



# DOESN'T MATTER THE RACE, DOESN'T MATTER THE GENDER

## WHAT YOU SEE

I drew two faces of different ethnicities and genders with music notes flowing in their ears to represent a day at my school where some students put Arabic music on in the quad during our lunches.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

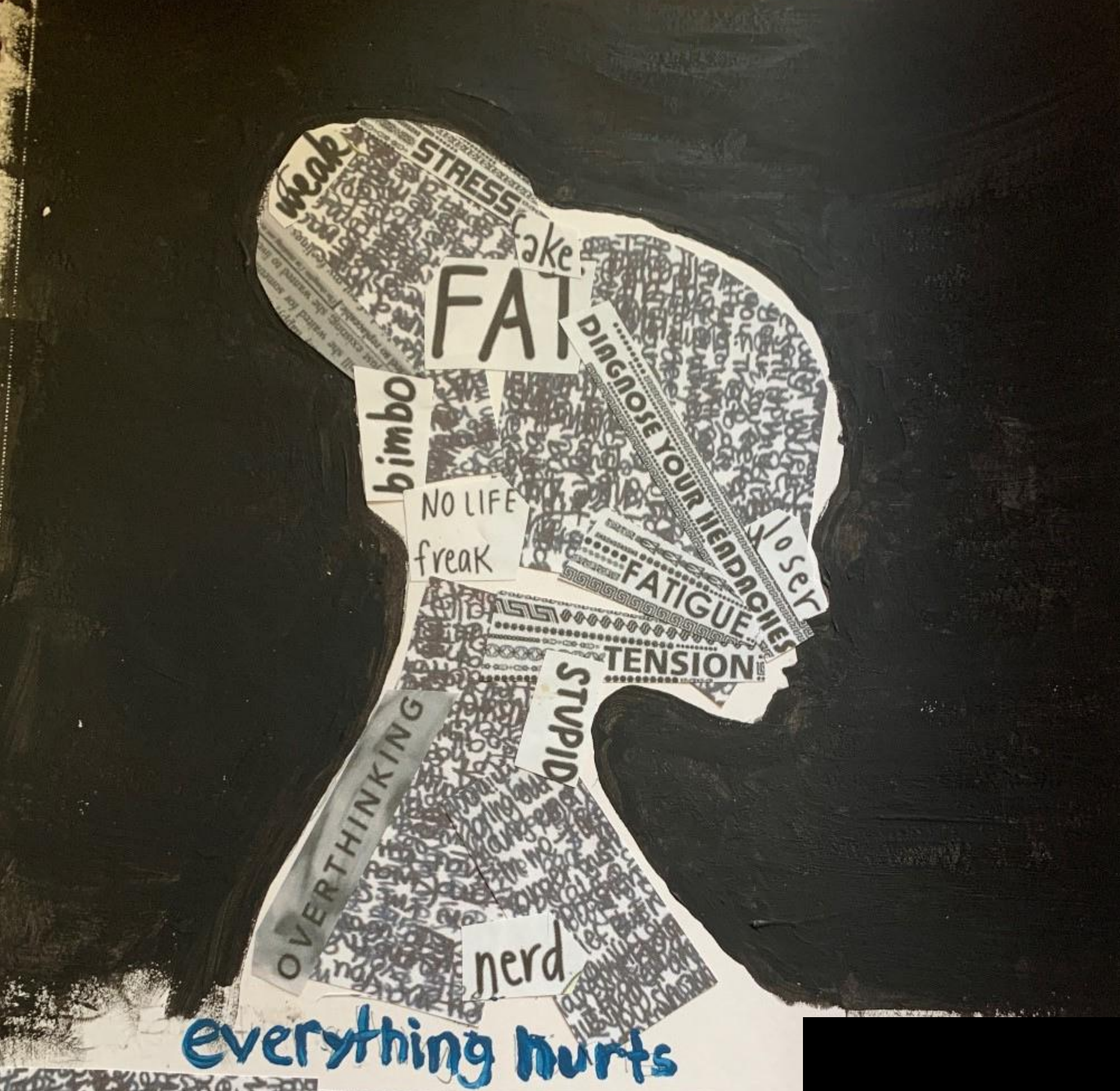
We all heard the same melodies and voices, if it's something one enjoys and something that's harmless, we should try enjoying it as well. Music is music, it shouldn't make a difference if it's in a different language.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

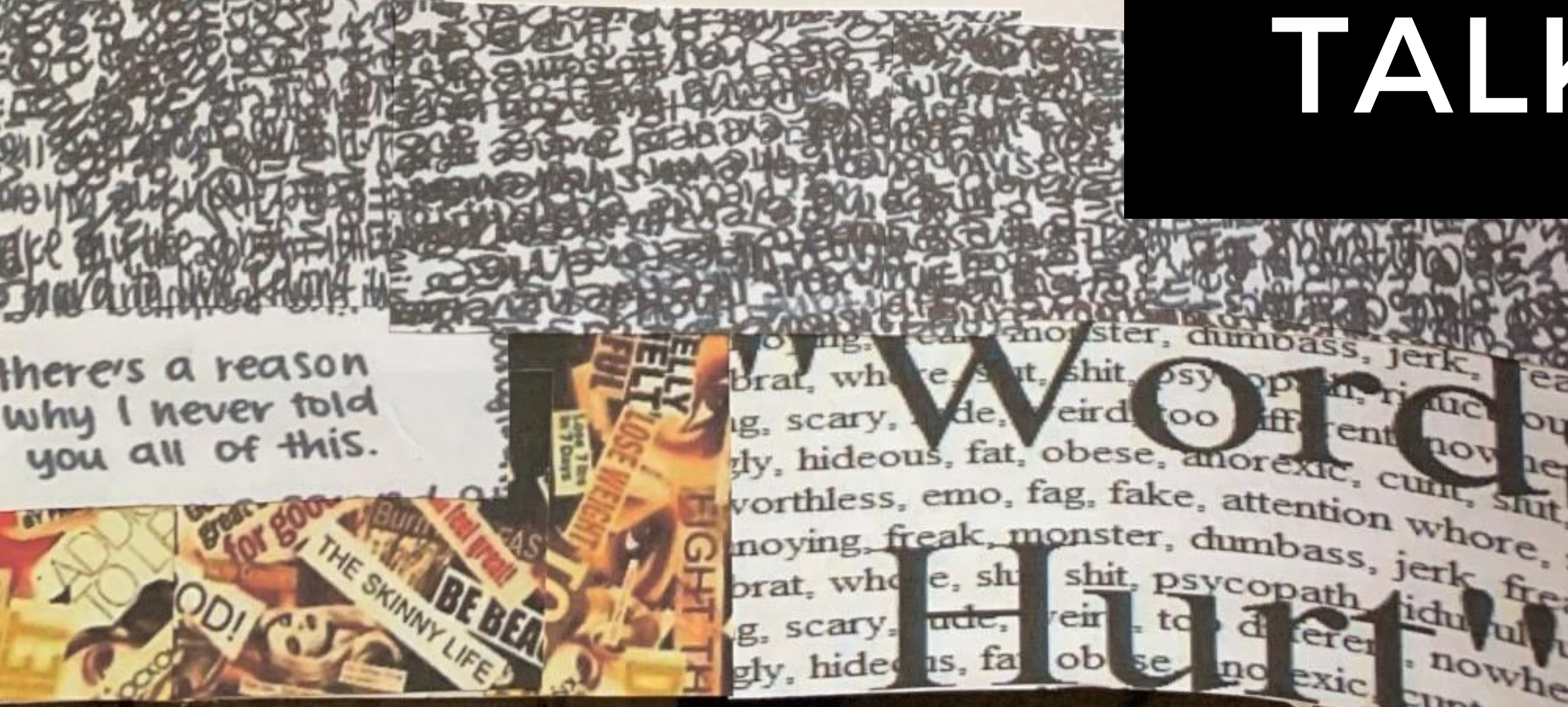
Some people that didn't understand the language laughed, and some didn't mind it.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

