



2012

Annual Report

Washington Youth Academy Foundation

1207 Carver Street • Bremerton WA 98312

wyafoundation@live.com • www.wyafoundation.com

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Washington Youth Academy Foundation
2012 Annual Report

Letter of Introduction

April 15, 2013

To our partners, donors and potential supporters:

On behalf of the Washington Youth Academy Foundation Board of Directors, I am honored to present to you our 2012 Annual Report.

Established in 2009, we are a young Foundation dedicated to supporting the Washington Youth Academy, a part of the National Youth Challenge program that fosters high school youth between the ages of sixteen and eighteen who have either dropped out of school or are at risk of dropping out.

The Academy annually conducts two residential classes accepting one-hundred and fifty student cadets per class representing nearly every county in the state. Each student cadet enrolled has done so voluntarily and volunteer to stay in the program. It is not an easy road, but with dedication and perseverance the student can recover eight high school credits during the five and one-half month residential program. After returning to high school the students participate in one year of mentoring to stay on the right track. Over eighty percent of those who complete the program graduate from high school and are either employed, enter higher education, have joined a service program like AmeriCorps or Peace Corps, or have joined the military. That is a successful program.

Our Foundation goals are simple - we exist to support the student cadets of the Academy while attending the residential portion of the Academy and provide post-graduate support for continuing education or job training.

The next few pages will describe more about both the Foundation and the Academy and why it is important for you to be a partner in meeting our funding goals. We can make a difference, one young person at a time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James A. Peterson".

James A. Peterson

Chairman

Washington Youth Academy Foundation

Supporting the Cadets of the Washington Youth Academy

A 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation chartered in the State of Washington – EIN 26-2771686



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About the Foundation

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation is a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) corporation chartered in the State of Washington, EIN 26-2771686.



Foundation Board of Directors:

Members of the Board of Directors serve in a voluntary capacity, without compensation.

- Mr. Jim Peterson, Chair - Retired CEO and CFO
- Mr. Joe Huden, Vice Chair - President, Huden Consulting
- Mr. Curt Pintler, Secretary - Retired Air Force Colonel
- Mr. Terry Oxley, Treasurer - Retired Puget Sound Energy Director
- Mr. George Cargill - TriWest Executive
- Mr. Kenyon Luce - Senior Partner, Luce, Kenney and Associates
- Ms. Rene Savage - Vice President for Technology Solutions, Stellar Industrial Supply
- Mr. Gordon Toney - Retired Army Brigadier General, Former Director, Washington Youth Academy
- Ms. Arel Solie - Washington State Patrol
- Mr. Steve Hyer - Former Executive Director & President of the Foundation for Private Enterprise Education (Washington Business Week)
- Ms. Gail Oxley - Retired Counselor Washington Youth Academy
- Mr. Craig Weddle - Regional Specialist Dex One, Retired Air Force Command Chief Master Sergeant
- Mr. Larry Pierce, Ex-Officio - Director, Washington Youth Academy

Foundation Purpose:

Support the student cadets of the Washington Youth Academy.

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Foundation Overview:

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation was established to support the students, graduates, staff, and mission of the Washington Youth Academy. The Washington Youth Academy is one of thirty-two Youth Challenge programs operating in twenty-seven states and Puerto Rico; Washington State is the newest state to establish a program with the first class starting in 2009. Established under the authority of both Federal (1993) and Washington State law (2007), the Academy is a federal and state supported residential and post-residential education program for 16-18 year old boys and girls who have dropped out or at risk of dropping out of high school. The Foundation provides the wrap-around funding support to student cadets and program graduates.

