

MICHIGAN Community Foundations



YOUTH Project

ABOUT

The Michigan Community Foundations Youth Project (MCFYP) was created as a result of a challenge grant offered by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation through the Council of Michigan Foundations (CMF) to communities across Michigan with two goals. The first goal was to ensure that every community in Michigan's 83 counties had access to a community foundation. The second goal was to create endowed youth funds overseen by high school age youth - a Youth Advisory Council (YAC) - in every community foundation.

The challenge grant provided for up to \$1 million dollars for the youth fund if the community foundation raised up to \$2 million for other endowed funds. When the challenge grant ended in 1997, both goals were achieved with 86 youth funds created.

The Youth Advisory Councils are made up of middle and high school age students who are committed to changing their communities through philanthropy. YACs primarily focus on two fundamental areas: youth leadership and development and grantmaking. They also organize and engage in various forms of community service, fund development and equity work in the areas which they represent.

In 1999, CMF made MCFYP a permanent part of Michigan's philanthropy infrastructure by adding the MCFYP Committee as a bylaw required Committee. Interested youth apply for open positions on a yearly basis and are then approved by the current committee members and the President of CMF. Committee members, including adult advisors, serve as representatives for the 86 Youth Advisory Councils in the state of Michigan. The MCFYP Committee's primary responsibility is to design and implement the Youth Grantmakers Summer Leadership Conference as well as work with CMF in promoting youth philanthropy.

Since 1989 more than 15,000 youth have been engaged as YACers to award more than \$40 million in grants for youth issues. More than 1,800 high school youth serving on 86 community foundation YACs are annually granting more than \$2 million for youth issues. The Kellogg Foundation Youth Challenge has successfully launched a global movement as summarized in the timeline on the back of this document.

Excited about YAC? We are, too! Learn more by visiting www.michiganfoundations.org/youth



MCFYP is a program of the Council of Michigan Foundations

TIMELINE OF THE MICHIGAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS YOUTH PROJECT (MCFYP)

1990

33 community foundations cover 1/3 of Michigan

1991

Kellogg Youth Challenge launches MCFYP

- Challenge grant through CMF to community foundations; up to \$1 million for a youth fund overseen by youth, if \$2 million was raised for other funds
- First Youth Advisory Councils (YACs) created

1992

First statewide Youth Leadership Conference

- Inaugural edition of the Yackety-Yac, annual online newsletter created

1995

Mawby Internship established at CMF

- W.K. Kellogg Foundation President Emeritus, Russell Mawby, creates MCFYP endowment at CMF
- Civil Rights Community Youth Partnership established with the Michigan Department of Civil Rights (now known as the Youth Civil Rights Academy)

1997

Kellogg Youth Challenge Completed

- \$47.5 million paid out for 84 endowed youth funds and \$110 million raised in matching funds
- All 83 counties covered by 65 community foundations and 34 geographic funds

Learning to Give started by CMF at request of MCFYP

www.learningtogive.org becomes a hub for k-12 philanthropy education

1998

Youth on Boards Bill passed with legislation drafted by YACers

Youth ages 16 & 17 can now serve on nonprofit boards with voting rights

MCFYP Goes National

- YACers participate in Council on Foundations national conference
- YACers from other states begin to attend annual summer youth Leadership conference
- YACer joins CMF President & CEO, Dottie Johnson, in speaking on youth philanthropy at the White House Conference on Philanthropy

1999

MCFYP Goes Global

- Youth delegation from the Northern Ireland Voluntary Trust visit Michigan
- YACers lead international youth grantmaking experience in Derry, Northern Ireland
- Youth delegation have since visited Michigan from Mexico, South Africa, South Korea and Russia
- MCFYP and CMF co-host Global Youth Summit in Chicago

2003

Ten year longitudinal study of youth grantmakers completed by Formative Evaluation Research Associates (FERA)

2012

20th Anniversary MCFYP Report issued by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy at Grand Valley State University

2017

25th Anniversary "Birthday" Celebration, with YAC giving exceeding \$33 million

2018

Founder and CEO of Dominos philanthropy Academy from shanghai China participated in the Youth Grantmakers Summer Leadership Conference

2022

5 former YACers are Community Foundation CEO's as of date