A lot of people get put down or made fun of for their likings or things they do, it made me think about having an assembly or something to educate us and try to make teens understand that they should respect and try understanding people with different backgrounds, beliefs, lifestyles, struggles, sexualities, etc. because it's a part of us, we shouldn't laugh, make them feel bad, or make fun of what they do, where they come from, what they believe in, like, or listen to. Maybe one day we can actually hold an assembly.



## TALKING IT OUT



### WHAT YOU SEE

This is a silhouette of a person and inside are just a lot of terrible thoughts and ideas in words. When everything is inside it hurts so much more than talking it out and getting it outside of your head. The words are on the inside to represent what people have told the person and their internal thoughts and how it really hurts them. Especially right now being at home and quarantined, most people have all of these thoughts normally but at least they had people to talk to and they had outlets, especially at school but now they are left alone with their thoughts and people start to go out of their minds thinking horrible things.

### HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

This photo just shows me how hard people have it right now and what they're going through, not just everything around them, not just the financial aspects of what they're feeling but just their emotional state and it makes me want to help and talk to people and get resources out there.

### WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

Kids are struggling right now with their mental health especially being cut off from their normal environment and their friends and they definitely need people to talk to and schools can help kids can get out of their house more and go on walks or talk to people at their school about how they are feeling now.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

Kids can be a resource as volunteers, they could say ideas on what would make them feel better and we could bring it to the leaders of organizations. We could get a lot of kids volunteering if we don't have enough counselors to talk it out with people one on one or in a group so everyone's voices can be heard and it could not only be for their emotions but also if they feel neglected at school. Talking it out with students could be viewed as community service which a lot of kids like to do and schools require. They could help have a class with a mental health aspect to it where everyone is assigned a journal or gets some kind of activity outside or some kind of artwork expressing how they feel so people can know they are not alone and they have an outlet.



# HOMELESSNESS & TRANSPORTATION

## WHAT YOU SEE

This is a student with a thought bubble it says: Where am I going to sleep tonight? How am I going to do my homework? How am I going to get home safely? All these thoughts running through their heads mostly has to do with them being homeless and having to balance school with it too. A big problem here in Sacramento is homelessness.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

We forget that people who have lower incomes need to use transportation throughout the night also because they most likely have two jobs, a day job and a night job. It is difficult also because the train is mostly near communities that are wealthier and that's just a problem with history in general. I know a couple of people who experience homelessness and they are just in high school and it's extremely stressful for them and they don't know who to talk to and how to deal with it and deal with mostly school and also trying to look presentable without your peers thinking "what if you're going through homelessness" and they don't want others to think (like the whole entire school) that they are going through something, they want to look just like everyone else.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

I had a friend who was dealing with homelessness for like two years and all she wanted was to have more transportation because she had no one to take her to internships, she was a health tech so she wanted to go to internships and she wanted to help out and go to community events but she couldn't and she couldn't get her community hours and that's like really difficult. Sometimes the school district doesn't take into consideration everything that a student has to go.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

More access to internships and also transportation. Right now we have the train passes that really help. I know a bit about transportation, I joined this program called YLA which is the group that is with SACOG. We had to make a presentation about some policy changes that we would like to see in Sacramento and I did mine on transportation and it really helps students. You get a sticker behind your ID card and to get the sticker you just need to go to the front office and ask for a sticker on the back of your ID card and it lasts the whole entire school year and then you can use it when you go to the train and you just show it to the person checking the tickets and you can ride there for free.



# BASKETBALL COURT

## **WHAT YOU SEE**

This is our basketball court we have here on the res. As you can see it is not really well maintained.

## **WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES**

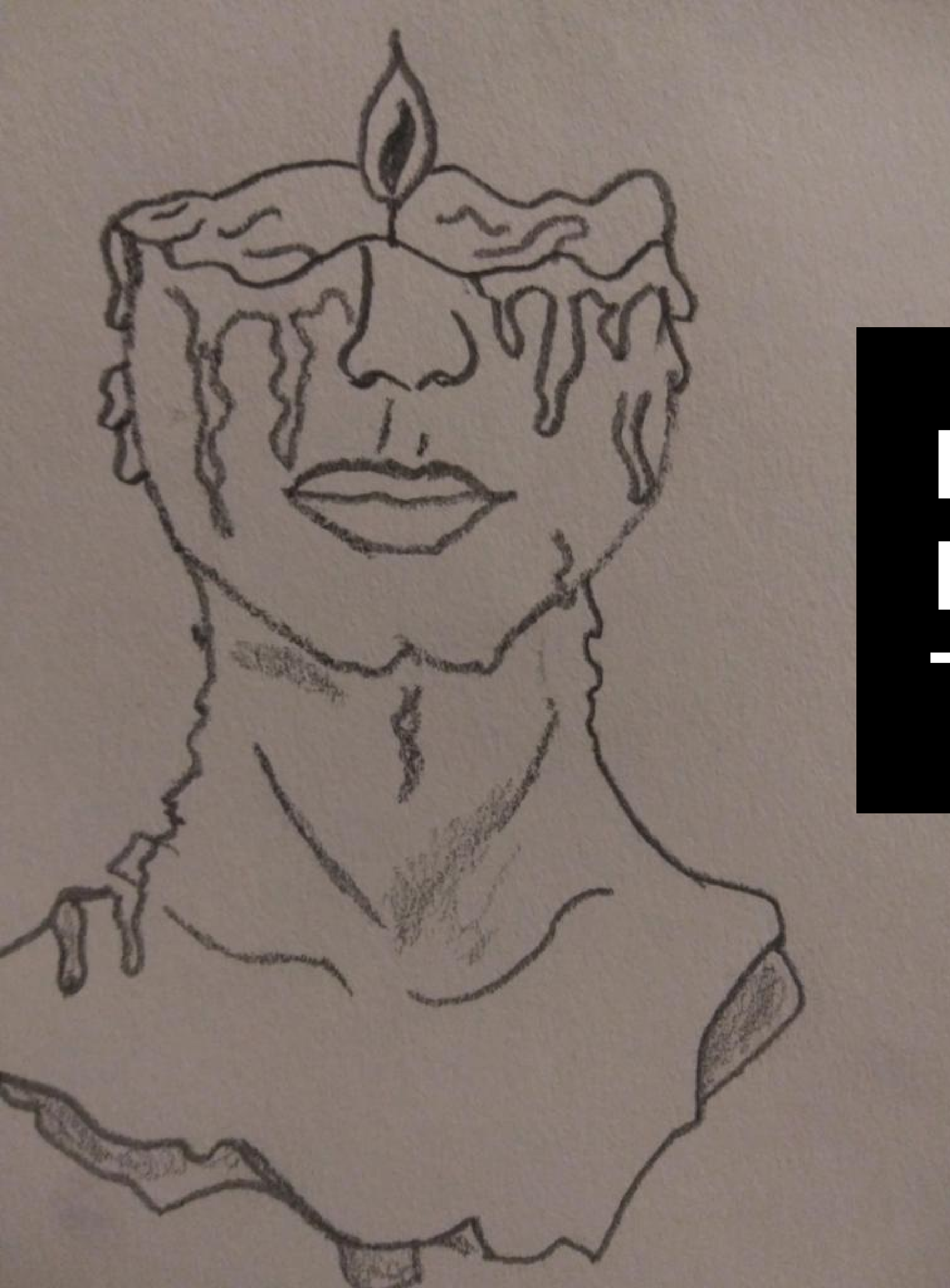
It's a really good way of passing time and hanging out with your friends. Basketball is not just a sport that can help you with your health but also a good way to improve your critical thinking and analysis skills.