Examples of Foundation funding support include:

- Scholarships for continuing education (including vocational, community college, specialized training)
- Scholarships to attend Washington Business Week
- Funding for Summer School classes
- Job training (including special clothing requirements)
- Academy equipment (such as: physical fitness, computer lab, vocational-technical)
- Special clothing needs
- Community project support
- Awards for achievement
- Team building events
- Scientific instruments

Why your support is important:

- Funding for the Foundation comes from organizations and generous individuals like you
- The demand for our funding support increases each year with each graduating class
- Our goal is to fund 4-year scholarships (up to \$8,000 per year) for Academy graduates (current scholarships are limited to \$1,000 to \$2,000 each) and improve our scholarship marketing capability

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- The demand for summer school enrollment funding is increasing dramatically as student cadets want to reenter high school to graduate with their class
- We want to recognize achievement by student cadets (current funding limits our ability to recognize outstanding achievement)
- A video project is awaiting funding (10-3 minute program and foundation videos, plus 5-30 second video shorts)
- There are equipment requirements we cannot fund to support the academic and vocational needs of the student cadets (vocational equipment, computers, software, learning tools, etc.)
- The program reaches only three-hundred student cadets per year out of six-hundred or more that apply, we need to expand the current campus or begin a campus in central and/or eastern Washington

S.W. - Student Cadet program graduate

"My life has been really good and it's mostly all thanks to everything I learned at the Washington Youth Academy. I probably would have ended up being homeless when I turned 18 if not for all the care and devotion from everyone at WYA to help me excel in life. Thank you."

K.C. - Student Cadet program graduate

"Why I applied to the Washington Youth Academy is pretty simple. I was having a rough time in school, I didn't feel too good about myself and my parents were worried about me. My Mom is a teacher and knew students like me who attended the WYA. When she told me how successful they became I said yes and began my journey in January and took my first step to becoming a cadet. I graduated the program in June. It was one of the proudest days of my life."

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About the Foundation Scholarship Program

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation recognizes the sacrifice and effort each student cadet makes to better his or her life. It is one of our strongest and most important functions as a foundation to support each Academy graduate in pursuing their life goals. For a student who has dropped out of high school to make this extreme transformation demands we do our best to help them succeed even further. Raising funds to support the scholarship program is our highest priority.

Scholarship Program Purpose: The Washington Youth Academy Foundation established a scholarship program to support the continuing education of cadets who graduate from the Washington Youth Academy.

Scholarship Program Guiding Principles: The scholarship program of the Washington Youth Academy Foundation is based on the following guiding principles:

1. Cadets who graduate from the Academy and are in good standing based on the requirements of the Post-Residential Phase will be eligible to apply for a scholarship to attend summer school to complete graduation course requirements, continue their education or pursue job training or job placement opportunities.
2. Continuing education, vocational training, or job placement includes:
 - a. Attendance at a four year college; community college; trade, technical, or vocational school; or adult education classes
 - b. Attendance at summer school to transition student cadets back to high school to retrieve additional credits to graduate on time
 - c. Apprentice training programs through a trade union or similar organization
 - d. Short, specialized job training courses, i.e. retail clerk or highway flagger
3. Scholarship funds may be used to help pay:
 - a. Tuition, books, room and board, student fees, or special course materials
 - b. Clothing, tools, or equipment for job placement
 - c. Cost of certification tests, entrance exams, etc. associated with job placement or school applications
 - d. Cost to attend summer school to retrieve mandatory high school credits for graduation.

Scholarship funding goals

The goal of the Foundation Board of Directors is to fund one or more years of a college education, trade school or vocational education for each student cadet graduate of the Washington Youth Academy who desires assistance. To accomplish this goal we

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have set a target of dedicated scholarship funding at \$40,000 annually. Additional funding to support summer school enrollment to transition student cadets back to their local high school with enough retrieval credits to graduate on time at \$10,000 annually

Recognizing that not every student cadet graduate will pursue a college, trade school or vocational education, our scholarship program also provides job training and job preparatory funding. To accomplish this goal we have set a target of dedicated job training and preparatory funding at \$15,000 annually.

A.K. - Student Cadet and scholarship recipient

"I can't begin to express my gratitude for the privilege to acquiring this scholarship. The Washington Youth Academy Foundation has been so supportive of my continued higher education and easing part of the financial burden has taken a huge weight off my shoulders. No matter what it takes, I will finish school and earn my degree. The residential phase at the academy taught me the self-discipline it takes to deal with anything life can throw my way and allowed me to see that nothing in life is truly unattainable. With this scholarship I could focus on my grades earning the Dean's list this past quarter. Thank you for believing in me."

