

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – YPLC

The mission of Licking County Foundation is to improve the quality of life for all citizens of Licking County.

What is the YPLC?

The Youth Philanthropy Licking County (YPLC) is a youth-led initiative of the Licking County Foundation created for people **ages 15–35** who want to get involved, make a difference, and better understand how philanthropy works. It's all about giving young people hands-on opportunities to support causes they care about and have a real impact on their community.

What is philanthropy?

At the Licking County Foundation, philanthropy is defined through the “**5 Ts**”, simple ways anyone can make a difference:

Time: Volunteering and showing up to support your community.

Talent: Using your skills, strengths, or unique abilities to help others.

Treasure: Giving financially to support organizations doing important work.

Ties: Connecting people and building relationships that can open doors and create impact.

Trust: Building confidence in the work being done—supporting organizations and partners so they can continue making a meaningful difference.

Together, these five elements show that philanthropy isn't just about money - it's about how we all contribute in different ways to strengthen our community.

What does YPLC do?

YPLC meets 4–6 times a year, giving members a chance to connect, learn, and take action together. As part of the experience, members help make real grant decisions; supporting local nonprofits, schools, and government organizations that are doing important work in Licking County.

In addition to grantmaking, YPLC celebrates young leaders through the annual **Licking County Changemaker Award**, recognizing someone ages 15–35 who has made a meaningful impact on the quality of life in our community. The group also leads and organizes **Global Youth Service Day**, a countywide day of service focused on raising awareness and supporting the people, neighborhoods, and causes that make Licking County strong.

What is the time commitment?

The time commitment is what you make it. There are many opportunities to be involved in the community. All YPLC members are required to participate in meetings, 4–6 times a year, with each meeting lasting about two and a half hours. In addition, we kick off the year with a full-day training in the summer, but don't worry, lunch is provided!

How does YPLC make grants to the community?

YPLC uses a trust-based approach to philanthropy, which means members build real relationships with the organizations they support. Each year, the group chooses a focus area and then does the research to identify local nonprofits, schools, and agencies that are making a difference in that space.

From there, members connect directly with these organizations, learning more about their work and impact in Licking County. After gathering insights, the group comes together to decide which organization to partner with for the year. That partnership goes beyond funding, YPLC members stay involved by checking in, volunteering, and supporting the organization's mission to strengthen our community.

What is the Licking County Changemakers Award?

The YPLC celebrates young people who are making a real difference in Licking County—whether through service, kindness, or compassion. Each year, one person is honored with an award in their name, along with a \$1,000 gift to a local nonprofit organization of their choice.

To be eligible, applicants must be 15–35 years old and live, work, or go to school in Licking County. Applications open each fall, so keep an eye out if you want to be recognized for the positive impact you're making in our community!

What is Global Youth Service Day?

The YPLC hosts Global Youth Service Day every April to promote community service and engage young people in volunteerism and community engagement. Check back in February for information and registration materials.

How do I get involved?

It's simple. Complete the [application](#) and share a bit about yourself, including why you're interested in being part of YPLC. Applications are open from **April 1 through May 12**.

For more information, email bobby@thelcfoundation.org.