of YLAT. [i] In 2022, an estimated 2,202 youth have been placed in foster care in Maine. [ii] Foster care placements have increased by an estimated 2.1% in Maine since 2021. [iii]

The Annual YLAT conference provides youth opportunities to engage, learn and connect from around the state of Maine. In addition, it aims to help youth prepare for adulthood and learn about the resources and opportunities available to them. Advocating for yourself, college support, practical pathways, youth rights, healthy cooking on a budget, driver's education, obtaining a driver's license, informed choices along with LGBTQ support are some of the areas focused on at the YLAT conferences.



SNAP Educator, Kaylee demonstrating at the smoothie workshop



SNAP Educator, Kaylee playing Jeopardy

This past June, Kaylee delivered information regarding nutrition, unit pricing, how to shop on an affordable budget and further tips and tricks around healthy lifestyles at the YLAT conference. In addition, participants enjoyed playing Jeopardy and partaking in her workshop called, *Cooking it Up*, where participants helped hands on and tried a scrumptious popeye spinach smoothies. Participants left remarkable reviews including an excellent conducted workshop, very engaging and helpful.

**For more information, contact us at: [info@healthyandroscoggin.org](mailto:info@healthyandroscoggin.org)**

[i] "Teen Conference." YLAT, <https://www.ylat.org/teen-conference>.

[ii] Carter, Andy Barclay and Melissa, et al. "Youth in Care 2011-2021 - Who Cares: A National Count of Foster Homes and Families." 2011-2021 - Who Cares: A National Count of Foster Homes and Families, <https://www.fostercarecapacity.com/data/youth-in-care>.

[iii] Carter, Andy Barclay and Melissa, et al. "Youth in Care 2011-2021 - Who Cares: A National Count of Foster Homes and Families." 2011-2021 - Who Cares: A National Count of Foster Homes and Families, <https://www.fostercarecapacity.com/data/youth-in-care>.

