

# WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

## START WITH YOUR TOWN!

### The Safety Advocates

**STUDENTS OF MALDEN HIGH SCHOOL  
MALDEN, MA**

With gang membership on the rise in their town, a group of students at Malden High School decided to take action.



In 2012, they lobbied their town for more after-school options for teenagers, to help guard them against joining gangs.

Working with their city council, the group set in motion what would become Malden's Teen Enrichment Center, where kids could go after school to meet, hang out, play sports—and, above all, stay safe.

### The Environmental Advocates

**ERICA FERNANDEZ  
OXNARD, CA**

As a 12-year-old student, in 2002, Fernandez learned that a natural gas company was planning to build a pipeline through the area where she and her friends lived.

Inspired, she organized protests outside the company's offices, met with community members, and brought other students and citizens together to rally.

The end result: The California State Lands Commission voted unanimously to deny the pipeline project.



### The Community Advocates

**STUDENTS OF WEBB MIDDLE SCHOOL, AUSTIN, TX**



In 2017, a group of students decided to hold the city of Austin accountable on its promise to reinvigorate public spaces. The students advocated for public funding to transform a vacant parking lot into a new city park.

The students met with their principal to launch an awareness campaign—cosponsored by the school—that used petitions, videos, and social media to encourage community support.

The city heard them, launched a Community Envisioning Project for local support, and broke ground on a new city park in fall 2018.

**YOUNG ACTIVISTS + PASSION + COMMUNITY = REAL CHANGE**