



2014

Annual Report

Washington Youth Academy Foundation

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Washington Youth Academy Foundation
2014 Annual Report

Letter of Introduction

April 15, 2015

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 2014 Annual Report.

Established in 2008, our Foundation is dedicated to supporting the Washington Youth Academy, a part of the National Youth Challenge program fostering high school youth between the ages of sixteen and eighteen who have either dropped out of high 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 volunteers 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.

There are few programs that have such success.

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 funding for summer school, 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,

Joe Huden
Chairman

Washington Youth Academy Foundation



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About the Foundation

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation is a Non-Profit 501(c)(3) corporation chartered on May 12, 2008 in the State of Washington, EIN 26-2771686.



2014 Foundation Board of Directors:

Members of the 2014 Board of Directors serve in a volunteer capacity, without compensation.

Mr. Joe Huden, Chair* – President, Huden Consulting

Mr. Gordon Toney, Vice Chair* – Retired Army Brigadier General
Former Director, Washington Youth Academy

Mr. Curt Pintler, Secretary* – Retired Air Force Colonel

Mr. Terry Oxley, Treasurer* – Retired Puget Sound Energy Director

Mr. Jim Peterson, Chair Emeritus* – Retired CEO and CFO

Mr. George Cargill – Operation Homefront, Director of Programs, Region
Northwest

Ms. Rene Savage – Vice President for Technology Solutions,
Stellar Industrial Supply

Ms. Arel Solie – Homeland Security Section Commander,
Washington State Patrol

Ms. Gail Oxley – Retired Counselor, Washington Youth Academy

Mr. Craig Weddle – Retired Air Force Command Chief Master Sergeant and
Parent of an Academy graduate

Ms. Tammy Neese – Finance Manager, Junior Achievement of Washington and
Parent of an Academy graduate

Mr. Steve Bevins – Managing Director, Puget Sound Operations, Barrett
Business Services, Inc.

Mr. Barney Morgan – Vice President, J. P. Morgan Chase

Mr. J. J. Durant – Partner and Co-Founder of Durant & Ziobro, LLC

Mr. Larry Pierce, Ex-Officio – Director, Washington Youth Academy

* Serves as member of the Executive Board

Supporting the Cadets of the Washington Youth Academy

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Foundation Purpose:

Support the student cadets of the Washington Youth Academy.

Foundation Overview:

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation was established to support the students, graduates, staff, and mission of the Washington Youth Academy. Beginning with its first class in January 2009, The Washington Youth Academy became one of the Youth ChalleNGe programs operating throughout the states and Puerto Rico. The Washington State Youth ChalleNGe program is established and operates 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. Over seventy-five cents of every dollar raised goes to direct student and academy program support.

Examples of Foundation funding support include:

- Scholarships for continuing education (including vocational, community college, specialized training)
- Scholarships to attend Washington Business Week sponsored college courses
- Funding for summer school classes
- Job training including specialized clothing and tool requirements
- Academy equipment (such as: physical fitness, computer lab, vocational-technical)
- Special clothing requirements for Academy cadets
- Community project support
- Awards for academic achievement
- Team building events
- Scientific instruments for STEM courses

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

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- Our primary goal is to fund summer school and continuing education scholarships for Academy graduates.
- The demand for summer school enrollment funding is increasing dramatically as student cadets want to return home and 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
- Equipment requirements for academic programs including vocational training, computer hardware and software, and learning tools are awaiting funding
- Each year, 600 students apply for the program but the Academy can only accept 300 student cadets; we hope to support further expansion of the current campus or support establishment of a second program in Central and/or Eastern Washington

M.P. - Student Cadet Program Graduate

"Twenty four weeks ago I was considered an at-risk high school student.

