



YOUTH GRANTMAKERS IN ACTION

WHAT IS YOUTH GRANTMAKERS IN ACTION?

Youth Grantmakers in Action (YGA) of The Winston-Salem Foundation is an exciting opportunity for youth from across Forsyth County. This youth-led group comes together to gain leadership experience, develop a greater understanding of the community and issues impacting local youth, represent youth in their community, voice their opinions, and make grants to youth-directed projects in Forsyth County. This project was created to give youth the opportunity to work in partnership with adults to recognize the assets of youth and to invest in their efforts to make positive changes in the community. YGA is unique because it is a board of young people who make decisions about which projects in their community will receive money!

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The basic process looks like this:

FIRST, YGA members develop their own grantmaking program and create a grant application.

SECOND, YGA members seek out youth-led groups from schools & community organizations to come up with ideas for projects that will make a positive impact within the community.

THIRD, the youth-led groups fill out applications in which they say what they want to do, why it's important for the community, and how much money they need to carry out the project successfully.

FOURTH, the youth-led groups submit their applications to YGA. YGA reviews the applications and makes decisions about whether or not to fund the projects.

WHO CAN BE PART OF YOUTH GRANTMAKERS IN ACTION?

Youth who are rising 10th-12th graders and live in Forsyth County or attend Forsyth County schools (Please note: current enrollment in school is NOT a requirement to serve with YGA). We want a group that represents the true diversity of our community and is able to commit the time necessary to make YGA successful.

WHAT DO YGA MEMBERS DO?

- Meet and work with other teens from diverse backgrounds across Forsyth County.
- Engage with local residents and gain a deeper understanding of the community.
- Design a grantmaking program.
- Reach out to youth in the community to encourage them to plan a project and apply for money to carry it out.
- Review proposed project ideas from youth-led groups.
- Make decisions as a group about which projects will receive money.
- Follow up with and give support to the youth-led groups that were funded.
- Gain a lot of important leadership experience and job skills.
- Help to sustain the program with volunteer hours and fundraising assistance.

WHAT'S THE COMMITMENT?

A mandatory full-day orientation in August, one meeting a month from September to April, and additional optional activities. There will also be some independent and group work between meetings.

Questions? Call Katie at (336) 231-0503 or email yga@wsfoundation.org.