

Empowering & Engaging Youth to Make a Difference Through Service, Leadership, and Education



2014 - 2015

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

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A Year In Review

Perspective from Brianna Manke, a senior at Hudson High School

YAH has kept students busy throughout the 2014-2015 school year with plenty of opportunities to give back to the community and grow individually as leaders. Going back to last school year, YAH sponsored their semi-annual Peer-to-Peer program within the high school, with over 60 high schoolers combining into 12 groups! During the fall, these groups created and shared presentations on respect and bullying with every 5th grade classroom in the Hudson Community. In the spring, groups traveled to the Middle school and shared their presentations on health and wellness, social media, and the profile of a high school student.

Looking into October of last year, a personal favorite of mine, YAH partnered with Students Today Leaders Forever and traveled to Marquette, Michigan on a coach bus. The bus we traveled on made stops in various cities where 41 students performed service projects. Each night games and activities were played to bring out everyone's leadership. It has given me the chance to see cities I otherwise would most likely never travel to, and has allowed me to step out of my comfort zone and create closer relationships with students I never knew very well.

Going forward to the winter months of last year, students kept busy with fun indoor service opportunities offered by YAH. Operation Christmas Child was introduced to YAH by Clare Weber, and is a program where students pack items into boxes which are then shipped to various countries around the world. Empty bowls is held by YAH annually in February and designed to raise awareness of hunger and poverty in the Hudson community. To keep students productive during the winter, meetings were held on Mondays for students to come and share their ideas and plan for upcoming events and summer activities. On the tail end of winter YAH hosted their annual All Dressed Up prom wear drive. A program I am thankful was created, for I found a dress for my junior prom while volunteering at the event. This program was created by YAH students in 2009 to make prom wear affordable to students who otherwise couldn't afford it. This event has served over 400 students in Hudson and the surrounding communities in their search for prom wear, including myself.

Through service opportunities, YAH has provided me with experiences and memories of a lifetime. Thanks to YAH, I was able to gain perspectives on situations I otherwise was unaware of. Growing through YAH I learned that sometimes the simplest acts of kindness can make the biggest difference to someone else. Thanks to the opportunities YAH has made available, I know I have grown in my leadership abilities and leaders and students within YAH have inspired me. To many, YAH may be JUST an organization, but to many others, and myself YAH is much more than just that. YAH is a support system, a place where dreams can be created, ideas can be shared and your voice is heard. YAH is a home away from home, for the friendships created within YAH are friendships that will last. Through YAH I have grown in my abilities to be a leader and have learned what a leader really is. A leader is a listener, a supporter, and someone who is willing to face failure but will learn from doing so. A leader I believe I have become thanks to YAH. I can't wait to see where this next year with YAH will take me!

About YAH

Who We Are

Our programs build on core principles of the Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets. These assets represent the relationships, opportunities and personal qualities that young people need to avoid risks and to thrive – including resiliency, connectedness, and engagement.

Our effective prevention efforts are developmentally, culturally, and gender appropriate for teens and how they spend their time.

Our History

Youth Action Hudson was established as Community Action in 1981 – a coalition of concerned community members interested in making the community aware of the effects of substance abuse. The coalition's main focus was community education provided through a series of "awareness lectures" and print education.

In 1995, Youth Action Hudson's transition to serving youth moved directly into youth substance abuse prevention and education. Since then, we have expanded our focus to include educating youth on service, leadership, healthy relationships, violence prevention, and community life.

Since 2008, board and staff have been strategically moving the organization forward to better reflect the youth focus of the agency. Youth Action Hudson, our new name, was chosen by the youth working with our programs. We pride ourselves on being a youth driven organization where youth design and drive all elements of programming upon board approval.

YAH's Vision for the Future

Youth Action Hudson is the only local organization registered with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award (PVSA). The PVSA cumulates both school and community service hours which are recognized by the President of the United States.

YAH feels recognition at this level provides students an advantage to stand out in college and job applications, scholarships, or fulfill required community service.

Our Mission

Our mission statement clearly identifies what we do: *Empowering and Engaging Youth to Make a Difference Through Service, Leadership and Education.*

After being in YAH, I am hoping to become a leader while I'm in college!

