

YLF Final Report

This report will cover the major activities undertaken by the Youth Leadership Forum and some of the tangible outcomes from the weeklong camp.

Each participant completed a personal leadership plan and committed to working on it during the upcoming year. YLF staff will be calling each individual 4 months after the completion of camp to find out how the individuals are progressing on their plan. We hope to track the participants over several years to find out if they are continuing to advance in leadership roles in the community and, if they are successfully moving on to life after high school.

The last part of this report includes a copy of the weekly agenda along with a copy of the Personal Leadership Plan.

Major Goal Areas for YLF 2016

Goal 1

By the end of the week of YLF, 20% of participants will report an increase in their ability to advocate for themselves. This will include an increase in the ability to speak up about issues that concern them, an increase in the ability to ask for things that they may need for accommodations, increase in their comfortableness in completing a job interview. Increasing their knowledge of how to increase their skills and abilities

Activities:

- Presentation on how to have one on one conversations including the importance of listening.
- Mock job interviews with employers of local businesses.
- Involvement in amazing race to employment on State Street. Each team of individuals will be assigned a block on State Street. They will be given a list of questions to ask businesses. They will go into businesses and each member of the team will ask a specific question about working at the business. Upon return to campus they will debrief on what they have learned

Number of consumers served:

24 individuals participated in this goal area. 6 of these individuals were DVR consumers.

Outcomes:

A pre-survey was given to all participants upon their arrival to YLF. The following questions were asked:

Do you know what your challenges and difficulties are?

Pre Survey	68% yes	25% sort of	7% no
Post Survey	86% yes	14% sort of	0% no

Do you know how to explain your strengths, abilities and interests to others?

Pre survey	58% yes	32% some	10% no
Post Survey	73% yes	25% no	2% no

Do you know how to improve your skills and abilities?

Pre Survey	57% yes	42% some	8% no
Post Survey	83% yes	17% some	

One on one conversation exercise:

During this exercise each participant was involved with a game where they were divided into teams and asked questions about various topics. The idea was to learn that they had to listen as well as answer questions. Questions were designed so that if students did not listen carefully they would come up with the wrong information in the answer. Many of the students got frustrated initially but towards the end of the exercise they understood what was going on and would ask clarifying questions to the presenter. Each participant was given the opportunity to answer a question and be involved with the discussion.

Mock Job Interview exercise:

The mock job interviews were done by local business people, including the regional Manager for the state of Wisconsin of Home Depot. Individuals were given examples of good and bad interview practices in front of the full group. After that, they were divided up into teams where they were each given the opportunity to practice an interview for employment. When they were completed with their interviews they were critiqued on their performance and were given the opportunity to repeat their interview. The second interviews went much better as each participant had an idea of what they could improve on from the first interview.

Amazing Race to Employment on State Street:

The idea behind the amazing race to employment was to get individuals asking questions to potential employers about what kind of skills they needed to work in those businesses. The point we were trying to make is that you need to ask what skills, what requirement and what expectations there would be for you before you apply for a job. Participants were divided into teams. Each team was given one block of State Street and a list of questions you would ask to potential employers. The team would enter the business and each team member would have a question to ask. The questions were rotated so that each person could ask all of the questions at least one time during their visits. In the evening after getting back a debrief section was

held. The participants stated that one thing they learned is that the jobs that were available at places were not necessarily the same kind of jobs that they thought might be available and the importance about asking what a position entails before applying for it in order to make sure that it was a good fit for them.

Goal 2

By the end of YLF 20% of participants will show an increase in the knowledge of how to obtain information on their future plans. This will also include an understanding of their strengths and weaknesses so they can better prepare for life beyond high school. This may include information on school options, work options and independent living options.

Activities:

- Presentation on Think College which will include interactive ways to find out about services available at various colleges.
- Presentation on independent living and using technology to help individuals live in their own apartments.
- Presentation on Social Capital where individuals will learn how to use their skills and talents and how to leverage that into obtaining things that they need assistance with.
- Session on identifying your strengths and weaknesses in order to help understand what you may need to live independently.

Number of consumers served:

28 individuals participated in this goal area. 8 of these individuals were DVR consumers

Do you know your strengths, abilities weaknesses?

Pre Survey	52% yes	38% sort of	10% no
Post Survey	86% yes	14% sort of	0% no

What Careers are you interested in?

Pre Survey	42%	57% sort of
Post Survey	86% yes	14% sort of

What can you do to learn more about these careers?

Pre Surv	68% yes	32% no	
Post Survey	72% yes	24% sort of	4% no

Where to go to get the education and training you need to reach your goal?

Pre Survey	28% yes	50% sort of	22% no
Post Survey	72% yes	28% sort of	0% no

Think College Presentation:

This presentation discussed different options for individuals to go to school after graduations from high school. Participants were taught how to look for information from different schools about their different accessible services. They were also taught how to look for different programs at schools and how to research what would be the best fit if you wanted to go on to school after graduation from high school. Each participant had to use technology (either a smart phone or computer) to find a school in Wisconsin that had a program that they would be interested in pursuing. They then investigated different resources that could be used at the school they chose. A group discussion was held where they talked about what they discovered.

