

Youth Philanthropy Connect 2015 Road Trip

Grant Type: **Dollar and nondollar support**

Dollar Amount: **\$22,500 in mini-grants were awarded in partnership, along with dollars spent on other costs.**

Foundation Name: **Youth Philanthropy Connect**

What was your objective with the grant or initiative?

Youth Philanthropy Connect (YPC) is a program created 5 years ago when the Frieda C. Fox Family Foundation's junior board saw the impact of connecting and learning with other youth and the adults who support them around shared experiences in youth philanthropy. For this initiative, the foundation partnered across six regions to lift up youth engaged in philanthropy, connect and learn together, and award community mini-grants. These regional learning opportunities allowed communities to get engaged at a lower cost (time and dollars) than our other programming and served as local learning for YPC.

What were the results of this grant or initiative?

Through in-person and remote learning, the program engaged 761 attendees (553 in person). Youth and adults found local connections and connected to the larger national movement. Ripples continue from every community. For example, in Houston, TX, 92 youth and adults connected; many of the youth made their very first grant. These youth and adults joined the bigger movement and are continuing together with their community foundation. Youth learned from sessions, one another, and experts, such as Vu Le in Seattle, WA.

As an organization, YPC adapted its strategies and work to specific regions and partnerships. Lessons learned included how different communities work, what opportunities communities need and what they need to learn, and how mini-grants work differently or the amounts may differ by community.

Why would you say this grant or initiative had outsized impact?

To the foundation's knowledge, no one else has engaged in regional work across the country to bring together young grantmakers on a learning tour for grantmakers and the organization. The foundation broadened the YPC network, grew the movement of youth philanthropy, and created local communities of dialogue around the topic. The foundation also learned a lot about itself and significantly expanded its network. The youth leadership team that advises YPC is now more diverse, and the work reflects that diversity.

Two major lessons learned were:

- ▶ Youths who are engaged for a longer time begin to ask different questions as they grow as grantmakers. The foundation is adapting its content to fit their questions and is learning about the youth's desire to delve into topics, such as social justice philanthropy.
- ▶ Youth philanthropists are thoughtful about their grantmaking across the country. There is energy to grow this movement, and the foundation has learned about new programs in every community.



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