



2013

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
2013 Annual Report

Letter of Introduction

February 15, 2014

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 2013 Annual Report.

Established in 2009, our Foundation is 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 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 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 "Joe Huden".

Joe Huden
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 2008 in the State of Washington, EIN 26-2771686.



2013 Foundation Board of Directors:

Members of the 2013 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 - Operation Homefront, Director of Programs, Region Northwest

Mr. Kenyon Luce - Senior Partner, Luce, Kenney and Associates

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

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

Mr. Steve Hyer - Former Executive Director & President of the Foundation for Private Enterprise Education (Washington Business Week)

Mr. Gordon Toney - Retired Army Brigadier General, Former Director, Washington Youth Academy

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

* Serve as members of the Executive Board

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. 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 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
- 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

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- 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 to improve our scholarship marketing capability
- 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)
- A marketing project is awaiting funding to support the academy recruiting and foundation funding enhancement
- There are equipment requirements awaiting funding for several academic and vocational needs of the student cadets (vocational equipment, computers, software, learning tools, etc.)
- 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 families."

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 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. If a high school dropout student is going to make this extreme transformation, the circumstance demands 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 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 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 \$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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About the Washington Youth Academy

Why is the Academy Necessary?

The statistics for our state speak for themselves. Nearly 14 percent of young men and women in grades nine to twelve 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 percent 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 percent 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 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.**
- **Job Skills.**

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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 2013

This was our fifth full year of fund raising for the Foundation. The year 2013 achieved modest fund raising increases from our board members, individual contributions and various fund raising programs. The foundation received a corporate matching scholarship of \$2,500 to Washington Business Week from Puget Sound Energy. The National Guard Youth Challenge Foundation agreed to provide eight \$1,000 dedicated scholarships for post-high school and summer school from Boeing (2), Microsoft (2), TriWest (1), T-Mobile (1), BAE Systems (1) and the National Guard Youth Challenge Foundation (1). In 2013, 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, United Way and the State Combined Fund Drive increased 21 percent from 2012. The following details outline the primary sources of income for the Foundation in 2013.

Total funding sources 2013: \$55,117

- Logo sales and other fund raising: \$12,461
- Board member and other individual contributions: \$1,569
- Dedicated scholarship contributions (through NG Youth Foundation): \$8,000
- Federal Combined Federal Campaign/United Way: \$5,190
- State Combined Fund Drive: \$2,728
- Grants: \$20,000
 - Tulalip Tribal Community Grant: \$10,000
 - Glaser Foundation Grant: \$10,000
- Other funds (individual donations, etc.): \$5,169

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 2014-15

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 2013, 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 scholarship funding: \$25,000
- Dedicated summer school enrollment funding: \$15,000
- Dedicated job training and preparatory funding: \$10,000
- Academy program support funding: \$10,000
- Student cadet recognition funding: \$5,000
- Physical fitness equipment funding: \$10,000
- Marketing campaign for program and foundation funding enhancement: \$15,000
- On-demand program emergency funding: \$10,000

A.P. - Student Cadet Program Graduate

"The academy has helped me in so many ways I don't know where to begin. The academy actually saved my life, if I hadn't attended and made changes I probably wouldn't be here today. Thank you Washington Youth Academy and staff."

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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2012-2013 Income and Expense Report

Category Description	2012	2013	Two-Year Total
INCOME			
• Dedicated Scholarship Funds	\$8,000	\$8,000	\$16,000
• Fundraising	\$9,197	\$17,630	\$26,827
• Individual Contributions	\$2,472	\$1,569	\$4,041
• Grants (Tulalip Tribal Community Grant and Glaser Foundation Grant)	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
• Combined Federal Campaign/State Combined Fund Drive/United Way	\$7,041	\$7,918	\$14,959
TOTAL INCOME	\$26,710	\$55,117	\$81,827
EXPENSES			
• D & O Insurance	\$1,020	\$1,030	\$2,050
• Business Expense	\$2,394	\$4,908	\$7,302
• Contract Services (Development)	\$0	\$9,502	\$9,502
• Printing Expense	\$80	\$825	\$905
• Logo item inventory	\$6,041	\$5,153	\$11,194
• Scholarship Awards	\$9,420	\$16,752	\$26,172
• Program Support	\$1,374	\$310	\$1,684
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$20,329	\$38,480	\$58,809
INCOME LESS EXPENSES BALANCE	\$6,381	\$16,637	\$23,018
• Dedicated Scholarship	(\$1,420)	(\$8,172)	(\$9,592)
• Discretionary - Emergency Fund	\$4,961	\$8,465	\$13,426



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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 defeats.”

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