Presentation on Independent Living Using technology:

This presentation highlighted several different pieces of adaptive equipment and “smart” applications to be used for things such as keeping track of medication, budgeting, developing shopping lists, magnifying reading materials, converting written materials into voice and many other things. Individuals were given the opportunity to have a hands-on experience to learn how the different applications could be used. Each individual was asked to find at least one application that they would be able to use to live independently after the presentation was finished.

Social Capital:

Individuals were given the definition of social capital and how they could use it to both help others and to get assistance from others that they may need to have. After the discussion they were asked if they had ever gained “social capital” and what they did to gain it. They were then asked if they had ever used “social capital and what they were able to get from someone else. The discussion then turned to discovery of talents that they had that could be used to leverage social capital.

Identifying Strengths and weaknesses:

This was done in small groups where individuals had the opportunity to talk about what they were able to do well and what they needed assistance with. Each person listed their strengths and assets and listed these on the Personal Leadership Plan. The idea is to be aware where they need to have assistance and what they are able to do independently as they move forward and use this as a basis for what they may need to work on and also to identify what they may

need to have assistance with when they move on to further schooling or to independent living and the world of work.

Evaluation and Personal Leadership Plan

Each participant was given a pre YLF survey and a post YLF survey. The scores were compared to find increases or decreases in knowledge of the different areas YLF focused on. During the week each participant developed a personal leadership plan where they identified their strengths and weaknesses and what they were going to be working on when they got back to their home communities. Below are the copies of the survey and of the Personal Leadership Plan.

Wisconsin Youth Leadership Forum PERSONAL LEADERSHIP PLAN

Delegate's Name _____

The information below will assist me in developing my leadership potential and making effective plans for my future. To complete this plan, I will imagine my life FIVE (5) years from now (or after you have completed a college program) and create a vision of how I would like it to be.

Life Experiences – Assets & Strengths

*These are goals related to my assets and strengths, skills and abilities,
and individual differences*

My disability is called _____

I have some difficulty with (for example, reading comprehension, writing, taking notes, etc.) _____

Some of the assets (strengths, skills, interest), I have are _____

At least 2 assets I would like to work on improving are:

1. _____

2. _____

I will work on improving these assets by (what will you do) _____

I will work on these assets by this date _____

The following people can help me work on my assets:

Employment

These are goals related to the career you are interested in.

I am interested in the following careers:

The career I am most interested in is _____
because _____

I will learn more about this career by doing the following: _____

I will do this by the following date _____

The following people can help me learn more about this career:

Training & Education

These are goals related to my career.

To reach my career goal, I will need the following education/training:

I think I would like to go to the following school/program for this training:

The reasonable accommodations I may need if I go on to college are:

I will look into further education/training by the following date _____

The following people can help me learn more about this:

Living on My Own
These are goals related to being as independent as you can be.

Areas I think I need to work on to be able to live more independently are (for example, doing laundry, paying bills, going to the bank, buying clothes, etc)

I will work on these skills by this date _____

The following people can help me work on these skills:

A personal challenge that I will meet as an opportunity to grow and develop is

I will work on this challenge by this date _____

The following people can help me with this challenge:

Community
These are goals related to making a difference through community participation.

A few things I can do to be more involved in my community are

I will work on doing some of these by this date _____

The following people can help me be more involved in my community:

A school/community/world issue I will get involved in is _____

I will do this by the following date _____

The following people can help me work on this issue:

A personal/social activity I would like to get involved in is _____

I will do this by the following date _____

The following people can help me with this challenge:

Technology & Resources

These are goals related to resources I will use to develop my leadership potential.

I want to learn more about the following resources _____

I will look into these resources by this date _____

The following people can help me get connected to these resources:

Specific equipment/technology I will look into using are _____

I will look into this equipment by this date _____

The following people can help me look into this technology:

Other Notes to Myself about Future Goals



2016 Youth Leadership Forum Evaluation - PRE

Thank you for participating in the 2016 Wisconsin Youth Leadership Forum (YLF). Please take a moment to complete this brief survey. Your feedback will help us to make YLF even better in the future!

1. Please answer the following questions.

Do you know.....

	Yes	Sort of	No
What your strengths, abilities and interests are?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What your challenges and difficulties are?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to explain your strengths, abilities and interests to someone else?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to explain your challenges and difficulties to someone else?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to improve your skills and abilities?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Who could help you improve your skills and abilities?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What career(s) you are interested in?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What you can do to learn more about these careers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Who could help you learn more about these careers?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What education and training you need to reach your career goal?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Where to go to get the training and education you need to reach your career goal?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to prepare for a job interview?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The "do's and don'ts" during a job interview?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to talk to businesses about hiring people with disabilities?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
About your options to go to college/technical schools after high school?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
What accommodations you would need to go to college/technical school?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Where you can get the accommodations you need to go to college/technical school?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Who could help you get the accommodations you need to go to college/technical school?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to be a strong self-advocate?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to be a strong leader?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How government works/how a bill becomes a law?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
How to do good team building?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

