



## WHAT IS YOUTH AS RESOURCES?

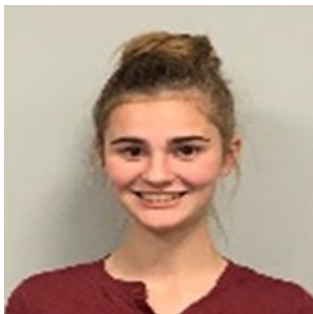
Kenosha County Youth As Resources (YAR) is a grant-giving program which funds youth-designed and youth-led community service projects in Kenosha County. Youth As Resources is coordinated by Extension Kenosha County in partnership with the United Way of Kenosha County. Youth, with guidance from adults, design a service project they believe will address a need in their community and then apply to Kenosha County Youth As Resources for grants of up to \$500. The Youth As Resources Board reads all applications and invites youth groups to present their proposals to the board.



Extension  
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON  
KENOSHA COUNTY



# YOUTH AS RESOURCES BOARD



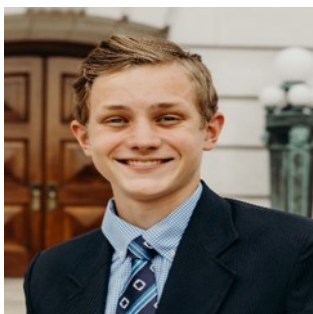
**Clara Adams**  
President



**Aidan Callahan**  
Board Member



**Karl Erickson**  
Parliamentarian



**Joey Kositzke**  
Treasurer



**Sami Pierce**  
Board Member



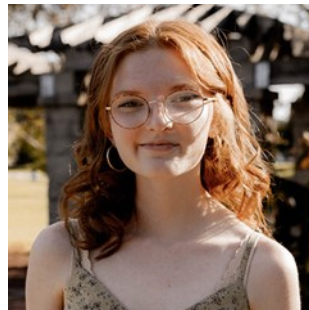
**Abby Proctor**  
Board Member



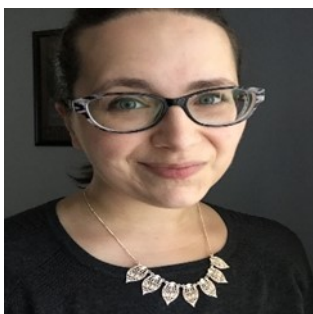
**Sofia Ricker**  
Board Member



**Harmohini Sidhu**  
Vice President



**Katie Sullivan**  
Board Member



**Heather Thompson**  
Board Member



**Alison Voss**  
Board Member



**Justus Wilhoit**  
Secretary

Jen Reese | Interim Youth Development Educator | Extension Kenosha County  
Tara Panasewicz | CEO | United Way of Kenosha County



# SERVICE PROJECTS FUNDED

For the 2020-2021 program year, Youth As Resources funded 11 service projects for a total disbursement of \$5,460.00 in grant funds. All grant funds for Youth As Resources projects come from United Way of Kenosha County contributions. Projects funded in 2020-2021 are as follows:

## **A ROOM WITH A VIEW | \$500 GRANT | MAHONE MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Students at Mahone Middle School designed and built an outdoor classroom so that they could have a place to learn in an environmental setting.

## **BLANKETS FOR THE SHARING CENTER | \$400 GRANT | BRISTOL CHALLENGE 4-H CLUB**

The Bristol Challenge 4-H club shopped for supplies and then cut fabric to make fleece tie blankets. They delivered the blankets to families that were staying at The Sharing Center in Trevor.

## **BRIGHTON COMMUNITY GARDEN | \$410 GRANT | BRIGHTON BOMBERS/EXPLORERS 4-H CLUB**

4-H members from the Brighton Bombers/Explorers 4-H Club developed a green space with the goal of improving the health and well-being of their community and increasing community involvement. They gathered supplies, planted the garden, and created a schedule for how they will maintain it.

## **FAMILIES UNITING NEIGHBORHOODS MOVIE NIGHTS | \$470 GRANT | CONCERNED CITIZENS COALITION TEEN TASK FORCE**

The Concerned Citizens Coalition Teen Task Force purchased and packed backpacks with school supplies. During two summer neighborhood movie nights, they set-up the event, greeted children and families, served food, and distributed the backpacks to children in need.

## **FOREST PARK CREATIONS | \$500 GRANT | FOREST PARK ELEMENTARY**

Fourth and fifth graders at Forest Park Elementary updated their playground area with a focus on designing and painting interactive activities on their blacktop for the students and community members to enjoy.

## **KENOSHA MILITARY ACADEMY HALL OF FAME | \$440 GRANT | CHRISTOPHER ANDRES**

Christopher and his peers designed and built a wooden Hall of Fame to recognize the teachers and cadets that contribute to the success of Kenosha Military Academy.

## **MEMORIAL BUDDY BENCH | \$500 GRANT | WILMOT UNION HIGH SCHOOL KEY CLUB**

A "Buddy Bench" was built to honor the life of Wilmot student Liam Cowand who passed away in February. Liam always showed kindness and friendship and this bench, like Liam, encourages kindness and friendship.