Today, I am a Washington Youth Academy Cadet. We are now leading by example: responsible, respectful, selfless, confident, smart young men and women. Coming to the academy was the ***first step out of our comfort zone and to make a change, not only in our lives but those around us and our***

K.S. - Student Cadet Program Graduate

"Before I got here, I had low self-esteem, and used to deny responsibilities. I was plagued by the people surrounding me, telling me I was no good and amounted to nothing. I was drug induced, intoxicated, and often a thief and a liar. Now, the realization of all I've gained since my stay here is promising. That feeling inside that yearns for a better me. I will strive to keep improving and never settle for less, but to be the best. This is when you take a moment and think about everything you've learned here from your experiences and how it will affect you in the long run. The staff has provided guidance, but the walk is mine. Our minds are capable of many things. ***My new dreams and goals give me something to fight for.***"



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About the Foundation Scholarship Program

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation recognizes the sacrifice and effort each student cadet is making to better his or her life. As a foundation, we are committed to supporting each student cadet as they prepare to pursue their life goals. If a high school dropout student is going to make this extreme transformation, the circumstance demands our very 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 remain in good standing based on the requirements of the Post-Residential Phase, are 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, and other requirements associated with job placement or school applications
 - d. Cost to attend summer school to retrieve mandatory high school credits for graduation

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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 have set a target of dedicated scholarship funding at \$12,500 annually. The summer school scholarship program helping student cadets graduate on time is growing each year. The funding goal to support the summer school program is \$7,500 annually.

Recognizing 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 \$5,000 annually.

Y.A. - Student Cadet and Scholarship Recipient

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the generous scholarship you have awarded me. I appreciate your recognition of my potential. This scholarship allows me to continue my education at Green River Community College pursuing my ultimate goal of a career in medicine. Being unable to pay for school can be stressful, but by having the Washington Youth Academy Foundation support, ***it makes it easier for students like me. Thank you again.***"

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.***"

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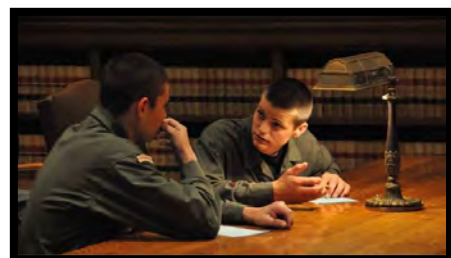
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About the Washington Youth Academy

Why is the Academy Necessary?

In Washington State, 24 percent of high school freshman will not graduate on time or will drop out altogether by the end of high school. The drop-out rate among some ethnic groups is as high as 43 percent. For those who drop out altogether, statistics show they are 72 percent more likely to be unemployed, will earn \$9,000 less per year, and are 3.5 times more likely to be incarcerated. Criminal justice statistics show as many as 80 percent of US prisoners do not have a high school diploma. That is why the Washington Youth Academy—and the support of our foundation—is so important to the at-risk youth of Washington state.

Sources: National Center for Education Statistics, 2014; National Education Assn, 2012; and 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 confidence, 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.

Academy Eight Core Components

- **Academic Excellence**
- **Leadership/Followership**
- **Responsible Citizenship.**
- **Service to Community**
- **Life-Coping Skills.**
- **Physical Fitness.**
- **Health and Hygiene.**

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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.

Acclimation Period (2 Weeks)

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 (20 Weeks)

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 (1 Year)

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

J.O. - Student Cadet Parent

"Thank you WYA. It is obvious to me that my son is in good hands. I'm very grateful my son found the Youth Academy program and this experience is having a huge positive influence on his future. The WYA is an awesome program, administered by very exceptional people, dedicated to helping our kids achieve excellence...Thank you all. **My son believes in himself like never before."**



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Fund Raising 2014

CY 2014 was the sixth full year of fund raising for the WA Youth Academy Foundation. Increased funds were raised from special events, logo-wear sales and United Way, CFC and CFD giving programs. Additionally, in-kind funds were provided by Washington Business Week allowing eleven (11) cadet graduates to earn college credits while learning about business principles and economics. In logo-wear sales were enhanced by selling popular customized Academy logo items at four events (family day events and Academy commencements). Contributions from the Combined Federal Campaign, United Way and the State Combined Fund Drive increased 34 percent from 2013. The following details outline the primary sources of income for the Foundation in 2014.

