



2016

Annual Report

Washington Youth Academy Foundation

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Letter of Introduction

November 15, 2017

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 2016 Annual Report.

Our Foundation is dedicated to the student cadets and graduates who changed their lives at the Academy. The Foundation helps them reach their individual potential and goals through individual donors, grants and corporate sponsors. The Academy overview that follows shows the diverse population supported by the Foundation.

The Academy annually conducts two residential classes of students who have either dropped out of high school or are at risk of dropping out and represent 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 keep 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 very few programs serving struggling students 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 after completing the program.

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 collectively make a difference, one young person at a time.

Sincerely,

Joe Huden

Chairman

Washington Youth Academy Foundation

Supporting the Cadets of the Washington Youth Academy

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WASHINGTON YOUTH ACADEMY FOUNDATION

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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation (WYAF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation chartered in the State of Washington in 2008, EIN 26-2771686. Our mission is simple and focused—to support the students, staff, and mission of the Washington Youth Academy. The all-volunteer Board of Directors for the Foundation serve without compensation and represent a diverse cross-section of military, public, and private sector experience united by their desire to make a difference in the lives of Washington's at-risk dropout population. The board volunteered over 2,900 hours at a computed value of over \$86,000 for 2016 (NOTE: the value is computed from the Independent Sector formula for community service in the State of Washington). Our 2016 Board of Directors includes the following distinguished members:

Mr. Greg Allen – retired US Army Colonel and Vice President of Operations for Work of Honor

Mr. Morgan Barney – Vice President, J. P. Morgan Chase and Mentor of an Academy graduate

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

Mr. J. J. Durant – partner and co-founder of Durant & Ziobro, LLC

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

Ms. Elizabeth Milliken – teacher St Edwards Parish and retired US Army Warrant Officer

Ms. Tammy Neese – Financial Manager, Junior Achievement of Washington and parent of an Academy graduate

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Ms. Gail Oxley – retired Counselor,
Washington Youth Academy

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

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

Mr. Curt Pintler, Secretary* – retired US Air
Force Colonel

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

Mr. Gordon Toney, Treasurer* – retired US Army Brigadier General and former
Director, Washington Youth Academy

* Executive Committee member



THE WASHINGTON YOUTH ACADEMY (WYA)

L.P. – WYA Graduate

The academy has helped me in so many ways I don't know where to begin. The academy saved my life. If I never went and changed my life I would not be here today. Thank you Washington Youth Academy!

Legal Authority – the Washington Youth Academy is part of the National Guard Youth ChalleNge program which has 40 programs in 28 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. Federal authority for the Youth ChalleNge program is found in USC Title 32, Chapter 5, Section 509 while state authority for the Washington Youth Academy is found in various sections of RCW 28A and Section

392 of the Washington Administrative Codes.

Mission Statement – the mission of the Washington Youth Academy is to provide a highly disciplined, safe, and professional learning environment that empowers at-risk youth to improve their educational levels and employment potential and become responsible and productive citizens of the State of Washington.

Overview – the WYA provides a highly structured state-run residential and post-residential

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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program for 16 to 18-year-old boys and girls who have dropped out of high school or are at risk of dropping out. The Academy conducts two classes each year (22 weeks long) and draws students from all over the state with King, Pierce, Snohomish, Kitsap, Thurston, and Spokane counties typically having the largest number of students in attendance. Demographically, in 2016 the largest ethnic groups represented in the two classes were Caucasian (35 percent), Hispanic (38 percent), African American (9 percent), Asian/Pacific Islander (6 percent), Native American (4 percent), and multi-ethnic (8 percent). Over 50 percent of the student population is considered low income. The certified teaching staff is provided by Bremerton School District and the curriculum has been reviewed and approved by the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction; students who complete all academic requirements will earn eight high school credits. These eight credits allow Academy graduates to return to their home school to complete their education and earn their diploma.

HOW THE FOUNDATION SUPPORTS THE WYA

Since the Foundation was chartered in 2008 our guiding principle has been to provide multiple forms of financial support to the students while attending the Academy, continuing their education after graduating, or preparing to enter the job market. We also provide support to enhance or expand Academy programs. Examples of available support include:

- Scholarships for continuing education (including college, community college, vocational school, trade school, and/or specialized training)
- Scholarships to attend Washington Business Week courses
- Funding for summer school classes
- Job training (including special clothing requirements)
- Academy program support; i.e. robotics, scientific equipment, physical fitness, computer lab, library, and vocational-technical equipment and supplies
- Special clothing needs
- Service to community project support

K.R. – Grandparent

"One of the greatest places on earth for young men and women that would like to make changes in their life, this program is for them. They learn and transform from the best staff around, I know my grandson is there. I have seen firsthand what wonderful changes he has made, from self-esteem, confidence, new skills, a very respectful attitude to his school grades rocketing up."

