



# Best Practices

For a Community Foundation  
Youth Advisory Committee

The YAC is a permanent advisory committee of the community foundation with the primary responsibility of making funding recommendations for grants made from the community foundation's endowed Youth Fund. These Best Practices are intended to serve as a guide for YACs. A set of YACer Best Practices is also available to help guide individual YAC members.

**Best Practice 1:** Meets a minimum of seven times a year.

**Best Practice 2:** Has a minimum of 12 members ages 12-21 who reflect the many forms of diversity found in the local youth community.

**Best Practice 3:** Has two trained YAC advisors who are knowledgeable and supportive of youth development and youth leadership.

**Best Practice 4:** Holds an annual orientation for all new members and encourages all members to participate in training opportunities that will strengthen their skills in philanthropy.

**Best Practice 5:** Assesses critical issues of area youth at least every three years.

**Best Practice 6:** Engages in a grantmaking process that is responsive to the critical issues of area youth annually.

**Best Practice 7:** Evaluates the effectiveness of each grant annually.

**Best Practice 8:** Participates in a community youth project annually.

**Best Practice 9:** Engages in fund development activities to assist with the continual growth of the endowed youth fund and the community foundation annually.

**Best Practice 10:** Has at least one YAC member serving as a voting member on the community foundation Board of Trustees.

**Best Practice 11:** Interacts with community foundation board, staff and donors at least twice a year on a formal and informal level.

**Best Practice 12:** Has activities highlighted by the community foundation's annual report, web site, newsletters, public presentations and other communication tools.

**Best Practice 13:** Conducts an annual self-assessment to reflect upon its strengths, challenges, use of Best Practices and opportunities for improvement.

**Best Practice 14:** Participates in and attends the Youth Grantmakers Summer Leadership Conference, Regional Trainings and Advisor Roundtables.