

County Council Testimony: Brianna Hughes

Good evening, my name is Brianna Hughes and I am eager to serve as the student member of the Howard County Local Children's Board.

I have always found joy in community service and outreach, so I was excited when I heard about the position for Student members of the Local Children's Board because I believe strongly in all of the causes the LCB supports.

I have been involved in multiple extracurricular activities in and out of school. My love for community service began in my church, St. Louis. Last year I even became a retreat team leader which helped me hone my leadership and planning skills. I am also a dedicated member of the Glenelg Earth Organization which helps promote environmental sustainability.

I am a member of Delta Scholars, and so far this year we have organized a Thanksgiving food drive, book drive, electronics drive, and midterm care packages. We are now planning a field trip to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

This year I have been lucky to participate in the Gifted and Talented Intern/Mentor Program. Because this course is less classroom-based I have learned to manage my time better and keep track of deadlines. Through my internship, I have learned more about the mental healthcare system than I could have from a textbook. This year I have been researching electronic billing services and the benefits of an electronic billing service that accepts all types of insurance.

Even though I am not officially the Student Member of the LCB, yet, I have been attending every meeting and actively participating in the role in and out of meetings. I was lucky enough to moderate for a panel at The Champions for Change Conference. At the conference, I had the pleasure of meeting so many wonderful and inspiring people. After the Champions for Change conference, I became very involved in Voices For Change. Most recently, I attended a Social Media Workshop where I was able to meet some great parents and students from around the county. With each event and meeting, I have become more driven to help improve this wonderful county I'm proud to call home.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.