## **HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH**

When you actually go down there it's actually a pretty nice but it doesn't seem well maintained and no one really cares about it and it's like no one really cares about us. We have this court that we can use but it's not well maintained.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

Create a mini committee with youth and adults to set up projects and other ideas for improvements of the court like redoing the concrete, the hoops and have the whole court fully enclosed. As youth we can volunteer our time with the work and hard labor and collect community service hours for our high school.



# REALLY LISTENING TO US

## WHAT YOU SEE

We are looking at an example of somebody hearing something and then thinking something else in their head and it being a miscommunication. Like if you're talking to somebody and saying I'm depressed and they don't understand what you're saying or in their mind they're hearing something else, like some noise going in one ear and out the other.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

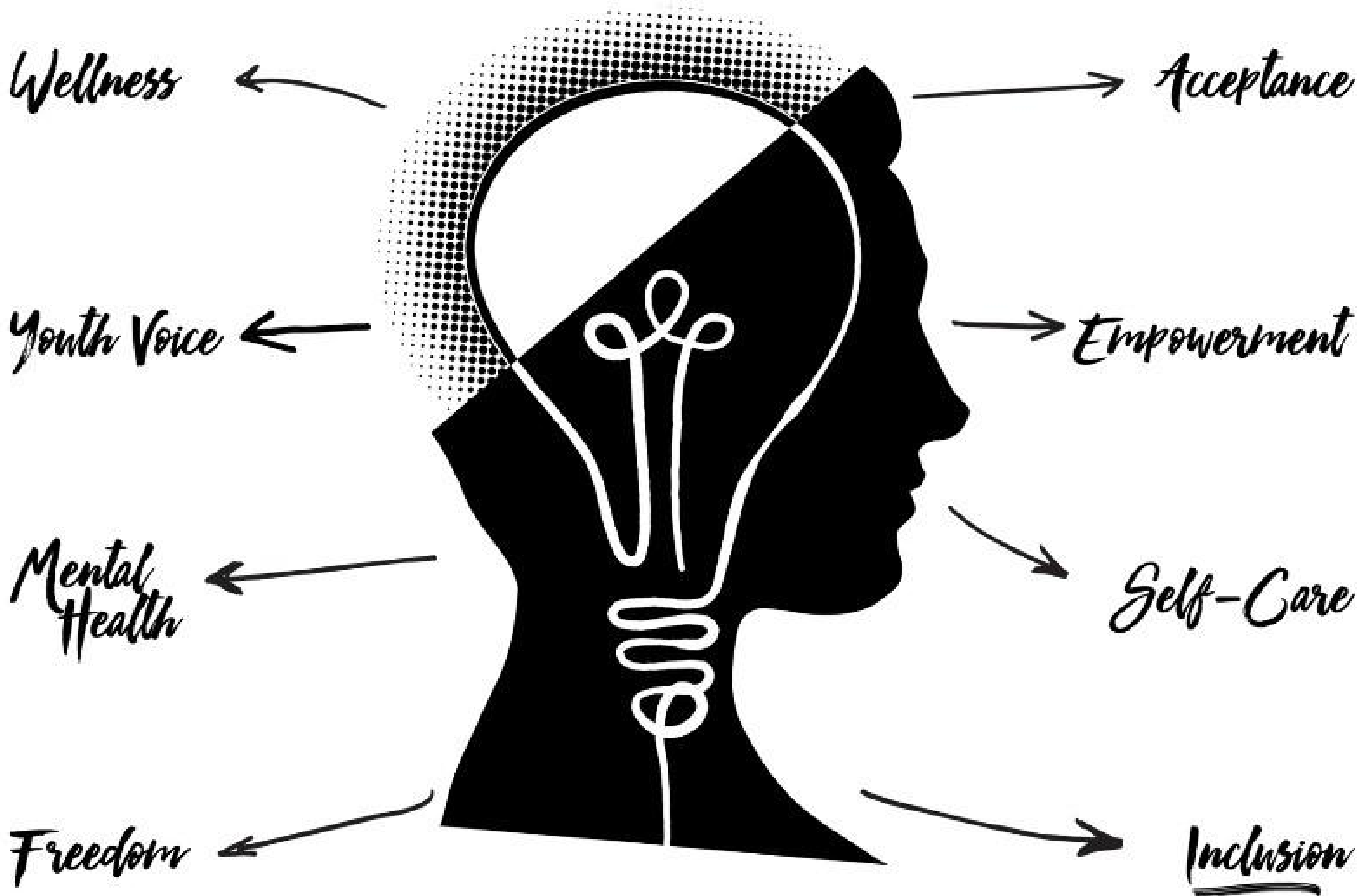
It would impact youth by us not being able to have a voice, nobody understands what we're going through and we're not able to express that because the people that we are trying to express it to are lacking the ability to understand what we're saying in a safe way. My cousin with depression went to a counselor at our school and coming away from the counselor made her be more sad than good because the counselor was just trying to send her to suicidal things and not necessarily talk to her. Every time she went to the counselor and tried to talk to her the counselor would make it worse somehow by not understanding fully what she was saying and trying to explain over what she was trying to say and not really listening. It seemed like she was just the middle person who was trying to get you where you needed to go or just put a band aid over what you actually said to her.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

This symbolizes the disconnect between people who are going through something and trying to reach out and people that don't understand what they're going through. I have a cousin who was telling me that they went to a group counseling meeting and it didn't really help anything for her because there was no one on one with her family members, it was like everyone was just kind of talking. She is going through depression.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Really evaluate the signs of what you see in kids, what they are doing and the changes in them. There shouldn't be a disconnect, but if there is, notice the signs and reach out, don't just ignore it and see what they turn out to be. For example, my family member was calling out to me but I was hearing what I was thinking was right. This person told me they were depressed and I thought they were lying because when I'm sad, I think things just happen, (you and this friend just don't work out, people are mean or pass away) but to this family member they can't forget it and they feel everything the same, deeply and I didn't understand that but now I do.