--YAH Member



"After being on the Students Today Leaders Forever trip it made me realize the little amount of things you can do to put a smile on someone's face."

--YAH Member

"It made me feel good after doing all the projects because I knew that I was helping out the world and people."

2014 - 2015 Youth Action Hudson Program Report

While we do look for measurable results, our work with Hudson youth is not only about numbers and statistics. The success of our teens and our programs for them can not just be measured by the following report. Individual success stories are what really matter.

2014 - 2015 Program Accomplishments:

Date	Youth Event	Youth Hours	# Youth Volunteers	# Adult Volunteers	\$ Taken In	Service Recipients
February	Empty Bowls	450	50	6	\$1300	200
March	All Dressed Up	100	15	0		150+
April	Peer to Peer – 6th - 8th Grades	930	62	5		1300
April	Earth Day Celebration	25	6	0		Unlimited
April	Salvation Army Activities for Grace Place	75	30	1		Unlimited
May	Relay for Life	150	18	5		Unlimited
May	Volunteer Recognition Picnic	30	20	5		80
July	Hand-in-Hand for Literacy Book Drive	100	10	0		10,000+ in 9 Villages
July	Bell Ringing for Salvation Army	40	10	10		Unlimited
July	River Awareness Clean Up	108	27	5		St. Croix River Valley
August	National Night Out	60	15			
Montly	Youth Advisory Board	1200	50			High School Youth
On-going 2015	Miscellaneous Service Projects	100	10	1		Hudson Community
Sub Totals		8,093	574	43		10,000+
Date	Other Event	Youth Hours	# Youth Volunteers	# Adult Volunteers	\$ Taken In	
December	Craft Show	20	11	5	\$3,885	
December	Annual Breakfast Fundraiser	27	7	10	\$14,500	
2014 -15 Totals		43	19	27	\$18,365	



Our programs fit under three categories:

1. Service 2. Leadership 3. Education

Peer-to-Peer Training

This program is often the first connection students have with YAH. High school youth educate middle school and elementary age youth by presenting information and skills that will help them successfully avoid conflict and foster a more peaceful school and community. Teen trainers inevitably gain skill sets in public speaking, engaging the audience, and creating training modules identified as most relevant concerns facing youth. Both sets of youth benefit from awareness and action to empower confidence.

Service Trips

Each year our youth plan service trips that are outside the Hudson community. In the past, YAH has teamed up with Students Today Leaders Forever (STLF) to help serve people in need, build homes, or general service work. YAH and STLF travel to four cities in various states to conduct service and offer two campus visits for youth during the service tour. These trips promote youth teamwork and individuals gain a better understanding of the needs outside their own community. Youth acquire skills and interest in serving locally.

Local Service

Service events and projects provide students with opportunities to volunteer in our community. Some projects are planned to coincide with National Service Days and are completed by youth in partnership with local organizations; other projects, such as the annual Empty Bowls or All Dressed Up, brings a community together to meet the needs of others. Youth work with YAH staff, adult volunteers and organizations to develop ideas for community service projects and assist with the recruitment of volunteers and donations to complete the projects.

PeaceJam

PeaceJam is a year-long, on-going educational program for youth. It is built around Nobel Peace Laureates who work personally with youth. These leaders pass on the spirit, skills, and wisdom that they embody. Each year, students attend peace gatherings and work on service learning projects to impact their communities and the world.

Leadership Day

A partnership with Hudson High School was designed to develop teen trainers' understanding of personal leadership style, identifying each group member skills, and support their development as a cohesive group. This event cultivates youth potential to make an impact in their school and community.

Prevention Education

YAH plans annual events and activities that are designed to develop the prevention skills of both young people and adults. In 2010, we participated in "Parents Who Host Lose The Most" during prom week. This education has the potential to help change individual lives as well as community attitudes toward alcohol, tobacco and other drug abuse issues.

Youth Advisory Board (YAB)

YAH established a Youth Advisory Board to assist the Youth Action Board of Directors in developing youth programs. Participating on the board helps youth learn to work as a team, practice leadership skills and develop the value of community service. YAB members make decisions about issues and activities that impact them – service projects, peer-to-peer trainings, teen outings and more.



