

March 12, 2015
Wisconsin Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities
Wisconsin Youth Leadership Forum presentation/ update

Introduction to comments from Luke Widowski, 2014 delegate

January 23-24, our board of directors met to discuss upcoming YLF year

Cassandra Lokker was committed as director for another year.

We discussed job descriptions for the director and staff for YLF.

We established tasks for our program and funding committees. The program committee will plan the week of YLF and its activities and the funding committee will be in contact with DVR, BPDD, and other potential funders.

We are reevaluating the peer mentor participants on our staff and reinstating an earlier requirement that future peer mentors must be at least a year post being a delegate and graduated from high school. Having experienced staff is a priority for this year.

We are reworking our staff application so those who apply for facilitator (head counselors of small groups) will have a more detailed essay to write and a more thorough interview process before they are chosen for the position.

Staff and delegate recruitment began on February 7. The application for delegates is available at: <http://www.wi-bpdd.org/projects/YouthLeadershipForum.cfm>.

The board of directors will review and score delegate and staff applications and make selections on participants.

Delegates may apply for YLF until May 11. Staff must apply by March 14.

We will have a mandatory staff training on June 20. We have found that this year presents unique challenges that will take away from our usual training time on the Saturday before the delegates arrive at YLF. We will be utilizing Saturday morning, July 25 to go to the State Capitol to make sure we are comfortable with the terrain in preparation for capitol day for the delegates. On that day, we will also be having a 15-year reunion for all of the participants that have been involved in YLF since 2000. This will be from 2:00-5:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 25. That evening, our board will also hold our open-to-the-public board meeting on the campus of Edgewood College. Due to the numerous events that day, we will train our staff on Saturday, June 20 at a location that is central to the majority of the staff that is chosen.

We are recruiting for speakers and topics that are similar to what we have utilized in the past: one-one-one conversations, community organizing, mock interviews, "Amazing Race to Employment" which will probably be on State Street, social capital and utilizing one's network of connections, capital day

sessions on voting and communicating with legislators, peer mentor and networking picnic with alumni and other adults with disabilities, healthy relationships with the presence of disability, self-advocacy panel, elections for delegate YLF chairperson (a lot like a school's student body president. This individual would later be invited to be on our board of directors), assets and strengths, DVR, Think College or options after high school, and living on your own.

Clarification on YLF's relationship to Wisconsin Board for People with Developmental Disabilities and the Wisconsin Governor's Committee for People with Disabilities

Question and answer