

Association for Youth Leadership Forums

Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2018



On The Call:

Donna Foster (OH), Jen Randle (OK), Whitney Harris (FL), Anthony La Cava (FL), Wendy Molitor (MO), Sierra Royster (APRIL), Pia Basudev (CA), Chloe Smith (MT), Cameron Thaller (SC), Marie Massart (WI)

- **Opening Round:** – Quick update on your YLF, application status, staff status.
 - Donna- Ohio's YLF is July 22-26. They are a little low on staff applications. Their delegate applications aren't due to till the end of March, and so far only have 4 applications.
 - Wendy- Delegate applications were due at the end of February, so far they have 26. Staff applications are due through the end of May.
 - Pia- Applications for delegates are closed. They have about 90 applications. They are accepting staff applications through the 23rd.
 - Chloe- Staff and delegate applications are still trickling end. They don't close until the end of this month.
 - Cameron- They are still accepting staff applications
 - Anthony- Applications aren't due yet and they are a little behind with the transition from changing organizations to host a YLF.
 - Jen- Delegates were due at the beginning of March, they have funding for 25 delegates. Staff and alumni are having the "too many" problem.

- **Minutes to Approve**
 - February 2018 minutes were sent to the group. Pia created the motion to approve and Chloe seconded. These minutes have been approved.
 - **Treasurer Report**
 - Jen announced that the bank balance has remained at \$4,319.77. Jen has received a new invoice for Joel's services to update the website, but it has not been paid yet.

- **DISCUSSION TOPIC: SPEAKERS: Who have been some speakers that your YLF has had that you would recommend? How do you find good speakers? Do you get local speakers or ones from other states?**
 - Donna- Ohio has just used local speakers in the past. That way they can travel locally, which is more affordable. They used to have a big keynote when they did their mentor dinner. They have changed to a speed mentoring, so it's more like a "speed dating" format. They have used Greg Smith in the past, and a football player from Ohio State. They have even used some that are on the AYLF Youth Motivational Speaker list.
 - Chloe- They try to use local people, but occasionally bring in people from outside of Montana. Expense hasn't been too much trouble, they have used donated airline miles before as flights are the most expensive.
 - Jen- They have been able to fund speakers, will help from the DD Council. Michael Beers

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- has spoken with Oklahoma. They are bringing Mike Finney to speak this year, he's a drummer from NY who also has had experiences with mental health. They do use in state speakers as well. They use alumni for sessions and have assistive technology talks as well. LeDerrick Horne has spoken there as well. They have also done the True Colors session.
- Marie- They use staff to kick off YLF, usually a panel of alumni. They receive funding through VR and their DD Council. They try to aim for 30 delegates, but usually get somewhere between 20-30.
 - Wendy- They kick off with a keynote speaker, last year they had Jessica Cox. That's usually their only speaker that they bring in. VR funds a good amount for their delegates. Amber Lee Snyder is speaking this year. She spends a lot of time watching their YouTube channels if they are recommended, but prefers to learn about people from seeing them speak.
 - Anthony and Whitney- Florida has used a lot of local speakers, but used to bring in outside speakers. Erica Powell spoke at their Mentors Luncheon last year. For the main part, it's been local or state legislators.
 - Cameron- Erica Powell has been a staff with their YLF, and are finally looking to bring in a keynote speaker for their opening events.
 - Pia- She's brand new to her YLF and isn't sure who has spoken in the past.
 - Sierra- The NC YLF is not taking place this year. They have used Andrea Lavont and Michael Beers. They have used funding from VR. They use alumni to speak at the workshops during their event. They have also used Miss Wheelchair NC, and Miss Deaf NC.

● **DISCUSSION TOPIC: SELF-CARE: What things/activities do you do for self-care? What do you think is the most stressful part of being a YLF coordinator? Have you learned of ways to lower your stress? What is your absolute favorite thing about being a coordinator? Do you take a break or time off after your YLF?**

- Donna- Has been doing this for many years, and is pretty calm during the event. But when they transferred to be under VR funding, it was stressful to learn the new regulations. Her favorite part of being a coordinator is meeting the young adults involved in their program. She usually takes the Friday and sometimes Monday off when her YLF ends on Thursday. She has a great support system within her staff, with two co-chairs that have gone to YLF with many years.
- Cameron- Caffeine! Her favorite part is getting to know the young adults that attend, which also is the most stressful because she wants to spend time with everyone.
- Wendy- She agrees with Cameron about getting the one on one time with everyone. She plans to take the entire week off after their YLF.
- Anthony- He enjoys getting to know the young adults as well. His most stressful part is to get everyone to the right place in the right time. He tries to watch for others on their staff to make sure that no one is getting too stressed out as well.
- Jen- As soon as YLF is over, recruiting for next year starts! Their YLF ends on a Saturday, so she gets the day off due to the weekend. She prefers to work the week after YLF to make

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sure invoices and everything get paid for, but then will take time off. They have brought in staff prior to the delegates arriving, it seemed to be really great for staff to bond and get to know each other. To relieve stress, they have a surprise silly string fight to make everyone have fun and be silly. Sometimes the staff set up kick ball games and watch sports together.

- Marie- They do a movie and ice cream night, during the middle of the week.
 - **Guest Speakers- Any suggestions for next month?**
 - Chloe- Suggests Michael Beers as a way to be a resource and get to know the other YLFs.
 - Jen- Also suggests Michael Beers and Nancy Ward with Project Vote in Oklahoma
 - Whitney- Suggests Zach Baldwin to discuss voting, since this year is midterm elections.
- **Closing**
 - The next call will be Thursday, April 19, 2018 at 2:00pm Eastern. The call will feature a guest speaker

Meeting time: 2:03-3:02 p.m. EST

Minutes recorded by Whitney Harris, AYL F Secretary

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