## **MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS IN THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC | \$500 GRANT | KATELYN HANNAH**

This project provided seven schools seminars, written resources, and kits that contained information and items to relieve the stress and anxiety of middle school youth who were struggling with mental health challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

## **PARIS HAPPY WORKERS COMMUNITY GARDEN | \$1000 GRANT | PARIS HAPPY WORKERS 4-H CLUB**

The Paris Happy Workers 4-H Club designed, implemented, and now maintains a community garden at Paris Town Hall. The food that is grown will be donated to those in need.

## **PRAIRIE LANE GIVING GARDEN | \$500 GRANT | PRAIRIE LANE ELEMENTARY**

Third grade students at Prairie Lane Elementary researched the needs of the Shalom Center soup kitchen and pantry and then planned, planted, and maintained a school garden. The food that is grown will be donated to those in need.

## **TEEN VISION & LITERACY PROJECT | \$240 GRANT | BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB OF KENOSHA**

Teens from the Teen Vision & Literacy Project purchased books to read to students at Frank Elementary School and then provided each student a copy of the book. They continue to read to these students when they are at the Boys and Girls Club of Kenosha.

# IMPACT OF YOUTH BOARD EXPERIENCE

Near the end of their term, youth board members were given the opportunity to complete a retrospective evaluation. The results below, which probed for changes in the civic engagement and leadership skills of the youth, are based on a five-point Likert scale, which ranged from strongly disagree to strongly agree. Quantitative data about civic engagement and leadership skill development are highlighted below. Qualitative data is also shared through direct quotes from youth board members in response to three questions.

N = 9 of 9			
CIVIC ENGAGEMENT	# of Youth Reporting No Change	# of Youth Reporting 1 Unit of Positive Change	# of Youth Reporting 2 or More Units of Positive Change
I am knowledgeable about Kenosha County.	1	8	0
I am aware of local issues that affect Kenosha County.	3	4	2
My actions can make a difference in the community.	2	6	1
I have a useful role in the community.	2	5	2
I feel a strong connection to Kenosha County.	2	5	2
I am a resource in Kenosha County.	3	4	2

N = 9 of 9			
LEADERSHIP SKILLS	# of Youth Reporting No Change	# of Youth Reporting 1 Unit of Positive Change	# of Youth Reporting 2 or More Units of Positive Change
I can participate in group discussions with adults.	2	5	2
I can objectively evaluate project proposals.	3	3	3
I can serve as an effective board member.	2	4	3
I can speak confidently before a group.	1	7	1
I can see issues from multiple perspectives.	1	7	1
I can follow a process to make decisions.	4	3	2

*"In the last two years, my communication skills have soared because of YAR!"*

***"I love how every time we are in a meeting, I am challenged to think about something in a different light."***

*"I've gained a stronger connection to Kenosha. As my hometown, it feels good to say that I had a voice in helping others who live here."*

***"I feel like I've gained a lot of confidence in sharing my ideas."***

*"Being able to coordinate the spring service project made me feel like a real leader that can make a difference."*

***"I gained a plethora of skills that will help me in any future career such as public speaking and leading discussions in a group."***

*"With the grants we give out, youth are able to be active in their community and make a difference. Without YAR, there would be so many ideas for projects that end in a "what if" rather than "I did that!"*

***"Participating in YAR reinforced the idea that I can still make a change and be a resource at a young age."***

## PROGRAM STATISTICS

GRANT PERIOD	NUMBERS OF GRANTS	FUNDS DISTRIBUTED	YOUTH PARTICIPANTS
<b>2020-2021</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>\$5,460</b>	<b>174</b>
<b>2005-2021</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>\$74,020</b>	<b>8,334</b>

## LEONARD AND PATRICIA JOHNSON AWARD



The Leonard and Patricia Johnson Award was created in memory of Leonard R. Johnson who was an educator in Kenosha for over 25 years and served on the Kenosha County Board of Supervisors for 22 years. Each year a grant recipient is selected based on their leadership, citizenship, and community service.

**2020-2021 Leonard and Patricia Johnson Award**  
**Katelyn Hannah**

**"Mental Health Awareness in the COVID-19 Pandemic"**

## BOARD SERVICE PROJECTS

Youth As Resources board members partnered with Dooley & Associates to sort and stock "Warming Chest" locations throughout Kenosha in order to provide those in need with gear to stay warm.

Board members also spent two full mornings cooking and serving breakfast for residents staying at the Shalom Center.



**For more information about Kenosha County Youth As Resources, contact:**

Extension Kenosha County | 19600 75th Street, Suite 2, Bristol, WI 53104  
(262) 857-1945 | [uwextension@kenoshacounty.org](mailto:uwextension@kenoshacounty.org)

[kenosha.extension.wisc.edu/youth/yar](https://kenosha.extension.wisc.edu/youth/yar)