# THE BRAIN

## WHAT YOU SEE

The reality of the brain to provide a message that mental health is not one size fits all.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

Often in educational settings we don't take into account what makes a person diverse, there's not a lot of support and we miss out on that opportunity.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

It effects people from reaching out to resources because they don't feel safe to reach out and utilize them.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Ensuring safe spaces is more than just putting out a poster, it's holding space for conversations to serve community and change a system that has not been working for everybody.



# COLLABORATION

## WHAT YOU SEE

A table where social workers, teachers and probation officers can come together to have a meeting with youth at the center of the table to get their needs met. Examples are child family team meetings for extended foster care, an emancipation meeting or other collaborative meeting for a youth, child or teen. I wish it happened for me because it didn't. Providers coming together to hear me I can get my needs met.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

This affects me because it is going to provide me with the best care and makes me more motivated to achieve my goals if I know that I have a team that is supporting me and is going to guide me in the right direction. Youth want certain specific things and following through with those things, this is the kind of care that I want. Like a goal to go into the job corps. What are the steps to take to follow through like the need to complete credits, show up and not skip school, taking responsibility

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

Client driven is when the person is in charge of their own health and what works for the youth themselves. They are experts in their own recovery and they know what works for them, not adults. It seems like everyone is working on their own and doing on their own what they think is best for that youth. Everyone has their own idea for the youth. The youth will tell you themselves.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

We need to do child family team meetings so everyone is on the same page. Really educate and inform how this will benefit the youth. Really start showing them this is what happens at these meetings and this is your role. Create a plan where each person is assigned a role. Where the social worker will do it by that date to take them to court to help them with their long term goals. And youth advocate to go through college orientation by that date and plan things out. Following up will help make it a real and consistent thing. Keep in contact and do one month check ins.



# TRIBAL HEAD START

## WHAT YOU SEE

This is our Tribal Head Start in Manchester, Point Arena. I see someone's vision that hasn't really been developed to its full potential. The reason why the tarp is on there is because they have a leak on the roof and over time they were supposed to fix it and never did and it ended up just blowing off. You can see by the steps there were pieces of wood that were supposed to be holding the tarp down and didn't. My Dad actually got up there, removed the wood, tore down the plastic because there was water stuck in it and there was it just not really a good look.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

For the most part the Tribal Head Start has more of a positive impact because we don't have anything for our youth and when I say anything I mean nothing besides the youth group and then this little school for the preschoolers for the kids to be like oh, we have a school on our reservation because a lot don't. We're lucky that we have that. With more time, love and nurturing, it can grow to have a bigger and better impact on youth from infants to adolescents. The grounds of the program need more love and the tribal leaders need to step up a little harder to go the extra mile and make this program thrive and be the best it can be.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

The Tribal Head Start symbolizes a step in the right direction. Betterment for my community and my people. Both on the reservation & off because these littles who are coming in aren't only native, it's for people who are poor and need more help whether you are native or not.

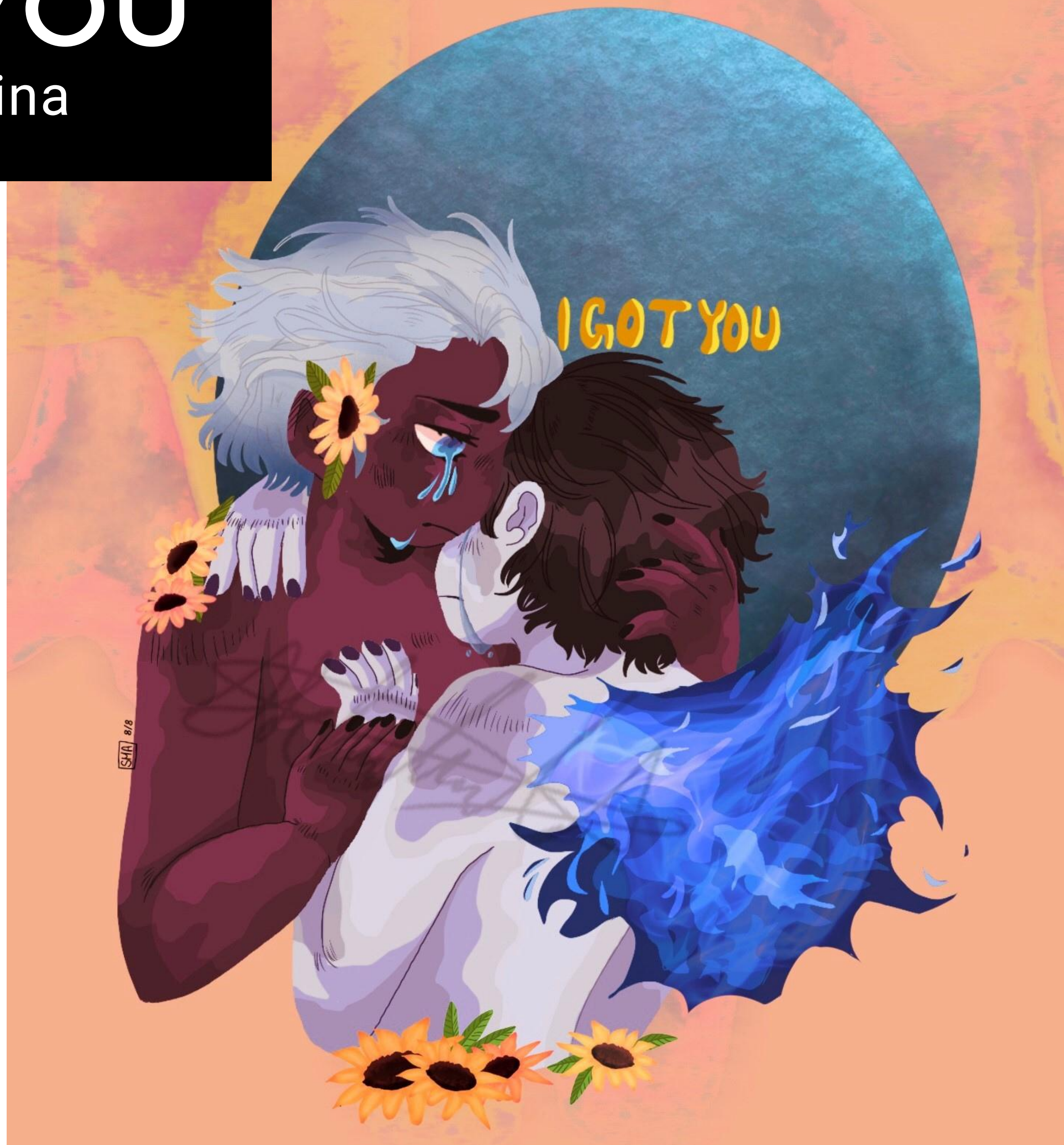
## PROPOSED SOLUTION

My proposed solution would be to get more native youth in the community involved with the program (like I have been trying to be when things were normal). I would read books, play with the kids, serve lunch etc.... on my vacation days or periods that I didn't have class. It would be nice to execute a plan to get youth community service hours for high school students. To keep us involved and nurture our love for childcare and furthering education in the field. I would love to see my peers more involved and having a more positive outlet working at the head start and say some do further their education in child development, coming back to teach or mentor in local schools and health clinics.