J.S. - Student Cadet and scholarship recipient

"I would first and foremost like to convey my gratitude and appreciation to the men and women of the board. This represents a major financial alleviation for my mother and I cannot thank the foundation enough for having chosen me. Academic achievement is an important predicate to success in the modern world and I am humbled by the foundation's faith in my abilities to pursue higher education opportunities. I will ensure that the funds will be used towards the continued positive development within all aspects of my life."



About the Washington Youth Academy

Why is the Academy Necessary?

The statistics for our state speak for themselves. Nearly 5% of young men and women drop out of high school each year. That is over 14,000 of our youth who have made the choice to leave high school. The statistics for drop out youth are not promising. They are 72% more likely to be unemployed, earn \$9,000 less per year and are 3.5 times more likely to be imprisoned. We know that 80% of people in prison do not have a high school diploma. Sobering statistics but with your help we can help our students succeed. (Sources: National Education Assn, 2012; Washington OSPI report, 2011-12)



Vision of the Washington Youth Academy

The vision of the Washington Youth Academy is to provide at-risk youth a quality education, positive values, and life and job skills training that will change their lives and give them hope and opportunity for a new future.

About the Program

The Washington Youth Academy (WYA) is a program of the National Guard Youth Challenge Program. Established under authority of both federal and state law, the WYA is a federal and state supported residential and post-residential program for 16-18 year olds who have dropped out of high school or are at risk of dropping out.

The Washington Youth Academy is a highly disciplined training and mentoring program for at-risk youth. The goal of the program is to give youth a chance to become responsible and productive citizens by helping them improve their life skills, education levels, and employment potential.

The program incorporates a highly structured format, with an emphasis on student discipline and personal responsibility to provide a positive, safe, and secure learning environment.

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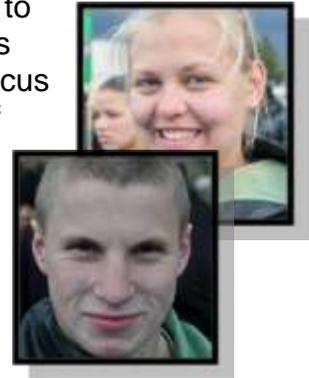
Acclimation Period

The first two weeks of the program is the acclimation period. Candidates are assessed to determine their potential for successfully completing the program. Candidates learn to adjust to the physical, mental, and social discipline of the program.

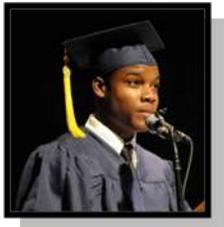
The focus is on leadership, teamwork, code of conduct, and physical fitness training. Candidates who successfully complete the acclimation phase will earn the distinction of becoming a WYA cadet and proceed to the challenge phase, also known as the residential phase.

Residential Phase

The 20 week residential phase provides cadets opportunities to make basic lifestyle changes that are approached through a rigorous program of education, training, and service to community. Cadets focus on eight core components that develop the whole person in terms of mind, body and personal values. Emphasis is on self-discipline, self-esteem, education and development of healthy lifestyles. Cadets are matched with a caring, adult volunteer mentor from their home community who works to support and encourage the youth's development of an action plan. A cadet's action plan outlines their personal education, career, housing, and transportation goals for the next phase of the program.



Post-Residential Phase



After cadets graduate from the residential phase, they return to their communities and most often their local high school to use their Academy earned retrieval credits and graduate with their peers. Academy graduates continue to build upon their relationship with their established mentor who serves as a positive role model for the next twelve months and beyond. Mentors are committed to helping Academy graduates achieve their post-graduation goals.

The motto of the Academy and the student cadets is -

Dream - Believe - Achieve

S.P. - Student Cadet Parent

"I am the parent of a struggling youth. Before the WYA he needed support and guidance from a system that was failing him. In a time when doors were closing, the WYA opened their doors with enthusiasm and said "Welcome." You have given him a life full of hope, support, guidance and strength to believe in himself and the skills to meet his educational goals. Thank you for what you've done for my son and the countless other youth blessed to attend the WYA."

