



# Kenosha County YOUTH AS RESOURCES

## 2006-2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### What is Youth As Resources?

Youth As Resources is an organization dedicated to promoting and facilitating youth-led activism in Kenosha County. The Youth As Resources Board of Directors is made up of youth and adults from Kenosha County who meet once a month to raise money, discuss community issues, provide grants to youth-led community service groups, and plan community improvement initiatives. Youth board members develop leadership and professional skills while receiving guidance from experienced adults.

The cornerstone of the YAR program is the idea that youth can make meaningful—not just symbolic—contributions to their communities, and that these contributions provide important opportunities for youth to grow professionally and personally.

### Fall Service Projects Funded by Kenosha County YAR:

#### Southport Beach House Improvement

\$ 400.00

Boy Scout Association  
Troop 505



Boy Scout Troop 505 worked on updating the Southport Beach House. They improved the aesthetic appeal by putting a fresh coat of paint on the walls and replacing the outdated benches with new recycled plastic wood that can withstand the harsh Wisconsin environment. They hope that their renovations will help turn it into an outdoor education center and make it more appealing to Kenosha County residents.

#### Indian Trail Academy Recycling Plan

\$ 500.00

Indian Trail Academy



Indian Trail Academy Environmental Science students were shocked to find out that their school does not recycle, so they decided to take matters into their own hands. They designed and implemented a Public Relations campaign to promote recycling with new labeled recycling bins. The students conducted polls and announcements to make sure Indian Trail students remember to recycle. They hope their enthusiasm and initiative for recycling will carry over into the Kenosha Unified School District.

#### Children's Christmas Project

\$ 150.00

Wilmot High School



The Wilmot High School Key Club held a holiday party for children who were in their care while their parents did holiday shopping. The party was filled with themed crafts and games, snacks, and a visit by the jolly ole' man himself--Santa! This project is an annual tradition in Wilmot and excitement always builds within the community!



## Fall Service Projects Funded by YAR Continued:

**Veteran's Citizenship Project**  
**\$ 110.00**  
**Forest Park Elementary**



Fifth-graders at Forest Park Elementary School used educational tools to learn about veterans, the importance of service to our country and others, fundamental ideas symbolized by the flag of the United States, and the meaning of the Pledge of Allegiance. The project goal was to connect fifth-grade students with past generations, bringing young and old together to share the present and past.

**Holiday Dinner**  
**\$ 340.00**  
**Urban Outreach Center**



The Kenosha County 4-H Angels, housed at the Urban Outreach Center, hosted a classy holiday dinner for the homeless of Kenosha. They prepared, cooked, and served a traditional holiday dinner, providing the homeless a warm and friendly place to spend the holiday. Along with the dinner, the individuals also received a "warm clothes" goodie bag to take along with them. The bag was filled with socks, mittens, hats, and scarves.

**Warm Thoughts and Actions**  
**\$ 410.00**  
**Roosevelt Elementary School**



The students of Roosevelt Elementary school purchased fleece, in all shades, colors, and patterns, to make lap blankets for the elderly in nursing homes. They designed the blankets and created friendly and heart-warming notes that were attached to them. When they finished, the kids hand delivered the blankets to the smiling faces of the elderly housed at the nursing home.

## Spring Service Projects Funded by Kenosha County YAR:

**Eagle Scout Project for Society of Saint Francis**  
**\$ 450.00**  
**Boy Scout Troop 385**



Boy Scout Troop 385 member Bradley Gorsline was inspired to improve the Society of Saint Francis Animal Shelter. The Eagle Scout and some volunteers helped the shelter by power washing, painting, and scraping a large deck, porches, and a chicken coop. Bradley said that by improving the aesthetic appeal of the shelter, he hopes that adoption rates will increase.

**Positive Bradford Women**  
**\$ 460.00**  
**Bradford High School**



The Positive Bradford Women's Club at Bradford High School developed a creative and thoughtful way to educate elementary students at Bain about recognizing racism and understanding differences. They taught the students about respect and had each child color a patch for the sharing quilt to show that even though each patch is different they can still fit together and form one quilt.



