



**We believe that youth are not just leaders of tomorrow, they are leaders of *today*.**

### What is YAR?

YAR is a youth philanthropy group that seeks to empower and engage youth as partners with adults in creating positive community change. YAR provides grants of up to \$1000 to local youth in order to develop and carry out service-learning projects that address a clear community need. The funds for grants are made available by the Rochester Area Community Foundation.

Funding decisions for the YAR grant process are made by the YAR board, which consists of youth and adults. Youth on the board are entrusted with making important funding decisions that affect their communities. They also coordinate service-learning projects and engage in monthly teambuilding, training, and social activities.

### What is Service-Learning?

Service-learning is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibility, and strengthen communities. It is a way to ensure that both the youth conducting the service project and the community being served get the most out of the experience.

In order to become more involved in service-learning, YAR has teamed up with the Rochester City youth council Youth Voice, One Vision (YVOV), and the Center for Service Learning at Nazareth College to form a committee called **Youth Engaged with Service (Y.E.S.)**. The Y.E.S. members teach community groups about service-learning and host service-learning projects throughout the year.

### F.A.Q.s for Grant Applicants

**Q.** Who can apply for YAR grants?

**A.** Grants are available to groups of at least 4 youth (ages 10-21). Any youth in Monroe County may apply. All groups must identify an adult advisor and a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization to sponsor their project. YAR can assist your group in finding a sponsoring organization if needed.

**Q.** What kinds of projects does YAR fund?

**A.** YAR funds a wide variety of projects, from youth-led educational workshops, to community gardens, to neighborhood clean sweeps, etc. The important thing is that the project is planned, led, and implemented by youth, with adults serving as partners. The YAR grant must also be written by youth.

**Q.** When is the deadline to apply?

**A.** YAR currently has a rolling grant cycle. This means that there are no deadlines and grants are being accepted now!

### Want to Be More Involved? Join the Board!

YAR is always looking for new youth and adults to join our board and become philanthropists!

Youth on the YAR board are leaders in their communities. As a youth board member, you will develop professional skills, get community service hours for school and college applications, make new friends, have fun, and have your voice heard! Joining YAR is free. Staff will provide you with transportation and food.

Adults on the YAR board enjoy serving as role models for youth while becoming part of the solution to critical problems in Monroe County. As an adult board member, you will also have opportunities to network with the many youth service providers in Monroe County.



## Meet our Board Members

*"We're like a family."*

*-Nyheir, 2011-12 financial officer*

*"I've learned that service is doing things for the community, but service learning is doing things with the community."*

*-CJ, 2011-12 co-chair*

*"I've gained a lot of positive recognition from my community ever since I joined YAR."*

*-Kaisean, 2010-11 secretary*

*"I've gained public speaking skills and gotten to know new people. YAR has made me grow as an individual."*

*-Aileen*

Scan to visit our Facebook page!



For more information, contact  
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## Thank You to our Funders and Community Support!



Maggie Brooks  
County Executive



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Youth As Resources  
Rochester Monroe County Youth Bureau  
@ the Monroe Community Hospital  
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Rochester, New York 14620  
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[www.monroecounty.gov/youth-resources.php](http://www.monroecounty.gov/youth-resources.php)



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Rochester-Monroe  
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