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Fund Raising 2012

This was our third full year of fund raising for the Foundation. The year 2011 achieved modest fund raising from our board members, a contribution from Puget Sound Energy of \$1,500 for Washington Business Week Scholarships plus four \$1,000 scholarships each cycle from TriWest, Microsoft, Wal-Mart and Boeing through the National Guard Youth Foundation. In 2011 we raised additional funds by selling Academy logo items specifically designed for the Foundation at four events (two family day events and two graduations). Our contributions from the Combined Federal Campaign and the State Combined Fund Drive increased 32% and 45% respectively from 2011. The following details outline the primary sources of funding for the Foundation in 2012.

Total funding sources 2012: \$26,710

- Logo sales: \$6,040
- Board member contributions: \$1,540
- Dedicated scholarship contributions (through NG Youth Foundation): \$8,000
- Federal Combined Federal Campaign: \$3,026
- State Combined Fund Drive: \$4,015
- Other funds (individual donations, etc.): \$4,100

Fund Raising Goals 2013-14

For the next two years the Foundation plans to aggressively pursue grants and other funding to support the increasing demand of Academy academic programs, facilities and support to the student cadets and graduates. The Foundation has hired a contract grant writer to assist reaching our fundraising targets. This combined with individual giving, earned income from logo merchandise and special events will ensure we reach our specific fund raising goals:

Total funding goal: \$160,000

- Dedicated post-high school scholarship funding: \$40,000
- Dedicated summer school enrollment funding: \$10,000
- Dedicated job training and preparatory funding: \$15,000
- Academy program support funding: \$20,000

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- Student cadet recognition funding: \$15,000
- Physical fitness equipment funding: \$20,000
- Video development for program and foundation funding: \$30,000
- On-demand program emergency funding: \$10,000

2011-2012 Income and Expense Report

Category Description	2011	2012	Two-Year Total
INCOME			
• Dedicated Scholarship Funds	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$16,000
• Discretionary Funds	\$24,149	\$18,710	\$42,859
TOTAL INCOME	\$32,149	\$26,710	\$58,859
EXPENSES			
• D & O Insurance	\$980	\$1,020	\$2,000
• Business Expense	\$2,445	\$2,394	\$4,839
• Printing Expense	\$369	\$80	\$449
• Logo item inventory	\$5,588	\$6,041	\$11,629
• Scholarship Awards	\$3,500	\$9,420	\$12,920
• Program Support	\$1,500	\$1,374	\$2,874
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$14,382	\$20,329	\$34,711
INCOME LESS EXPENSES BALANCE	\$17,767	\$6,381	\$24,148
• Dedicated Scholarship	\$4,500	(\$1,420)	\$3,080
• Discretionary - Emergency Fund	\$13,267	\$4,961	\$18,228



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In Conclusion

The Board of Directors of the Washington Youth Academy Foundation is proud of our support to the young men and women, from all over the State of Washington, attending the Washington Youth Academy (WYA). These young people came to the WYA defeated, the system seemed to have passed them by, yet they saw the WYA as a chance to better their lives, make their family proud and achieve greatness.

Our goal is to make sure their achievements are supported and recognized as just one step on the road to success by providing education tools, scholarships and job training after they attain their high school diploma.

The Foundation can only be successful with your corporate and personal financial support. Our annual report has outlined our financial goals and the many areas we can help maintain a quality educational program for these outstanding young men and women.

Please find it in your heart to help today.

For more information, please contact us at wyafoundation@live.com or call our Chair or Vice Chair for additional information.

Chair, Mr. Jim Peterson, jpeterso49@aol.com, 360-951-7045

Vice Chair, Mr. Joe Huden, jhuden@whidbey.com, 425-223-2987

J.R. - Student Cadet Graduate

"I decided to attend the WYA because I had nowhere else to turn. I was a high school dropout with no diploma or GED. I could not find a job. The WYA changed my life. After the WYA I received my high school diploma and earned my Certified Nurse's Assistant credentials and am now working as a CNA."

L.V. - Student Cadet Graduate

"The academy taught me to focus and believe in myself. It taught me to reach high above expectations and I could follow my dreams. I am currently a student/athlete at Wenatchee Valley College and am now a pitcher on the WVC baseball team. I plan to finish at WVC and transfer to a 4-year college and continue my baseball career. You got me back on track"

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