

INTRODUCTION

The YSCF Youth Action Board uses philanthropy and leadership to teach Yellow Springs teens how to change the world.

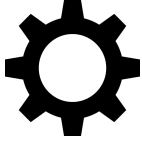
Sixteen students from the Yellow Springs area joined this year's Youth Action Board. They collectively spent 960 hours working to improve their communities while becoming leaders and activists in the process. The team completed a community needs assessment on the most pressing issues facing youth in Yellow Springs, raised awareness of the issues with the community, and fundraised \$6,100 for local nonprofit organizations benefitting youth across the Yellow Springs area.



YSCF Youth Action Board Panel of Experts Session

THE PROGRAM

Youth Action Board is the youth-led arm of the Yellow Springs Community Foundation. Each year, students conduct a grant cycle.



NEEDS

Youth dive deep to find the most pressing issues facing children and youth in their local community

FUNDRAISING

Youth meet with community members to raise awareness about and funding for the biggest issues

GRANT MAKING

Youth decide which nonprofits are doing the best at meeting the needs and give away 100% of the funds raised



YSCF Youth Action Board

Student Facilitator:

Isabella Beiring

Board Members:

Aiden Scavone

Alisha Cowen

Anikin Boden

Charles Whitlock

Hannah Parker

Isaac Lewis

Isabella Espinosa

Jia Sundell-Turner

Julietta Liberato

Kael Cooney

Max Lugo

Theo Knickerbocker

Melissa Heston, YSCFYAB Facilitator, Outreach Manager

FUNDING PRIORITY

After many hours of research, the Youth Action Board decided to focus on the following funding priority:

Mental Health

The Youth Action Board believes that access to mental health services are a basic and necessary human need that should not be restricted by one's socio-economic status, race, identity, mobility, or any other possible discriminating factor. Young people experience a variety of emotional distress daily including anxiety, lack of confidence & dignity, embarrassment, insecurity, loss of self-esteem, depression, and many health issues related to the lack of accessible mental health services. We have seen our peer's mental health deteriorate and was magnified through the pandemic. We believe continued support for this can increase our youth's capacity to thrive physically, intellectually, and emotionally into adulthood.

“[Youth Action Board] impacted my life by helping me understand more about our community and things I can do to help the young people in our community that are struggling.”

- 2023 participant

FUNDRAISING

The Youth Action Board created a fundraising plan to raise as much money as possible to support their chosen priority. They met with local business, community, and nonprofit leaders (known as “Impact Partners”) from across the Yellow Springs area to talk about their funding priorities and ask community leaders to invest in their work.



RAISED: \$6,100



Thank you to our Impact Partners and donors!

*Barb & Rich Bullock
Karen & Matt Denman*

Teresa Dunphy & Tommaso Gregor

Jennamarie Cox & Earl Reeder

Sandy McHugh & Jerry Sutton

Lisa Abel & Lynn Adams

Catherine Anderson

Fred & Joy Bertenstein

Isabella Beiring

Mayor Pam Conine

Chris & Linda Cox

Antonia Dosik & Len Kramer

Matt & Erika Grushon

Donna Haller

Melissa Heston & Mary Kay Smith

Artie & Alisa Isaac

Aida Merhemic & Bob Barcus

Desiree Nickell

Macy & Roger Reynolds

Aiden Scavone

GRANT WINNERS

The following organizations were awarded a grant based on their ability to meet the funding priorities of the Youth Action Board:

Yellow Springs Schools - \$6,100

The YSCF Youth Action Board decided to award a directed grant to the Yellow Springs Schools in support of extending days of mental health care from 2 full days in 2022-23, to 4 full days in 2023-24 at both buildings. The Yellow Springs Schools has already budgeted expanding days for the 2023-24 school year to 3.5 days, and with the help of the Youth Action Board and matching funds from YSCF, the schools can contract 4 full days for both school buildings. The Youth Action Board fundraising effort had an ambitious goal of \$5,000 to ensure this opportunity for youth mental health care.

*“[Youth Action Board] allowed me to graduate high-school.”
- 2023 participant*

STUDENT IMPACT



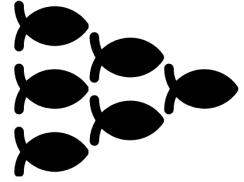
EMPOWERMENT

100% of participants said YAB improved their ability to identify an issue and take action.



COMMUNITY

Students raised awareness and funding (\$6,100) for pressing issues.



LEADERSHIP

83% of participants said they would be more likely to take on a leadership role because of YAB.



KNOWLEDGE

98% of participants gained knowledge in YAB curriculum topics.



EMPATHY

83% of participants stated the program improved their empathy skills.



LIFE SKILLS

Participants showed improvement in non-cognitive skills 93% of the time.

PARTNERSHIP



The YSCF Youth Action Board is a collaboration between the Yellow Springs Community Foundation, the Yellow Springs Schools and YouthRoots, a youth philanthropy nonprofit based in Englewood, CO, whose mission is to unleash the power of youth to change the world. The Yellow Springs Community Foundation uses the YouthRoots training curriculum to teach Yellow Springs area teens how to change the world through philanthropy and gain valuable leadership skills. Together, they are cultivating the next generation of Yellow Springs philanthropists, leaders, and change-makers.

Learn more at:

www.yscf.org/individuals/youth-action-board
www.youthroots.org

“We are trying to help the world improve on everything that is happening and just because we are young doesn't mean we can't change a lot of things.”

- 2023 participant