**Oregon Early Assessment and Support Alliance Young Adult Leadership Council**

The EASA Young Adult Leadership Council was created in April 2013. Its members consist of participants and graduates of EASA, with representation from YouthMove, Oregon Health Authority and the Portland State University EASA Center for Excellence. The Leadership Council was formed to play a central role in setting the direction of EASA and to ensure that young adult voices play a prominent and impactful role in EASA.

The Leadership Council’s mission is *to “unite the voices and strengths of young adults and their allies to create a thriving community and a revolution of hope.”*  It seeks to guide the direction of the EASA program by:

* providing an experience of healing and growth;
* creating an outlet for expression;
* educating and supporting EASA participants and graduates;
* gathering and responding to feedback;
* and advocating for change.

**Leadership Council accomplishments include:**

Helping to design and implement a statewide conference

Advocating with national and state policy makers around issues of concern and interest

Developing policy recommendations for the provision of housing supports for young adults

Developing written and video materials which have been used for introducing new individuals to EASA as well as to train new programs nationally

Helping to design and implement EASA’s staff training

Supporting EASA participants who are interested in entering peer support roles

Educating the community, EASA participants and families by presenting at conferences, workshops and EASA graduation ceremonies

Giving feedback to clinical programs statewide and participating in the development of local advisory groups

Continuing to learn from the direct experience of EASA participants and graduates in order improve EASA and prioritize action of challenges faced by EASA graduates