Youth Engaged in Philanthropy
YEP GRANT GUIDELINES

Youth Engaged in Philanthropy (YEP) is a youth-led committee of the DeKalb County Community Foundation, designed to encourage and develop the practice of philanthropy in young adults. YEP inspires a lifelong interest and a commitment to serving others in the community with a focus on youth impact.

Guidelines and Eligibility:
Grant applications are due on February 1 of each year and are reviewed by members of the YEP committee. All grant requests must be submitted online. A site visit or presentation is required for all applicants. YEP Grants are project or program specific. A grant report is due by February 1 of the year following the receipt of funding. Grant reports not completed on time may affect future funding for your organization. If an extension is required, please contact us.

YEP Grantmaking Priorities:
- Be a Youth Initiative
  - Youth must be directly involved in the development and/or implementation of the project. Projects may occur in the areas of Arts & Culture, Community Development, Education, Environment & Animal Welfare, or Health & Human Services.
  - Preference is given to innovative programs or projects.
  - Preference is given to applications submitted by youth applicant or that show strong youth involvement in the project planning process.
  - **Grants are limited to a maximum of $2,500 per project.**

- Respect Equitable Opportunity
  - Projects must respect diversity, equity, and inclusion.
  - Preference is given to programs or projects that work to strengthen diversity, equity, and inclusion among youth in DeKalb County.

- Dedicated to Community (DeKalb County, IL)
  - The project must be in response to a legitimate youth need or direct youth benefit in DeKalb County, IL.

- Have Accountability
  - Applicants must have a nonprofit fiscal sponsor and demonstrate a realistic plan with a clear set of goals.
  - Applicants need to report any alterations of their project plans after submission of the application and the changes need to be approved by the YEP committee.
  - Applicants should be willing to meet with YEP representatives either as part of the application process or for a site visit to evaluate the program or project.
  - **Applicants who receive funding are expected to complete a grant report on the project's success by February 1 the following year.**

- Demonstrate Promotion of the 40 Developmental Assets™
  - The projects should be consistent with the YEP's dedication to youth empowerment, promotion of youth leadership, and the strengthening of youth involvement as reflected in the Search Institute's Developmental Assets™ framework. The grant application requires knowledge of the 40 Developmental Assets™. For more information, visit: https://dekalbccf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/40AssetsList.pdf

Projects Generally Not Funded:

While the Community Foundation remains flexible in meeting community needs, in general, YEP Grants generally do not fund:

- Operational phases of established programs.
- Personnel and/or administrative costs associated with programs or projects.
- Religious purposes (however, grants can be given to religious organizations for non-religious purposes, or facilities such as day-care centers that have non-profit status independent from a sponsoring church or religious organization).
- Purchase of advertising.
- Capital or operational debt reduction.
- Any political campaign or to support attempts to influence legislative issues of any government body.
- Specific individuals.
- Consumable items (however, at times and under special circumstances, YEP will consider funding).

YEP Grantmaking Goal:

Our goal is to assess community youth needs, create clear criteria for grants, and review and evaluate proposals thoroughly. YEP members make grants to support good ideas that will make a difference in our community.

Applications are due online by 11:59 p.m. on February 1.

For more information, contact:

Noah Nordbrock
YEP Staff Advisor
815-748-5383
noah@dekalbccf.org

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