## Spring Service Projects Funded by Kenosha County YAR Continued:

**Eagle Scout Project for Church Playground**  
**\$ 450.00**  
**Boy Scout Troop 385**



Boy Scout Troop 385 member Colin Coultrip decided that the kids in their neighborhood needed a safe and fun place to play, so they budgeted and bought the supplies to build a common playground for the youth of Bristol. He gathered a group of volunteers together and they all worked to build a safe play place for the whole community to enjoy.

**Film Premier: Honoring Local Vietnam Veterans**  
**\$ 480.00**  
**Tremper High School**



The Tremper High School American History Class took high tech education to a whole different level. They addressed the need to discuss the intergenerational bridge and they did this through an inspiring and educational film in which the whole class participated. Their education didn't stop there! Local Vietnam Veterans came in to discuss the many contemporary issues they face. The students were very impressed and inspired.

**Biscuits for Safe Harbor Buddies**  
**\$ 440.00**  
**Bose Elementary School**



The students at Bose Elementary School converted recipes into metric measurements and then used those measurements to bake dog biscuits. They packaged the biscuits and sold them to other students and teachers at a bake sale. The students then took a field trip to Safe Harbor Humane Society to deliver their homemade dog biscuits to the dogs at the shelter. All of the proceeds from the sale were donated to Safe Harbor, enabling them to purchase supplies.

**Walkin' In My Shoes**  
**\$ 240.00**  
**Bradford Key Club**



The Bradford Key Club teamed up with an already established organization, Walkin' In My Shoes, to do an essential needs drive. They also collected backpacks and purchased sleeping bags to donate to the organization. The donated items went towards helping the homeless in Kenosha have personal items to help them get back on their feet.

**Garage to Closet**  
**\$ 470.00**  
**Mahone Middle School**



The Mahone Middle School Service Club decided that Tender Touch Therapy needed extra space to house equipment rentals, so the club remolded a spare garage that the center had. The kids painted, cleaned, and put in a new wheelchair-friendly floor. The new space is a clean and safe place for the rental equipment to be house and rented out.



## Kenosha County YAR Board of Directors

The Kenosha County YAR program is governed by a board made up of youth and adults who share responsibility for its management with the YAR coordinator. The targeted number of board members is 32, 16 of those being youth, 8 young adults and 8 adults. The board meets once a month. The meetings are held at the County Board Chambers.

The board is responsible for awarding grants to local youth groups four times a year (twice in the fall and twice in the spring). The youth-led service grants assist the organizations with community service and service learning initiatives. Youth must design the service projects themselves and must demonstrate that their projects are both educational and of benefit to a community in Kenosha County.

The Kenosha County YAR Board of Directors also feels that it is important to give back to their community. Twice a year the Program Committee plans a service project. Both these projects help bring the members of the board together to serve a social need in Kenosha County.

### YAR Executive Board Service-Projects



#### Lincoln Neighborhood Cleanup & Scavenger Hunt

The Youth As Resources Board of Directors organized a neighborhood cleanup for the 50 members of the Lincoln Elementary After School Program in the Lincoln Neighborhood of Kenosha.

For the activity, YAR board members split the elementary students into 3 teams, each cleaning a portion of the Lincoln neighborhood as part of a competition of who can collect the most garbage and recyclables. Together, the kids collected over 25 bags of trash and 15 bags of recyclable materials! At the end of the event, each the kids was rewarded with a pizza party, prizes, and an award certificate.

#### Hats for the Homeless Project

This was the second year that the YAR board members made fleece hats for the homeless, but this year they wanted to increase the amount that they could donate so they decided to make fleece scarves as well. The members were able to produce over 100 fleece hats and 40 scarves to keep the homeless of Kenosha County warm over the cold winter months. YAR board members sewed the hats themselves and delivered them to the Urban Outreach Center and the Shalom Center.



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