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- Team building events; i.e. fun runs, flag ceremonies, and community events

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship support remains the Number One priority of the WYA Foundation. There are three primary areas of focus in our scholarship program—summer school, continuing education, and Washington Business Week.

Summer school scholarships – because the WYA is a credit retrieval program, Academy graduates typically return to their home high school to complete any remaining academic requirements and earn their diploma. Often these graduates must take one or two summer school courses to complete specific diploma requirements and our Foundation provides valuable financial aid to students in need. In 2016 the WYAF awarded \$1,500 in summer school scholarships to six WYA graduates.



Continuing education scholarships – during 2016 the Foundation awarded a total of \$3,600 in continuing education scholarships to four Academy graduates. These four graduates, in pursuing their individual goals, will be attending Renton Technical College, Seattle Art Institute, and Everett Community College. It is important to note that the Foundation's commitment to help these young men and women may continue for up to five years.

Y.A. – WYA Graduate 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."

Washington Business Week – for several years the WYA Foundation has partnered with Washington Business Week to provide a special learning opportunity for Academy graduates. In 2016 we awarded a total of \$6,250 in WBW scholarships—\$250 scholarships to twenty-five graduates. These scholarships enable students to spend seven days on the campus of Seattle

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University, Pacific Lutheran University, Gonzaga University, or Central Washington University and earn two college credits while taking survey classes in business, manufacturing, healthcare, energy, or agriculture.

K.C.. – WYA Graduate and Scholarship Recipient

"I am honored to receive this scholarship. Thank you for believing in me and investing in my future."

In 2016 the WYA Foundation's scholarship support totaled over \$11,000. While we're happy to provide that support, it represents a fraction of the total need and our pursuit of additional funding is on-going.

DIRECT PROGRAM SUPPORT

It is important to note that Foundation support for the Washington Youth Academy is not limited to scholarships. Starting with the first class in January 2009 we recognized there would be both recurring and "one time" needs that the Foundation could support—beyond the authority or availability of federal or state appropriated funds—that would be a significant contribution to the program collectively and sometimes individually. In 2016 this support totaled \$10,673.

Director Discretionary Fund – every year the Foundation provides the WYA Director with up to \$1500 in discretionary funds (\$750 per class) to support those requirements that are in the best interests of the program but not authorized from federal or state appropriated funds. In 2016 the Director spent a total of \$730 on purchases including trophies, plaques, and framed certificates to recognize outstanding students, a special Dinner with the Director to honor academic leaders in each class, purchasing refreshments and meals for visiting dignitaries, purchasing clothing items for needy students, and other miscellaneous purchases in support of the Academy and the students.

Equipment and supplies purchased – the Foundation purchased 50 CERT packs (Community Emergency Response Training) at a cost of \$2,486.



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Cell phone support – the Foundation negotiated a contract with Sprint to provide 30 cell phones so students can call home during authorized free time each Sunday afternoon. Before the cell phone program was introduced, 150 students had to share three landline telephones. These calls are critical in maintaining student morale and parental support and the program has been a huge success. In 2016 the Foundation paid \$6,957 in reduced usage fees and state/federal taxes.



Direct student support – a student attending the Academy was hospitalized with a MRSA infection and the Foundation provided \$500 in gift cards to help his family who had traveled from eastern Washington to be with him.

SERVICE TO COMMUNITY



Students attending the Washington Youth Academy complete over 40 hours of service to the community. To support this program the Foundation purchased tools, clothing, and supplies with ongoing financial support. Organizations that benefited from the Service to Community program included:

- East Bremerton Rotary Club – Illahee Forest Preserve Bremerton, WA
- Faith Fellowship Church – Silverdale, WA
- Habitat for Humanity – Port Orchard, WA
- West Sound Wildlife Refuge – Bainbridge Island, WA
- Boy scouts of America – Camp Parsons Brinnon, WA
- Bremerton Parks and Recreation (Lions Park, Kiwanis Park, Pendergast Park, 911 Memorial, Forest Ridge Park) Bremerton, WA
- Crista Camp – Miracle Ranch Port Orchard, WA and Island Lake Poulsbo, WA
- North Mason Kiwanis Club – Belfair, WA
- Department of Veterans Affairs – Retsil VA Home Port Orchard, WA
- Bremerton School District – West Hills STEM Academy and Armin Jahr Elementary, Summer institute at Bremerton High School
- Georgia's House Shelter – Bremerton, WA
- Washington State Science and Engineer Foundation – Bremerton, WA
- Kitsap County Parks and Recreation – Kitsap County Fairgrounds, Village greens Golf Course, Kola Kola Park, Horse Shoe Lake, South Kitsap Regional Park
- Kitsap Conservation District - Duwe'iq Constructed Wetlands Silverdale, WA

