



Community Giving
FOUNDATION™
Youth In Philanthropy

Vocabulary Guide – Use this page as a quick reference while working on your projects, applications, and grant decisions.

Philanthropy: Giving time, talent, or money to help improve a community.

In Youth in Philanthropy, *you* are philanthropists because you decide how funds are used to help others.

Community Need: A problem or challenge that affects people in a community.

Examples: lack of safe places to play, food insecurity, mental health support, or access to education.

Needs Assessment: A process used to identify/understand the needs in a community.

This can include surveys, interviews, observations, and research.

Needs Assessment Data: The information collected during a needs assessment.

This might include statistics, quotes, survey results, or trends that help explain *why* a need exists.

Access: The ability for people to use or reach services or resources they need.

A service may exist, but not everyone has *access* to it because of cost, location, transportation, language, time, or awareness.

Nonprofit: An organization created to help people or causes, not to make a profit.

Dollars earned are reinvested back into the mission, not paid to owners.

Donor: A person or organization that gives money to support a cause or program.

Donors trust Youth in Philanthropy students to make thoughtful funding decisions.

Fund: A pool of money set aside for a specific purpose.

Youth in Philanthropy *funds* are used to support nonprofits serving youth and the community.

Grant: Money given to a nonprofit to support a specific project or program.

Grants do not have to be paid back.

Grant Application: A written request asking for funding.

Nonprofits explain who they serve, what they plan to do, and how the money will be used.

Grant Review: The process of reading, scoring, and discussing grant applications.

Students compare applications to community needs and funding goals to make decisions on where funding will go.