"I have enjoyed all my experiences. It is great to see people come together to accomplish something. It is part of being a community and it is fun."

--YAH Member

YAH Programs & Services

Youth Action Hudson
 Preliminary Financial Report - Unaudited
 July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015

Income	
Grants	\$83,101
Fundraising	\$32,351
Youth Programs	\$ 1,700
Interest income	<u>\$ 81</u>
Total Income	\$117,233
Expense	
Wage and Benefits	\$46,708
Program Expense	\$ 3,124
Management & General	
Office Lease	\$ 9,066
Dues & Membership	\$ 1,181
Insurance	\$ 3,285
Accounting & Auditing	\$ 1,534
Miscellaneous	\$ 214
Depreciation Exp - Furn & Fix	\$ 1,187
Telephone & Internet	\$ 1,407
Postage & Delivery	\$ 285
Printing	\$ 479
Meeting Expense	\$ 573
Supplies	\$ 1,792
Fundraising Expense	\$ 1,046
Volunteer Recognition	<u>\$ 280</u>
Total Management & General	<u>\$ 22,329</u>
Total Expense	<u>\$ 72,161</u>
Net Income	\$ 45,072

YAH could not offer the variety and depth of programs and activities that we do without the dedicated support of our partners.

Foundations and United Ways (2014 - 2015 Grants)

Andersen Corporate Foundation
Ann Marie Foundation
Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation
Margaret Rivers Fund
Otto Bremer Foundation
Rotary—Daybreak Hudson
Rotary—Noon Hudson
William H. Phipps Foundation
St. Croix Electric
United Way St. Croix Valley
Xcel Energy

Businesses and Organizations

Art Doyle's Spokes and Pedals
Baldwin Area Medical Center
Ban Tara Holdings
Christenson Vision Care, LTD
Citizens State Bank
Croix Valley Veterinary Hospitals, LLC
Ellner's Window Treatment & Custom Closets, Inc.
Hudson Women's Club
John P. Kalmon, Architect LLC
Luther Hudson Chrysler GMC
Mid America Wealth Management
O'Connell Family Funeral Homes & Cremation Services
Skinner & Associates
St. Croix Valley Dentistry
Thrivent Financial
United Way, Individual
Xcel Energy

Friends & Supporters

Beaudry, Tony & Jacqueline
Beinlich, Kurt & Lynette
Boohs, Michael
Bowen-Eggebraaten, Mary
Bradham, Robert & Jacki
Burchill, Alan
Burman, Darrell & Nancy
Cameron, Howard & Teresa
Christensen, Evelyn
Christensen, Margaret
Crimmins, Mark & Cindy
Davye, Ann
Dietze, Fred & Nancy
Dolan, Mark & Adele
Donovan, Nancy
Ewig, Jennifer
Friedlander, Bill & Sally
Grupe, Jamie
Gushue, Harriet
Habisch-Ahlin, Tracy
Hagen, Dick
Hague, Julie
Hansen, Bruce
Hale, Don & Peggy
Hansen, Melisa
Heaton, Kevin & Meg
Hirsch, Mary
Johnson, Jamie & Jean
Johnston, Michelle
Jurek, Lori
Kalmon, John & Martha
Knutson, John
Larson, Curt & Sandy
Lee, Dennis & Debbie
Luedtke, Debbie
Maitrejean, Aly
Maitrejean, Joe & Janet

Mears, Marit
McGinnis, Paul & Christine
Meincke, Carl & Judy
Moen, Paul & Glenda
Murray, Dan & Lori
O'Brien-Berglund, Colleen
O'Connell, Tom
Olson, Angela
Paul, Mary
Pominville, Bobbi
Popenhagen, Trudy
Potter, John & Mary Claire
Rasmussen, Tom & Cheryl
Richert, Bonnie
Schultz, Butch
Sjoberg, Roy & Lana
Sorenson, Kenneth & Joan
Sorenson, Nancy
Springer, Lindsey
Stevens, Judy
Toll, Denny & Nancy
VanPelt, Tom & Dina
Vivian, Nick
Vogler, Debbie
Wagenknecht, Dick
Webber, Jim & Marian
Weber, Tom & Lisa
Wert, Brian & JoAnn
Whitcomb, Dick & Georgia
Wilcox, Steve & Terri
Wilkie, Al
Witthuhn, Burt
Wood, Lyle



"After the day ended on Saturday I looked at things differently and that I want to change things up. I want to change how I react to people, how I look at my life and how to create more peace in the world."