Total funding sources 2014: \$46,608

- Logo sales and other fund raising: \$16,302
- Board member and other individual contributions: \$4,621
- Dedicated scholarship grants: \$5,000
- Federal Combined Federal Campaign/United Way: \$4,687
- State Combined Fund Drive: \$5,923
- Unrestricted Grants: \$10,075

K.R. - Student Cadet Grand-Parent

"One of the greatest places on earth for young men and women who would like to make changes in their life, this program is for them. They learn and transform from the best staff around. My grandson attended and graduated. I have seen first-hand what wonderful changes he has made from self-esteem, confidence, new skills and a very respectful attitude. ***His school grades are skyrocketing.***"



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Fund Raising Goals 2015-16

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. In 2014 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: \$100,000

- Dedicated post-high school college scholarship funding
Seven \$5,000 scholarships **\$35,000**
- Dedicated high school summer school tuition funding
Twenty-five students funded with average \$500 each **\$12,500**
- Dedicated job training, trade school, or vocational school funding
Fifteen funded programs with average \$1,000 each **\$15,000**
- Washington Business Week scholarship funding
20 students attending business oriented mentoring and team building at \$500 per student **\$10,000**
- Academy program support
Robotics, Library, Kahn Academy, Service to Community, Photography, Physical Fitness, etc **\$15,000**
- Student cadet superior achievement recognition
Field trips, Laptop computer or Tablet **\$5,000**
- On-demand student emergency support funding
Clothing, Travel, Alternate Housing, other Emergency Assistance **\$7,500**

T.N. - Student Cadet Parent

"My son is a good young man who lost his way after middle school and, experienced multiple failures at navigating high school. Last June, at the age of 18, he was facing another year or more of high school to graduate. His spirit, endurance and confidence were broken. His despair overwhelmed every choice he was making and his future was uncertain. Graduation from high school was no longer a possibility from his vantage point. Then a trusted teacher asked him to apply to Washington Youth Academy. I can speak with complete confidence when I tell you this single decision **changed his life forever."**

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2013-2014 Income and Expense Report

Category Description	2013	2014	Two-Year Total
INCOME			
• Dedicated Scholarship Funds	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$13,000
• Fundraising	\$17,630	\$16,302	\$33,932
• Individual Contributions	\$1,569	\$4,621	\$6,190
• Grants (Tulalip Tribal Community Fund, Glaser Foundation, Washington State Guard, Squaxin Island Tribe, Shoalwater Bay Indian Tribe, The SuquamishTribe, Puyallup Tribe of Indians)	\$20,000	\$10,075	\$30,075
• Combined Federal Campaign/State Combined Fund Drive/United Way	\$7,918	\$10,610	\$18,528
TOTAL INCOME	\$55,117	\$46,608	\$101,725
EXPENSES			
• D & O Insurance	\$1,030	\$1,030	\$2,060
• Business Expense	\$4,908	\$2,296	\$7,204
• Contract Services (Development)	\$9,502	\$9,646	\$19,148
• Printing Expense	\$825	\$283	\$1,108
• Logo item inventory	\$5,153	\$6,480	\$11,633
• Scholarship Awards	\$16,752	\$11,650	\$28,402
• Program Support	\$310	\$15,141	\$15,451
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$38,480	\$46,526	\$85,006
INCOME LESS EXPENSES BALANCE	\$16,637	\$82	\$16,719
• Dedicated Scholarship	(\$8,172)	(\$6,650)	(\$14,822)
• Discretionary - Emergency Fund	\$8,465	(\$6,568)	\$1,897

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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). The testimonies in our annual report from student cadets and family members provide a glimpse of the achievements of the young men and women who grabbed a second chance to a better future.

Our Foundation goal is to assure their achievements are supported and recognized as another step on the road to success. The Foundation supports the student cadets by providing educational tools and program support during the program and scholarships and job training after they attain their high school diploma.

The Foundation can only be successful with financial support of those who see the value in helping a high school dropout replace dismay with confidence and hope. 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 contact our Chair or Vice Chair for additional information.

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

Vice Chair, Mr. Gordon Toney, toneygc@comcast.net, 253-848-2288

K.D. - Student Cadet Program Graduate

“For you, it may appear like magic but for us, it was no quick fix. It took hours of direct, concerted, laborious effort to force ourselves out of our shells and into the shoes of mature young adults. We had to be convinced we were capable of being the people we’d always imagined, always dreamed of but never really had the motivation or the guts to try and become. There were times of triumph and celebration and brotherhood the likes of which I may never experience again. We’re now able to do anything we set our minds to. No one goes from zero to hero without mistakes along the way. That’s what helps us grow learning from our mistakes, feeding our roots with lessons and wisdom so that we may grow tall and strong and weather any storm. ***That is what this Academy is all about. About second chances and developing the courage to overcome a thousand obstacles, and to win in spite of a thousand***