



Whatcom Community Foundation Youth Philanthropy Project

Examples of projects for youth that could strengthen protective factors, reduce risk factors and increase family-community connections.

- **Youth Engagement** Improve/develop programs and spaces *informed by* youth voices, survey's and/or guidance. Create a grants program for a school to fund what youth want i.e. mural, new equipment, student lounge, etc.
- **Build quality parent-child time** Structured parent-teen monthly activity nights (bowling, trivia, outdoor movie, mini-golf, art workshops, hiking). Home Together Time: 30-day family connection challenge.
- **Parenting Coaching Workshops** Focus on relationship building, listening, supervision, rule-setting, communication skills, etc.
- **Organized Leisure Activities for Youth** - Accessible after/out of school activities: maker space, sports/fitness clubs (running, skateboarding lessons, dance lessons, beginner weight training) Nighttime events - open gym, movies, swimming, music, murals, photography club, coding, robotics, dungeons and dragons league, cooking classes, etc. to reduce unsupervised, high risk weekend hours.
- **Healthy Risk-Taking Opportunities** - Rock climbing, ropes course, boating, hiking with guides, etc.
- **Leadership and Service Projects** - Youth lead park cleanups, animal shelter or food bank drives. Recruit, train and support for youth to join Boards, Commissions, or Advisory Committees. Hack-a-thon or Solve a Community Problem/Challenge.
- **Resource Fair** - Schools, mental health providers, sports clubs, arts groups, churches, libraries help families discover programs to increase participation.
- **Community Coach Training** - Coaches learn positive youth development and relationship building skills. Adults become stronger protective factors.