# I GOT YOU

by Stefan Medina



## WHAT YOU SEE

What we're looking at in this illustration is two of the same individuals and at the same time two strangers holding onto each other as they both are expressing their responses to similar experiences and feelings. One is on flames and the other has sunflowers on them.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

This symbolizes vulnerability, connection and loss. I chose to put two individuals with the polar opposite scheme to represent that whether the interpreter wants to say they're different people, they're still the same person almost like a double sided coin, the only difference is that while one suffers as its being consumed by the blue flames (agony/negativity as a whole) the other grows sunflowers onto each other (adoration/ joy) yet regardless of these two different reactions, they share an understanding of one another as they both shed tears on the shared experience of the conflict they are opening up to about.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

Well if we're being honest, opening up to someone isn't an easy thing to do whether you're a grown adult, adolescent or a kid. It can be hard and sometimes a physical struggle to overcome in just one leap but how this impacts people in general is by telling you the interpreter that its okay to show yourself to another person, its okay to let the tears flow and that its okay to be human. It's telling you to acknowledge that you're not happy 24/7 and that's okay because it's reality, you'll have your ups and downs and sometimes all we need to do is let loose and admit that we're struggling either to ourselves or another person because in the end of the day we as human beings want to be seen, to be heard and to connect with people even we if sometimes don't want to admit but we are all the same just at different stages of our lives.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

I believe that in order to get to such a point we should provide ways and safe spaces where one can be their most inner selves and comfortable with showing their messy and vibrant aspects that make us well, us. Another thing that think we should put in our schools and communities is a program or some sort of thing where you're able to learn more about what you're experiencing in regards to emotions and stages, since I feel like if everyone is able to understand and become more well aware of their own feelings one would be able to voice their concerns and needs more clearly. It would also give the opportunity to teach others about mental health and illnesses which would be beneficial to everyone since it would allow them to be more compassionate and self aware while the others would be able to open their minds and hearts more without fear of judgement. Ultimately, teach people that being vulnerable doesn't make anyone weak under any circumstances but also teach them on how to spot and identify them in order to grow and better cope.

# STRESS & GRADES

## WHAT YOU SEE

I see stress and good grades. If there were less pressure/stress then it would be a lot less focus on getting into a prestigious college and a better understanding of learned material rather than memorization to get a good grade.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

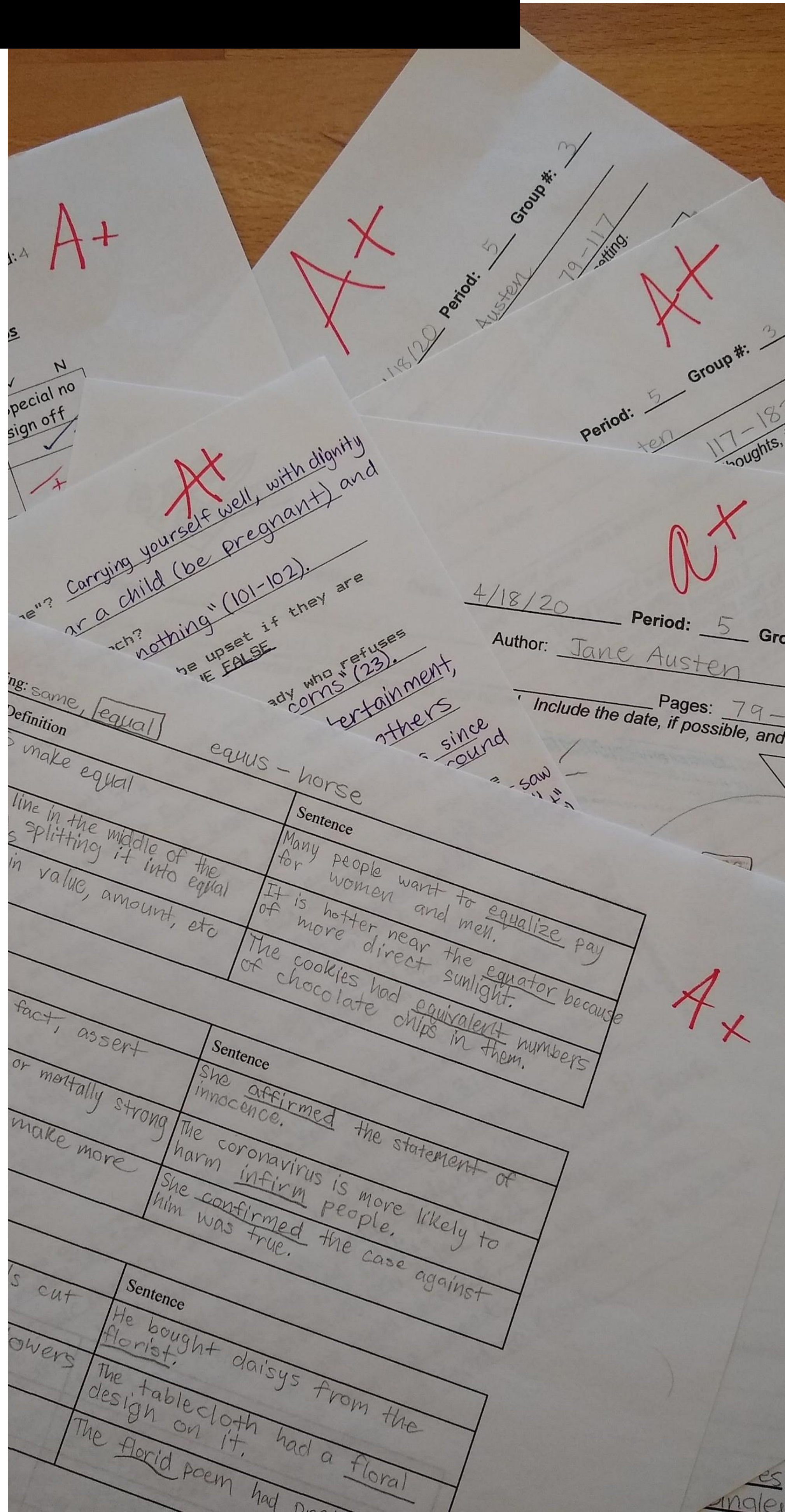
The feeling that success is only met by good grades and that you should try to be the best at everything and not just do stuff you enjoy like reading, spending time with my cats and spending time with my family too which is very overlooked in terms of grades and stuff. I think there are positive things too but it is hard to picture what it would look like without as much pressure when it sometimes feels like that defines school here.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

It makes everyone a lot more stressed and anxious all of the time. Especially when the parents and teachers are the ones putting stress on the kids, that can impact the relationship that they have. Also a lot of kids are way too busy trying to do everything and being the best at everything and get super good grades and then they get more stressed too.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Rethinking or redoing the gifted programs because at least here it's not called the gifted program anymore but it's still very much like a separation and that can affect kids a lot. This could include people giving examples of other ways they had a good life or a good career, not just getting good grades but doing what makes them happy. Kids talking about how the stress affects them. Education for the parents on the effects of the stress or the pressures that they're putting on their kids. And teachers giving more feedback than just grades like saying that was a really good thought, not just that was an "A" paper.