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- Kitsap County Veterans Alliance – Safety Stand down Sheridan Park Community Center Bremerton, WA
- South Kitsap Rotary Club – South Kitsap Back to school event support Port Orchard, WA
- Shepherds and the Angels Foundation – Pancake Breakfast Silverdale, WA
- Bremerton Chamber of Commerce – Armed Forces Day Parade and Armed Forces Day Golf Tournament
- Central Kitsap Fire & Rescue – Kids Day event support at Kitsap County Fairgrounds Bremerton, WA
- YMCA – Camp Seymour Gig Harbor, WA
- Seeds of Grace – Organic Garden Build Bremerton, WA
- 4US Foundation – Event Support at Camp Steilacoom Lakewood, WA
- Pierce Conservation District – Tree Planting at Camp Murray Tacoma, WA
- Imagine me Foundation – Celebration of Life Ceremony Event Support at Hotel Murano Tacoma, WA
- Mountaineering Foundation - Rhododendron Preserve Sea beck, WA



The hours donated totaled 15,888 with a computed dollar value of \$477,275 to the receiving organizations. (NOTE: the value is computed from the Independent Sector formula for community service in the State of Washington)

M.C. – Guidance Counselor

“Excellent program with world class Cadre and Staff! Proven and time-tested methods for bringing about self-discipline, self-determination, and self-direction for youth missing those essential elements to personal success. Not every child is 'at-risk' in the sense of having personal behavior issues - but each child is at risk of not graduating from high school. The staff and leadership instill life-altering perspective. And nearly 100% leave the academy wishing they didn't have to. As tough as those first weeks are, it quickly becomes HOME, and believe it or not, your son or daughter will say they miss it once they graduate!!”

FUND RAISING

The WYA Foundation Board of Directors, with the help of an active WYA Booster Club (numbering over 2,000 members), conducts several fund-raising activities throughout the year. Fund raising activities include annual personal donations by Board members, applying for charitable foundation grants, marketing Academy logo-wear apparel, participating in the Federal (CFC) and state Combined Fund Drive (CFD) charity campaigns, and soliciting individual and corporate donations from Academy supporters. During 2016 these fund-raising activities earned a total of \$73,301:

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- Board member donations - \$2,300
- Charitable foundation grants - \$5,000
- Logo-wear sales - \$37,713 (net)
- CFC and CFD - \$4,665
- Individual donations - \$23,623

J.W. – Parent

"The rating for this program and the amazing staff is far beyond 5 stars!! What this program has done for our daughter is nothing short of a miracle and truly saved her life. I wish it was mandatory for ALL teenagers to go through this type of program. The Cadre and teachers truly care for our children as if they were their own child, there is no safer place for them to be. Thank you just doesn't seem like enough WYA. God bless every one of you!!"

UNFUNDED REQUIREMENTS

The Academy has been remarkably successful since the first class started in January 2009. The Foundation has been able to support the program and program graduates donating over \$500,000 since 2009. The Academy has a long list of unfunded requirements from a new Eastern Washington campus to transportation and technical support. The Foundation can only support these unfunded requirements with corporate and grant support. The giving catalog with specific details can be found on our website at www.wyafoundation.org/donate and click on Giving Catalog.



