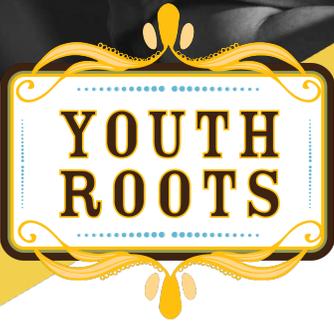




**GET YOUR
CHANGEMAKER
FACE ON**



YOUTHCHARGE

VIRTUAL PROGRAM

YouthCharge empowers high schoolers to change the world from their living rooms. It was designed as an entirely virtual experience to keep youth connected to the community while practicing social distancing.

YouthCharge is 100% youth-led and youth-directed. Participants will work as a group throughout the program to complete a community needs assessment to determine the biggest issues facing youth, raise awareness and funds for those issues, and make grants to organizations that best meet the needs of the community.

This 19-session collaborative program can be implemented in an English or Social Studies class, or as a standalone project. YouthRoots additionally offers YouthCharge as an after school opportunity.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

YouthCharge consists of 19 one-hour sessions. Every session has action-oriented goals to keep participants engaged and motivated. The program is divided into three sections:

Community Needs Assessment: The first 7 sessions focus on completing a community needs assessment. YouthCharge boards will research the biggest issues facing youth in their chosen community and then recruit and learn from a panel of experts on these issues. By the end of the seventh session, participants will have chosen 1-3 issues to focus on and will have written a Request for Proposals to send to nonprofits.

1. Kick-off - learn about the program, start building community, create group agreements, decide on group roles (facilitated session*)
2. Intro to Needs Assessment - learn how group strengths can affect group dynamics, write group impact statement, begin discussing issues
3. Research - share individual research on the issues, decide which issues they want to learn more about, outreach to potential panelists
4. Community Input - create and distribute survey for community input
5. Panel of Experts - dialog with experts on the issues
6. Final Needs - decide on final funding priorities
7. RFP - Write a Request for Proposals and research organizations

Raising Awareness and Funding: Sessions 8-13 focus on teaching participants how to raise funding and awareness of their issues. They'll start by creating community awareness projects to share the issues far and wide. They will also learn valuable project management skills as they plan and implement fundraisers, learn about Returns on Investments (ROIs) and budgeting, learn how to give a fundraising pitch, conduct donor outreach, and participate in individual fundraising meetings.

8. Intro to Fundraising - learn about fundraising tactics and their returns on investment, learn about donor alignment, begin work on fundraising plan (facilitated session*)

9. Project Management - determine ROI for potential fundraising events, finalize fundraising plan, begin execution of fundraising plan using project management tools, outreach to potential donors asking for one-on-one virtual donor meetings.
10. Community Awareness - create community awareness projects about each of their funding priorities
11. The Pitch - share community awareness projects with their networks, learn how to craft a fundraising pitch, begin role playing pitches
12. Pitch Practice - practice their pitches in pairs and implement feedback to perfect their fundraising pitches
13. Do the Work! - work session to implement fundraising plan

Grant-making: The last 6 sessions is where everything comes together. Participants will learn how to read a grant application, including how to read financial statements. They will review the grant proposals that came in through their Request for Proposals and decide which organizations best meet their funding priorities. 100% of the funds raised by the YouthCharge participants will be granted to the winning organizations.

14. The Elements - learn the elements of a grant application, decipher budgets and financial reports, learn how to identify potential issues (facilitated session*)
15. Your Values - decide on the group's values when it comes to granting funds and write values in a group Philosophy of Giving
16. Grant Review - review all grant applications and select finalists
17. Finalist Presentations - hear more about the organizations' proposals from their chosen finalists
18. The Winners - determine their final grant winners and how much each winner will receive, notify winners, nonwinners, and volunteers of decisions
19. The Finale - reflect on the program year and celebrate their accomplishments

* The first session of each topic (sessions 1, 8, and 14) are facilitated by YouthRoots. The rest of the sessions are independently run by students.