



*An initiative of  
Illinois Prairie Community Foundation*

November 2015

Greetings, friend of YEP,

June 14<sup>th</sup> of this summer marked the beginning of Youth Engaged in Philanthropy's third year. We members have been hard at work since then and are excited to share with you our recent endeavors as well as our plans for the near future.

In September, we had learned about the essential characteristics of a productive group through insightful team building activities hosted by Easter Seals at Timber Point Outdoor Center. Later that month, Mr. Don Meyer, retired county director for the University of Illinois Extension, imparted his knowledge of proper parliamentary procedure to us. Two members have also been attending Illinois Prairie Community Foundation board meetings to not only report YEP's current doings but also to gain a wider perspective on the needs of local organizations. In late October, members broadened their awareness of the hardships many of our neighbors face by participating in a poverty simulation hosted by the Multicultural Leadership Program of McLean County. Much of our growth has stemmed from the many incredible opportunities we had been given as YEP members. These experiences have made us all the more determined to work cooperatively and diligently during the grant process.



*YEP members gain a deeper understanding of the importance of clear communication in a team building activity at Timber Point Outdoor Center, an event hosted by Easter Seals*



*Members attend workshops to develop the skills necessary to professionally set up and engage in asks to fundraise towards our goal of \$15,000.*

This past summer, YEP had gratefully received the Fundraiser of the Year Award at the Council of Michigan Foundations' youth conference. The award is given to a youth philanthropy group that implements the "most creative, unique, outstanding and impactful fund development activity during the year", and "recognizes the hard work and dedication that committees of youth grant makers demonstrate each year to better their communities".

We owe our success to you, for we would not have been able to achieve such great heights without your help. The community's constant need of support along with the successes of last year's efforts have inspired us to progress in our growth as young leaders. With the goal of raising \$15,000 in mind, several members are currently going on asks. We are very eager to meet with more returning and new potential donors! All of our members will continue to also donate toward this amount alongside the contributions made by those in our community.

Whether it be financially or as an encouraging friend, we cannot thank you enough for all the support you have given us.

Best regards,  
The members of Youth Engaged in Philanthropy

For additional information, please visit Illinois Prairie Community Foundation's website:  
[www.ilprairecf.org](http://www.ilprairecf.org)

Check out our Facebook page, where we post updates and photos from recent events at [www.facebook.com/McleanYEP](https://www.facebook.com/McleanYEP) and our new website, Central Illinois Youth Engaged in Philanthropy, at [www.ciyep.org](http://www.ciyep.org)