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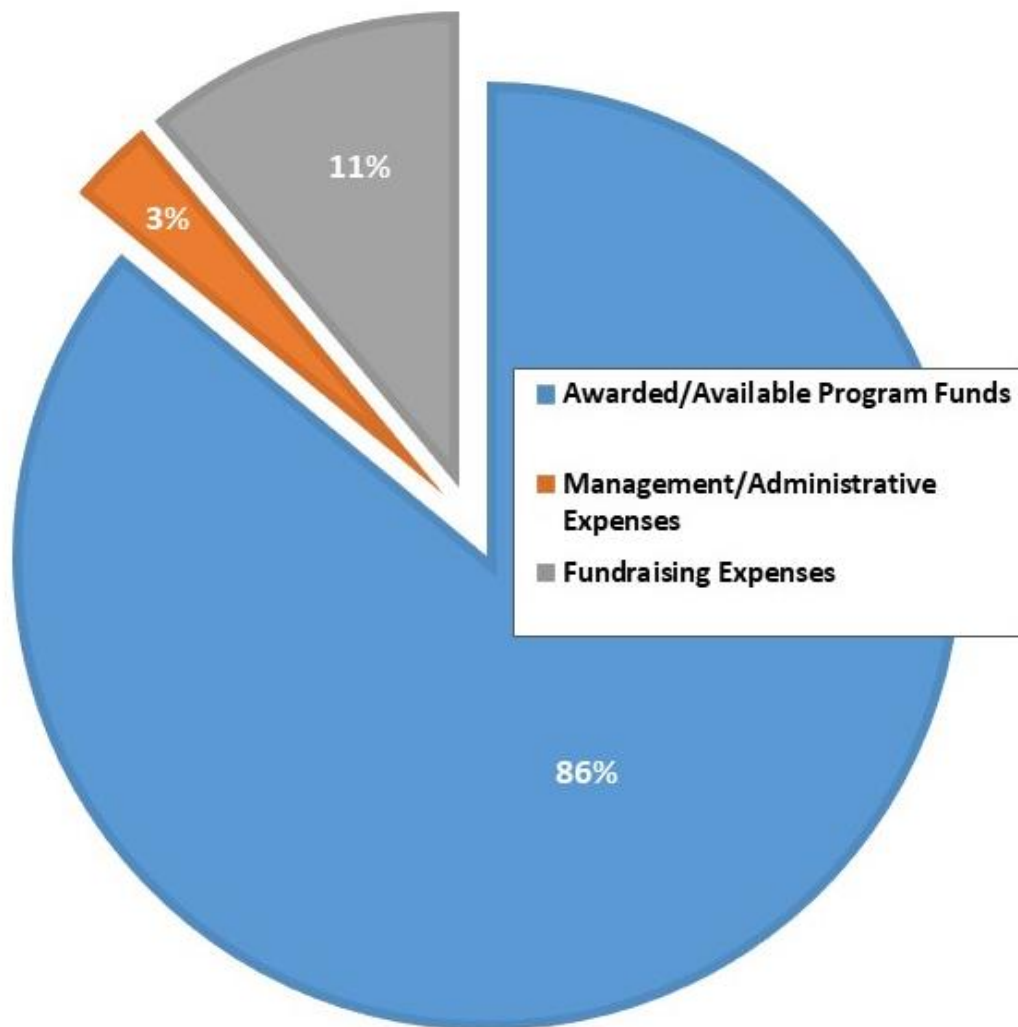
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FOUNDATION FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Washington Youth Academy Foundation IRS 990 can be found on our website at www.wyafoundation.org/reports.

The Foundation is proud to be responsible stewards of the donations we receive; other than insurance, independent audit fees, and fundraising expenses 100 percent of our funding goes to cadet and program support. The following chart provides you a view of our financial stewardship.

2016 WASHINGTON YOUTH ACADEMY FOUNDATION FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY



BUSINESS HOURS: The Chairman of the Washington Youth Academy Foundation is Mr. Joe Huden; Joe can be reached at the Foundation number (425) 223-2987 or home

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number (360) 331-4945, e-mail jhuden@whidbey.com. The Foundation e-mail address is chair@wyafoundation.org and the Foundation website is www.wyafoundation.org.

In Conclusion

The Board of Directors of the Washington Youth Academy Foundation is proud of our support to the young men and women 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 ensure 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 earn their high school diploma.

The Foundation can only be successful with the 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 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. You can donate on-line at www.wyafoundation.org/donate.

For more information, please contact us at chair@wyafoundation.org or contact our Chair or Vice Chair for additional information.

Chair, Mr. Joe Huden, jhuden@whidbey.com or chair@wyafoundation.org

Vice Chair, Ms. Arel Solie, olymom@comcast.net

K.K. – WYA Graduate

"Words can't explain how much the Washington youth academy means to me. I went in not knowing what was going to happen. But believe me it changed my life FOREVER! My outlook on life changed in the right direction the very first hour I was an official cadet. Straight from the get go! The staff their genuinely care for you otherwise they wouldn't be there. They can choose to do other things, but they don't. They'd rather mold the generations to come into strong young adults. That's exactly what happened to me and other past cadets I know. If you know anyone that needs a push in the right direction this is the place for them. Truly a life changing experience to say the least."

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