

HOW TO START HI-Y

1. Call together a group of youth you believe will want to be part of HI-Y. Start with a small group of interested persons who will give their time, energy, and work. That's much better than just going after a large number . . . who most often will not put in the effort necessary for success.
2. Find an adult(s) willing to serve as Advisor. The person you recruit needs to have the motivation, interest in youth, ability to work with young people and the HI-Y organization, positive attitude, and be willing to learn. They don't need to "know how to do it," they just need to be willing to learn along with you.
3. Hold a meeting to explain the HI-Y purpose and program - including local as well as statewide HI-Y opportunities. Review how HI-Y can benefit each person, what is expected of each member, and how HI-Y exists to build a better school and community. It's a good idea to have a person from the HI-Y Leadership Center at this meeting or one of your first organizational sessions.
4. Develop a constitution.
5. Follow the HI-Y Membership Policy and Standards available from the HI-Y Leadership Center.
6. Meet the standards of any local organization, school, church, YMCA, etc. if they are a sponsor of your HI-Y.
7. Elect officers and give the HI-Y Leadership Center their names, addresses, phone, title, etc.
8. Submit your annual HI-Y Affiliation and Roster to the HI-Y Leadership Center.
9. With everyone's involvement, develop your written goals for the year and your program to achieve them. The best program is a combination of local and state HI-Y activities and a variety of leadership, service, recreational, and special programs. Remember to set aside time for reflection and evaluation of your program. Set your goals high - determine to achieve HI-Y Honor status.
10. **GET STARTED!!!** Nothing succeeds like success . . . and success comes from being an active organization where everyone is needed, involved, and participates.