



Youth Advisory Council
Grantmaking Goals 2017

The Youth Advisory Council seeks to fund programs that work to educate, prepare, develop, advocate for, and raise awareness of issues that impact youth in the Tri-Cities and West Michigan Region.

Priority will be given to projects that address the following:

Health & Human Services

- Raise awareness and educate youth on the importance of *mental health*, reducing the stigma, and recognizing signs in their peers
- Educate youth on the impact of *drug/alcohol use*
- Build *self-confidence* and increase *body image*
- Increase *healthy eating habits* and knowledge on *nutrition*
- Provide education on *healthy and unhealthy relationships*
- Create *safe spaces* for youth and help all youth feel *safe and accepted* at home and at school
- Raise awareness for *internet safety* and *bullying*
- Emphasize the risks and consequences of *distracted driving*

Education

- Educate on the various *post-secondary opportunities* available
- Provide opportunities for youth to *prepare for the future*
- Prepare youth for *future financial success*

Arts & Culture

- *Appreciate history*, especially in the Tri-Cities area.
- *An understanding of other cultures* and *open-mindedness*
- *Opportunities for self-expression* through various safe spaces such as *art, music, and the theatre*
- Build and emphasize the *importance of community*

Economic & Community Betterment

- Develop opportunities for youth and the community to be *active* in nature
- Ensure our community is well-positioned for the *future*
- Utilize our resources and *support our local economy*

Environment

- Appreciate and care for the *natural resources* in our community
- Feel *connected* with our area