



Seeking Youth Leaders For 2019-2020 School Year!

In its efforts to increase youth leaders within the community, the Chairman and Mayor's Youth Leadership Council is seeking new members. If you are interested please read the information below and complete the application that is attached.

Purpose of Council:

Winnebago County Board Chairman Frank Haney and City of Rockford Mayor Tom McNamara established a youth leadership development initiative in 2017. This Chairman and Mayor's Youth Leadership Council is facilitated by the Winnebago County Health Department. The purpose of this interagency youth council is to develop and retain diverse, young leaders throughout the region. Council members are engaged in opportunities to initiate change in their immediate spheres of influence, as well as their local and regional community.

By investing today in the development of these young leaders, it is our hope that they will experience the reward of engagement by participating in discussion around community issues, taking on active role as community members, and feeling ownership in their community and its future.

Every high school student within Winnebago County is eligible to apply if they are:

- Sophomores or juniors in high school (returning members may be seniors)
- Interested in learning more about leadership, public policy, community health, and local government
- Able to attend at least 70% (11 out of 15) of the Youth Leadership Council meetings
- Self-starters with the potential to develop into a future leader of our community

As a member of the Council, students should expect to participate in the following types of activities:

- **Advisory Meetings:** The Council has interactive, educational sessions focusing on serious community issues such as substance abuse, family violence, public safety, and other public policy matters. The sessions are followed by a discussion with the Mayor and Chairman on the member's perspectives on the issues presented
- **Project Meetings:** The Council members will engage in community projects related to the advisory meeting issues discussed. The Council may also consider projects of their own conception
- **Special Events:** Members will be invited to serve as volunteers and/or honorees at community meetings and events



"Funded in whole or in part by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery through a grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration."



Application Process:

The Winnebago County Health Department will be accepting and reviewing applications for the 2019-2020 Chairman & Mayor's Youth Leadership Council from June 17th until September 9th, 2019. Please complete the application form and provide at least one letter of recommendation to the Council Facilitators, Erich Von Gillern and Katie Kelly. Contact information is provided at the end of the application. Applications may be submitted via email, U.S. mail, or they can be dropped off to the fourth floor of the Winnebago County Health Department. Expect a phone call to schedule an interview from one of the Council facilitators within one week of submitting your application. Students who are accepted to the Council will receive notification via email.

Application Form

Student Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Grade: _____ GPA: _____ School: _____

Volunteer Experience: _____

Short Answer (If your answers require more than the space provided, please continue on a separate page.):

1. What type of leader are you?

Continue on next page



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2. What do you believe you will gain by participating in the Council?

3. What do you believe you will contribute to the Council?

Please attach minimum of one letter of recommendation to this form. Recommendations from family members are NOT acceptable.

By signing below, I certify all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of Applicant

Date Signed

Return completed application form and recommendation by September 9, 2019 via email or mail to the Youth Leadership Council Facilitators:

Erich Von Gillern (evongillern@wchd.org, 815-720-4346) or

Katie Kelly (kkelly@wchd.org, 815-720-4191)

at the Winnebago County Health Department, 555 N. Court St., Rockford, IL 61103.



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