

ORANGE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION YOUTH COUNCIL

The Orange County Community Foundation Youth Council was formed in 2002 with the vision of developing philanthropy and commitment to the community among Orange County youth. The Youth Council consists of students grades eight through twelve representing the three Orange County School districts as well as several community leaders and a staff coordinator serve as adult mentors. The OCCFYC has surpassed expectations of its original vision, becoming active philanthropists making a difference and educating the community. Along the way, the Youth Council has realized its collective potential and continues to strive toward greater achievements.

One of the main goals of these young philanthropists is to improve the quality of life for citizens in Orange County. Members will convene at monthly meetings that include discussion about leadership, grants, public relations, philanthropic projects, endowment building and community projects. One of the most successful community projects has been the “Youth as Philanthropists” educational series. This series helps to teach philanthropy to fourth grade students, and allows them to realize the long-term effects of helping others in their community.

Along with public programs, Youth Council members are committed to increasing the endowment of their own fund to provide grants to their community. The members participate in various fundraisers throughout the year that help to further develop their endowment and philanthropic awareness. During the annual grant cycle, YC members will review requests for grants and vote on the local causes most in need of their aid.