Thank you for your interest in joining the Youth Advisory Council (YAC)
of the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation!

*We are a group of high school students that are passionate about learning about our community*
*and investing in programs that will impact and improve the lives of youth.*

**YAC’s Mission:**

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.

**YAC’s Vision:**

A community where all youth have the resources and opportunities available, allowing them to
be successful.

**YAC’s Values:**

*Empathy –* to understand the needs of the youth in our community

*Integrity –* in making equitable decisions for the youth of our community

*Collaboration –* through innovation and teamwork

*Open-mindedness –* through a passionate and diverse group of youth representation

**Membership:**

Membership is made up of high school youth, in grades 10 – 12, from the Tri-Cities area.

**Duties & Responsibilities of a YAC Member:**

* Attend a minimum of 8 monthly meetings per school year (on Wednesday evenings from 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM) and teambuilding events held at various times throughout the summer. If unable to attend, contact the advisor 24 hours prior to the meeting.
* Committed, dedicated, and interested in learning about community youth issues through collaboration, discussion, speakers, site visits, and possible regional meetings with other YACs in the State of Michigan.
* Preparation for meetings, which can include reading multiple pages of grants.
* Evaluate all funding requests in a fair and equitable manner reflective of the Foundation’s mission and stated grant criteria.
* Active engagement in the meetings.
* Responsible and mature representation of the Grand Haven Area Community Foundation.

The Application Process:

***There are a limited number of open seats on the Youth Advisory Council. This year only 9 seats are available for incoming sophomores and juniors.*** All submitted applications are reviewed through the following process:

The Selection Committee is comprised of current YAC members and the GHACF YAC Advisor. The Committee seeks to ensure a cross-section of youth membership by gender, age, and school, as well as seeking a balance culturally, socially, and economically. Additionally, applicants are evaluated through a blind application process with respect to their interest and awareness of issues and concerns in the youth community, willingness to read and evaluate complex grant applications, potential for leadership, and the unique qualities they will bring to YAC. Select candidates will be invited to interview with the Advisor and the Committee – the new member selection process timeline is as follows:

* May 18 – Applications Due
* June 11 – 14 –Interviews Conducted
* July 17 – Orientation/Team Building Retreat

**If you would prefer to fill out this application online, please click here:** <https://goo.gl/forms/u1eom3mZQUtvlSzi2>

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Cell Phone: Email:

High School: Graduation Year:

Gender:

**We’d like to know the following about you:**

* What about the Youth Advisory Council caught your eye and why do you want to be a part of it?
* Why would you be a good fit for the YAC and what would you bring to the group?
* Do you currently volunteer? What types of things and organizations do you volunteer for?
* What extracurricular activities are you involved in?
* We know that many issues face youth today. From the list below, please select the top 3 issues you feel are important to address for youth in our community. Is there an issue you feel is important that isn’t on the list? Let us know – we love to hear new ideas!

[ ] Arts [ ] Mentoring (Adult Role Models)

 [ ] Bullying [ ] Poverty

 [ ] Diversity/ Inclusion [ ] Recreation

 [ ] Education [ ] Substance Abuse

 [ ] Environment [ ] Teen Pregnancy

 [ ] Health [ ] Homelessness/Housing

 [ ] Violence/Victimization [ ] Technology

[ ] Juvenile Delinquency

 [ ] Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

* Out of the issues you selected above, which one do you feel is the top issue facing youth today and why?
* YAC is looking for diversity among its membership. What experiences have you had that will bring a unique perspective to YAC?
* YAC is made up of students with different interests and ideas. What are you passionate about?
* Tell us why you love the Tri-Cities and what ideas you have for making our community a great place for youth.
* We know everyone is busy, but we really want YAC members who are dedicated to being a community grantmaker and the work that the YAC does. What possible conflicts might prevent you from attending monthly meetings?

Signed: Date:

**Thank you for completing this application!**

# Please return by mail, email, or complete online by: Friday, May 18, 2018 @ 5:00 PM

Lauren Grevel, YAC Advisor

Grand Haven Area Community Foundation

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