

●●● YOUTH FUNDING YOUTH IDEAS (YFYI) ●●●

PROGRAM FACTS

- Youth grantmaking program, part of CHALK (a community-based nonprofit)
- Granted over \$1.5 million to 200+ organizations since 2003
- Engages economically disadvantaged youth ages 14-20 from underserved, marginalized areas of San Francisco County
- Recruitment process
 - Outreach in areas where youth already are
 - In-person, group interviews of each applicant
 - Not everyone is great on paper
 - Consider individual perspectives not currently represented in cohort

YOUTH AS STAFF

- Hire students as part-time paid program officers
- Work 6-10 hours a week during school and up to 15 during the summer
- Integrated youth and adult supervision
- Offices open later in the day (12-8 p.m.)
- Youth program officers involved in entire project: researching, interviewing, advocating, and follow-up.



UNIQUE ENGAGEMENT

- Engagement with grantee organizations
 - Youth must complete YFYI grant application
 - YFYI offers support even for non-funded projects, such as feedback, advice, etc.
 - Also offer capacity-building grant for current grantees
- Discussions with other local youth grantmaking programs to support each other’s funding decisions

ENSURING YOUTH PRESENCE

- All youth trained a minimum of 80 hours before going “into the field”
- Transportation assistance
 - Some youth have areas through which they cannot travel safely
 - Students in local high school receive free transportation system pass
- “Food. You always have to have food. They’re always hungry!”



SYSTEM OF CONTINUOUS YOUTH SUPPORT

- Individualized support and flexibility is key!
 - Meet youth where they are without judgement
 - Open conversations encourage meeting youth where they are in life.
 - At times permit remote work (may need to babysit, etc.)
- Additional CHALK community support- from career coaching to in-house therapy

Learn more about the program featured here at YFYI.org