# MINDFUL BREATHING IN CLASS

## WHAT YOU SEE

Students can practice mindful breathing.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

A lot of times when we go into a classroom we bring in whatever is affecting us outside of the classroom and mindful breathing is a way to put some of that stuff aside by just focusing on your breath. It can really help heal a person and allow them to be themselves even if just for a little while.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

Students can be given a tool to help relieve stress, increase focus and help reset their emotions.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

We could teach mindful breathing campus wide and have classes start the day with mindful breathing.

# THE PARK



## WHAT YOU SEE

A slide and posts. This is the only park in Point Arena. There is vandalism.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

I've gone and there is usually parents taking little kids there and the teens will be smoking on the playground or homeless people hang there who struggle with mental illness and kids don't go to the park because of that. There are not a lot of things to do, there is no social place, we just stay at home or go to the river to hang out, there is no where else.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

The park is the main spot in our community and there are bushes and hide outs and a lot of people go and smoke and there are a lot of drugs and stuff on the ground.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

In the park we need space for the little kids. It needs to be reconstructed and renovated. Add more things to it like a basketball hoop with nice nets and make sure it is a smoke free park.



# LATINO NATIVE YOUTH GROUP

## WHAT YOU SEE

We've had a Native Youth Group but we just added Latino this year. Both cultures are coming together to support each other.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

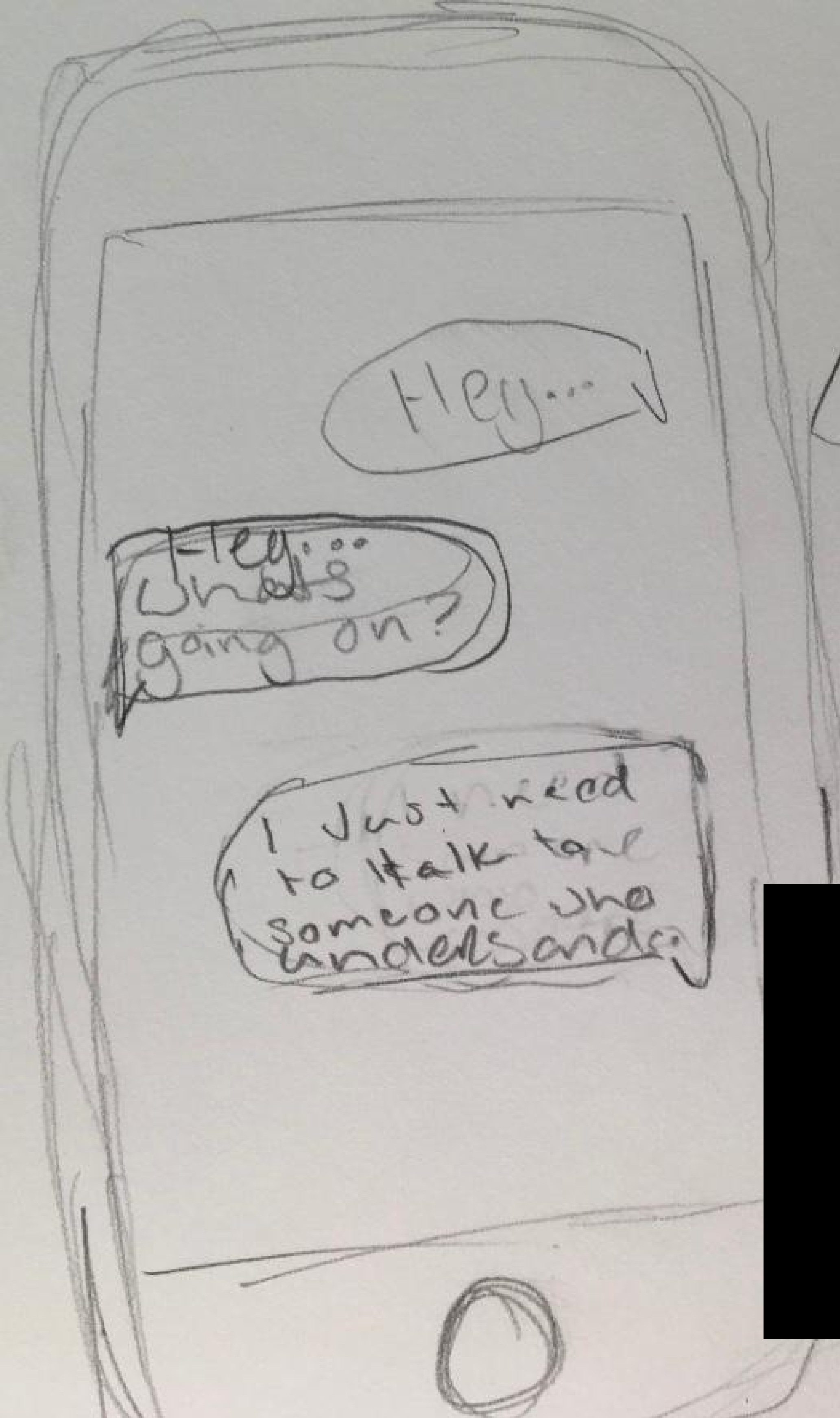
A lot of times there aren't any counselors or barely anyone to go and talk to. This is an open area where you can express yourself and everyone is there to support you.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

We hold a Native Latino Cultural Day in May with an assembly and Native and Hispanic speakers sharing about their culture. It's bringing Native and Latino culture together.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Every kid wants more of these. It helps knowing that there are places we can go and talk with confidentially and places that we can hang out that are fun and drug free.



# TEENS HELPING TEENS

## WHAT YOU SEE

A teen sitting alone, not harming or doing anything but just sitting alone on their phone, they are probably depressed.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

I really wish that hotlines like suicide hotlines were more available towards teens that you can text if it's after hours when you're alone and you're scared and you need somebody to talk to. Just putting it out there that this hotline is here, people are available and you don't have to be sad and alone. You have people that are there for you, they care about you and you are loved.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

Teens can't focus in school because they're too busy worrying about how they look and if they're going to get bullied or something and get depressed.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

At my new school there's actually a group of seniors and juniors that talk to the freshman and sophomores kind of like therapists do but it's not really as big as a therapist, it's more of just a "hey are you OK" kind of thing. There could be more youth advocates on the hotline line instead of adults saying "oh I know how you feel" when really "I don't know how you feel". If there were just more people on the receiving end that understood how the teens felt, like maybe they had a little bit of experience with it, they would understand a lot more.