Thank you

Anderson, Cindy
Angel's Pet World
Art Doyle's Spokes & Pedals
B&B Makeup Cosmetic Bar
BJL Construction
Bert's Coffee Café
Bethel Lutheran Church
Brokaw, Pam
Bruegger's Bagels
Carbone's
Caribou Coffee Co
Chapter 2 Books
Cherry Berry
Chinchil-La
Chuck & Don's Pet Food Outlet
County Market
Crimmins, Mark
Dick's Bar & Grill
Dolan, Adele
Dough Boy's Pizza
Dragon Pearl
Dunn Bro's Coffee
Erbert's & Gerbert's
Express Lube & Rental
Family Fresh Foods
Farrill's Sunrise Nursery
Free Style Yogurt
Fresh & Natural Foods
Green Bay Packers
Green Mill
Haselman, Karen
Heppner's
Hirsh, Mary
Hudson 12 Theatre
Hudson Bagel & Coffee Co.
Hudson Bowling
Hudson High School
Hudson School District
Hudson School District Administration
Hudson Star Observer
Jensen, Marty
Kelley Art Gallery
Knoke's Chocolates
Krahenbuhl, Dana
Larsen, Yvonne
Lavender Thymes
Leann Chin
Lucas, Ed & Marijean
Luedtke Family
Maitrejean, Joe & Janet
Maitrejean, Alyson
Manke Family
Mid America Wealth Management
Minnesota Timberwolves
Minnesota Twins

Moen, Gienda
Mohamed, Lindsey
Papa Murphy's
Propulsion, Inc.
Red Savoy's Pizzeria
O'Reilly Auto Parts
Olson, Angela
Phipps Center for the Arts
Potter, John
Rasmussen, Cheryl
RJ Meats
San Pedro
Seasons on St. Croix
Splat Tag
St. Croix Shoe & Boot
St. Croix Sports
Stone Tap
Stilwell, Anita
Subway
The Purple Tree
The Subhouse
Urban Olive & Vine
VanPelt, Tom
Wakeling, David
Walgreens
Walmart
Williamson, Gay
Winzer Stube
Wisconsin Brewers
Wood, Alane
YAH youth
YMCA
Volunteers
Andersen Kim
Brokaw, Pam
Christenson, Dr. Gar
Crimmins, Mark
Dolan, Adele
Evenson, Jenna
Gushue, Harriet
Hagen, Dick
Halvorson, Josh
Heaton, Meg
Iverson, Alyssa
Jensen, Marty
Johnson, Jamie
Knudson, John
Krahenbuhl, Dana
Larsen, Yvonne
Larson, Curt
Lubich, Kaycee
Lucas, Ed
Luedtke, Debbie
O'Brien-Berglund, Colleen
Paul, Mary



*I joined YAH
because I want to become
more involved and help others.
I like knowing that I helped
someone and made a difference.*

--YAH Member

VanPelt, Tom
Wakeling, David
Wakeling, Alex
Williamson, Gay
Williamson, Kyle
Wood, Alane

Collaborations

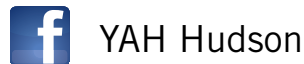
Citizens State Bank
Daybreak Rotary Club
Grace Place
Hand in Hand for Literacy
Hudson Police Explorers
Hudson School District
Operation Help
RiverFest, Inc
St. Croix Valley Youth Court
Students Today Leaders Forever
YMCA Camp St.Croix
YMCA of St. Croix Valley

Empower and engage youth.
Build community.
Make a difference!

Join us to be part of something special—
carrying out the mission of Youth Action Hudson.
Donate your time, talent or resources to YAH.
To learn more, contact Youth Action Hudson at
715.386.9803
or visit

www.youthactionhudson.org

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