Youth are

We aim to set an example for future generations by giving of time, talent, and treasure to actively impact the lives of youth in Northwest Ottawa County.

Grand Haven Area Community Foundation

Youth Advisory Council

For Good. For Youth. For Ever.

Tri-Cities area high school students have a cool, unique opportunity to be part of their community: the Youth Advisory Council, or YAC. Started in 1990 with a grant from the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation's YAC has awarded more than $1.3 million to programs and projects benefitting youth right here in Northwest Ottawa County!

"Being on YAC has empowered me to realize the potential that I have to actively make a difference in my community. My ideas to impact my community have become tangible opportunities here!"

"My favorite part of YAC is that it's like another family that comes together with a goal to better the lives of others."

"Being on YAC is a really eye-opening experience. I get to see and hear about problems in the community I previously hadn't heard about. Also, the feeling of giving comes full circle making me feel good and it makes others feel better."

20 students from the Tri-Cities participate in YAC each school year. They learn about the issues and needs facing their peers and seek solutions to improve their community. They are also grantmakers, reviewing grant applications from community organizations with programs and projects benefitting young people. Each year, our YAC awards grants to nonprofits, schools, churches, and units of government for programs impacting youth.

Youth Empowerment: Youth as change agents gain skills to impact the lives of other individuals, organizations, and communities.

Interested in joining the YAC and making a difference?

The application will be available at ghacf.org on April 2. Due date is May 10.

Visit www.ghacf.org to learn more or email Lauren Grevel at lgrevel@ghacf.org or call 616-842-6378.