# SEEING THE SILENT CRY

## WHAT YOU SEE

I see a kid in a place where they are crying and reaching out for help but the world is moving fast and not adjusting to the kid. A world moving around a kid without recognizing the silent cry of that young person.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

You can't plug something that is dysfunctional into the needs of kids. They're not seeing us. There's a correlation between really bad leadership and its impact on student morale and getting student needs met and how they plug their money into something that is actually relevant. There is some kind of disconnection on how people view relationships, it makes them stick to what they know but some of the best change happens when we find common ground. Great leaders know how to bring people together and the worst leaders divide people.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

People are struggling, you can look on their face and tell the weight of the world is on their shoulders and then you put that kid in that classroom and say read chapter 13 and still deal with cyber bullying. To watch someone be around a lot of people all day but still feel so alone, to me that's what's missing.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Our schools need to understand trauma informed care, be familiar with biases, different cultures and how people communicate. You've got to be ambidextrous in how you support people, you've got to bend, you've got to flow, you've got to be firm and the next minute be loose and that all comes from knowing who you are around and being knowledgeable to meet their needs.



# SCULPTURE OF STIGMA

## WHAT YOU SEE

The bottom half is naked, the top half is a hoodie and the back is open, scratched, red and raw. It portrays that even when people try to hide themselves, it's still really hard to open up even when they feel naked.

## HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

It was a lot making the sculpture. I lost my best friend last year and the Idea Lab is going to be a year since he passed. He was a bubbly guy and you would have never expected it to happen. It affects me in a different way, being more understanding and empathetic for him stepping out and trying to hide all of that. A lot of people who deal with these issues say it's like stepping on ice, they don't want people to treat them differently by what they say.

## WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

Even when a lot of people dealing with this want to cover it, they have self inflicted wounds. Stepping out is so risky, people feel they want to be a wall flower and not take up space and many of us don't see it. Mental illness is tagged as introvert, it's just how they are dealing with it. When I step out wearing whatever clothes I want I feel vulnerable, trying to hide the red parts from the back with the hoodie.

## PROPOSED SOLUTION

Raise awareness. One of the things people are reluctant to talk about is the stigma. Even trying to go for counseling sessions isn't easy. Parents say I don't want you to go because when you grow up and get a job it is used against you in a court of law that you have been going to a counselor for depression, so how do we know what you're saying is true? They know parents fear for their child, that it will be used as a weapon against them and trying to negate what they're saying and the issues they're dealing with as if they're a whole different person.





# HELP GETTING OUT OF ADDICTION

## **WHAT YOU SEE**

A cigarette butt

## **WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES**

Drug abuse in the community

## **HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH**

Youth start doing drugs after they see elders doing them. Younger generations see it from their role models.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

We need more help getting out of the addiction. There are no services here. We also need an arcade or something for us to do.



## TAY CREATED PROGRAMS FOR OUR FUTURE BY LUKA FERNANDEZ

### WHAT YOU SEE

An illustration that shows a clear pathway to college but an uncertain pathway toward other life/career/job destinations (elsewhere). Teenagers and young adults face the challenge of making this life changing decision.

### HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

Not having support programs and services impacts youth on so many levels. Some youth know that college is not for them and the pressure to enroll and complete traditional higher education creates more uncertainty in what is already a challenging moment in life. Many youth who go to college because of outside influence and not because of personal desire drop out and end up with substantial debt. If you don't go to college there are many other challenges that you go through and the constant fear of not knowing if you have a future ahead of you. In addition, youth who have or end up with mental health issues due to an unforgiving academic environment can't thrive in our education system, especially when there are no holistic supports available.

### WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

The lack of resources and job development services for youth who want to take alternative routes and not go to college. Youth struggle with inner conflict when they are making these big decisions. There are a lot of challenges during this age: societal pressures, financial limitations, and mental health struggles that happen when you transition out of high school and into adulthood..

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

We need to tackle this issue holistically. Extensive mental health resources are needed on college campuses, high schools, and for TAY who are not in college. There needs to be more employment training programs, career counseling services, internships, and options for those not in university. Trade school and other manual job opportunities should be shown as viable career options, and entry level work positions need to be accessible for youth without previous experience. Teenagers and young adults must also be paid fair wages and provided with resources and information on unions to avoid workplace exploitation and wage theft. When our decision makers are creating these programs TAY must be involved and consulted to develop them. There needs to be more alternatives available for young people building their futures, and our government and society as a whole have to provide assistance for these challenges.



**By:**  
**Cynthia O.**  
**Naranjo**

## HELPING A STRUGGLING RESTAURANT HELP OTHERS

### WHAT YOU SEE

This is a picture of a struggling restaurant.

### WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

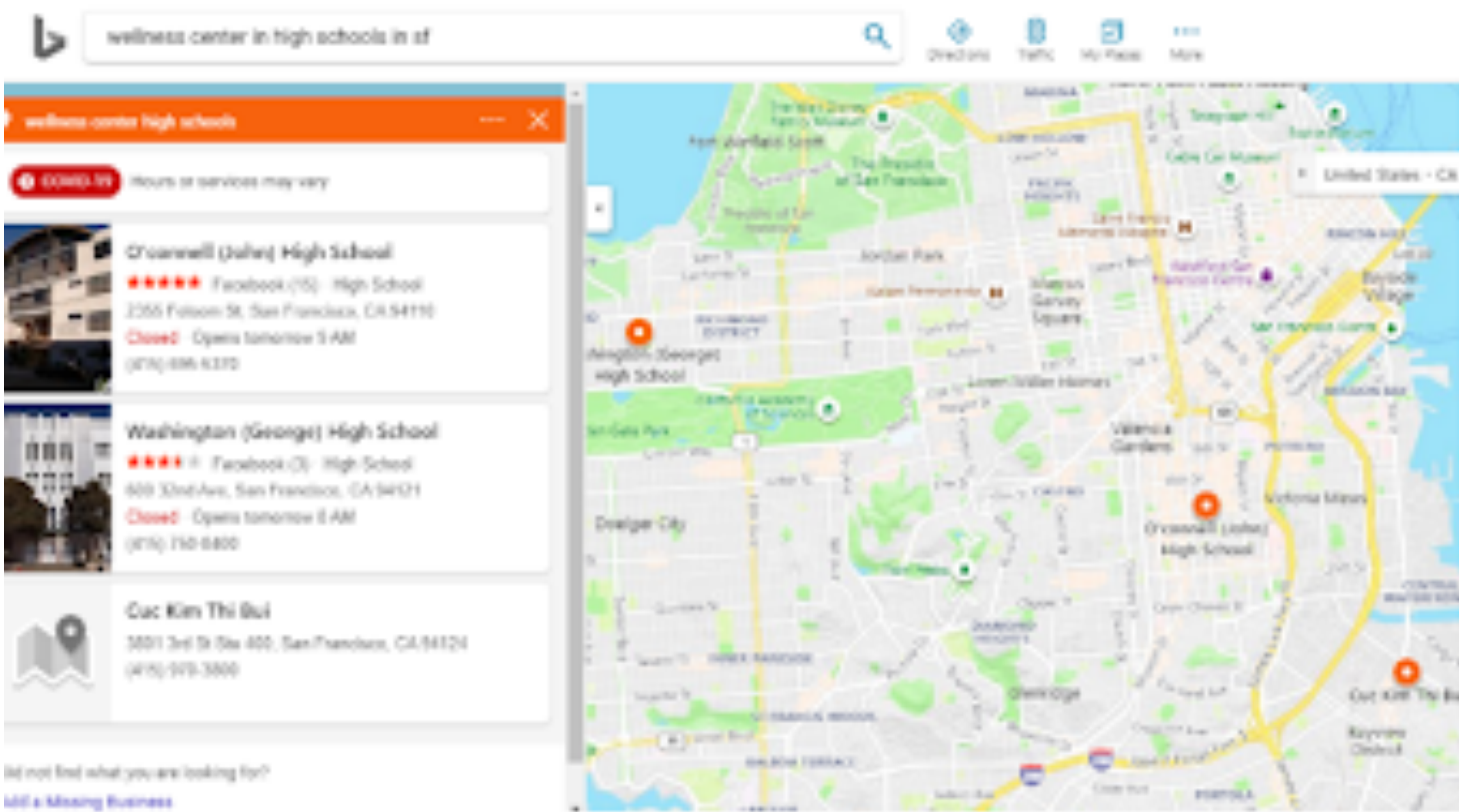
It symbolizes the county's struggling restaurants being affected by the pandemic, but it also has the potential of being this beacon of light to help people. Monterey County has a lot of homeless people. Restaurants can be like a limited and temporary foodbank. This can alleviate the pressure on foodbanks to deliver food all in one place and more people are being helped, especially low income families, this would help them get quality food.

### HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

Although it technically is a government subsidy and tax dollars would be used from the county which could be an economic burden, research shows that even during the Great Depression when the government decided not to step in, that's when the economy went downhill.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

There is a need for help and a lack of it right. People are taking action and not just sending thoughts and prayers. My friends and I could organize the evidence, data and economic trends needed to prove why it is beneficial for people and the county and use social media platforms to reach a lot of people and use our parent's social media to spread the word. We have contacts with city hall and could contact the city councilmen one by one and show that there is a lot of demonstrated interest in this and make a case to the City Council.



## WELLNESS CENTER'S IN ALL HIGH SCHOOLS

### WHAT YOU SEE

In the picture, it shows a search bar of which high schools in San Francisco have wellness centers for teens. The search engine narrows down that John O'Connell and George Washington High School(s) offer these resources to teenagers.

### WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

The San Francisco School District are not offering wellness centers within all SF high schools. Only two out of eighteen offer a wellness center program. This shows that most teenagers are not being educated about wellness centers.

### HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

This affects young teens because most teens are not educated on wellness centers. When an individual is not educated about wellness it is hard for them to properly take care of themselves and this can lead to unhealthy choices in their life.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

We can create a petition and gather as many signatures for students to have wellness centers in all of the high schools in San Francisco.



# TAY ORGANIZING & DONATING FOOD

**By:  
Emily Garcia**

## **WHAT YOU SEE**

You can tell that there is a really large line and helpers put food in the trucks which helps with the 6 feet apart.

## **HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH**

You don't know the amount of food they have right now. What if there is not enough for other people who need to feed their families?

## **WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES**

People are distancing themselves since they are in the car, they need more workers so it's not very efficient. It's surprising how many people need these food banks, you can tell providing for their families is necessary because they are unemployed.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

We can still reach out to city hall and spread it around social media to help make more donations of canned food to food banks and some teenagers can help be volunteers.



**By:**  
**Leonardo**  
**DelToro**

## **REPURPOSING LAND FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

### **WHAT YOU SEE**

The photograph depicts one of many abandoned military buildings on Fort Ord in Marina, California. The military base has been out of service for many years, and the buildings currently serve no purpose.

### **HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH**

This land and the buildings were constructed there with taxpayer money many years ago, and currently, all the acres are rendered useless. The lack of low-income housing in our community poses a threat to everyone, because it is our social responsibility to help the vulnerable populations that need access to better living situations that are also reasonably priced.

### **WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES**

The buildings are in terrible condition, and the government owns the land yet chooses to do nothing with it, while Marina and neighboring cities are experiencing increasingly worse living conditions and access to affordable housing has become very limited.

### **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

I propose that local and state governments launch projects that will remodel and repurpose the land and buildings in Fort Ord. These clean and affordable living complexes will allow low-income families to feel safe and comfortable in their new homes, so that they can dedicate more time to other aspects of their lives, and don't have to worry about basic necessities like housing.



## DESTINATION TAY BY ZABREEN SHAIKH MHASF TAT

### WHAT YOU SEE

The image above depicts a former sports store which shut down in 2014. It has been sitting empty since then because there have been many disagreements as to what should occupy this space.

### HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH

This space is a place of convenience for TAY to get multiple needs met at once. While there are multiple designated spots for TAY, a "headquarters" has yet to be established – partially because the general population haven't been exposed to who TAY are and the needs accompanied. Creating a space for TAY in this building would allow outsiders to recognize the importance of having a safe space for TAY and address specific needs that aren't currently being met.

### WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES

I am proposing for this site to become a one stop shop for TAY to receive wrap around services. Often TAY have to travel to multiple sites to receive a variety services and this can be difficult at times. The building has two floors and I envision the floors being divided by needs. For example, one floor is dedicated to receiving services based on physical and mental well being and the second is a space dedicated to recreational activities. In addition, this location is easily accessible by multiple public transit lines.

### PROPOSED SOLUTION

Appeal to the District Supervisors as for some reason they have been inclined to let the building sit empty as the public cannot agree as to what the building should be. It would take a lot of advocacy in the neighborhood which is near the Tenderloin and Nob Hill, two different social classes that must unite marginalized communities and the upper class people in order for this project to become a reality. We can appeal to the public and write letters. Involving TAY is also significant as advocating is important for gaining momentum.



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR GRADUATING TAY

**By:**  
**Anna Isabel  
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## **WHAT YOU SEE**

This is Tracy, she is coming from Florida back to our community to support other Transitional Age Youth (TAY) with therapy and programs.

## **HOW IT IMPACTS YOUTH**

There isn't as much community support and it creates a cycle of not being together and supporting each other. Older TAY you are not passing down the mentorship they have been given to younger people and there is a disconnect between the generations. Younger youth end up having to try to learn these things by themselves that are not taught in school like financial literacy, credit cards and taxes. It's not good for older TAY because they end up walking away from the connectivity of the community when they have to leave to find jobs because there aren't enough in their community. It's an ongoing cycle, if you don't support each other it becomes harder to support yourself.

## **WHAT IT SYMBOLIZES**

We need community support and encouragement for older youth coming out of college who have some experience to help bridge the gap. There are a lot of 17 year olds who could learn from 22 year olds.

## **PROPOSED SOLUTION**

Having youth advocate for businesses to give opportunities for older youth as an incentive to come back because people constantly tell younger people they're the future but our voice is not often heard. We can help mend the gap where 22-25 year olds are supporting younger students 16 and up and support TAY in our community with therapy and community programs.