



# Teen Leadership

South Wood County Teen Leadership is a hands-on program for high school sophomores who have the potential to become involved in their school and community – it's a program for new leaders, not those already serving in leadership positions. Since 2006, over 200 students from five local high schools have graduated from Teen Leadership.

Participation includes curriculum, meeting a community leader, grantmaking, and a community project. ►



*“There are many different types of leaders and everyone can be one.”*

## How does Teen Leadership work?

Meeting once a month, August through May, participants . . .

- Learn about adaptive leadership through Sean Covey’s book, 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens
- Have fun and expand their world by building relationships with peers from five local school districts
- Experience the importance of teamwork and collaboration, and gain confidence in organizing others to reach a common goal
- Learn and use adaptive skills (communication, leadership, conflict management, decision making and time management)
- Select, plan and complete a community service project
- Review applications and award a \$2,000 grant to one local nonprofit that is addressing teen issues
- Discover ways to identify and use community resources toward positive change
- Meet a community leader to learn about leadership in action
- Learn about civic engagement and philanthropy
- Develop a better understanding of the south Wood County area and the role that teens can play

## Schedule

### Aug – Orientation

Introduction to Teen Leadership; interactive sessions, meet community leaders, community project, grantmaking

### Sep – Opening Retreat

Operation Teamwork; team building, values, goals, self-awareness

### Oct – Local History

History & Entrepreneurism; experience the south Wood County area’s historical assets

### Nov – Community Stewardship

Lending a Hand; select a community project

### Dec – Leadership I

Community Leadership in Action; lunch with community leaders

### Jan – Leadership II

Exploring Community Philanthropy; Teen Leaders award a local grant

### Feb – Judicial Systems

Law & Order; lunch with Wood County Judges

### Mar – Education, Diversity & Conflict

Embracing our Differences; experience University of Wisconsin Stevens Point

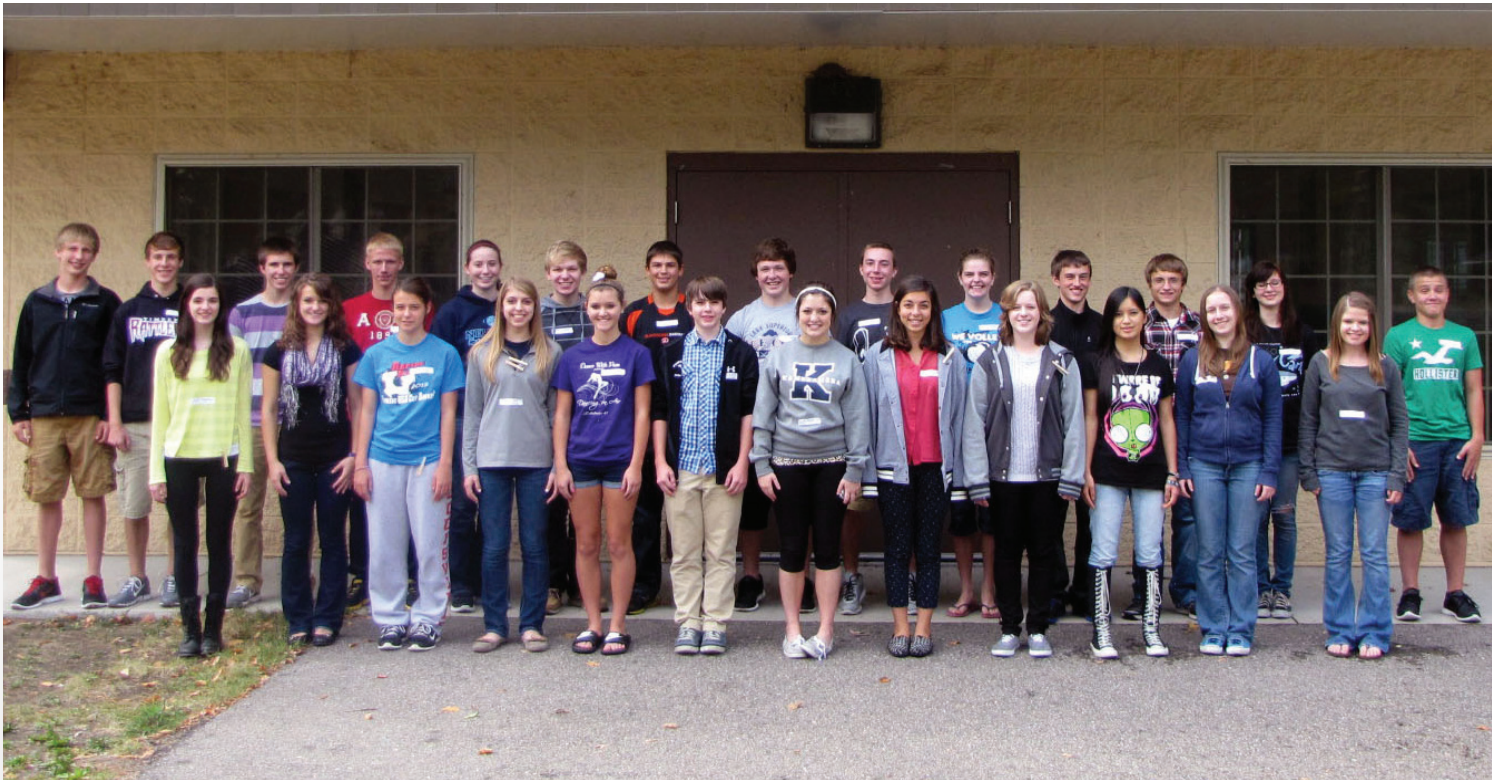
### Apr – Community Project

Contributing Locally; complete your community project

### May – Graduation

Recognition Event; celebrate with friends, family, community members





*“Being a good leader is guiding others to find their voice so they can make a difference in the world. Also, to set a positive example and be a role model.”*

## How do I apply?

Students may apply in the spring of their freshman year for participation during their sophomore year. Application forms are at all high schools in Nekoosa, Pittsville, Port Edwards and Wisconsin Rapids. Complete the form which includes consent signatures of a parent/guardian and the school principal, and provide one letter of recommendation. Mail to Incourage Community Foundation.

The Teen Leadership Advisory Committee selects participants from all schools in the south Wood County area, representing public, private and home schools, diverse backgrounds and various decision-making styles and perspectives. Once selected, a \$50 participant fee is payable at Orientation in August; scholarships may be available for applicants seeking financial assistance for the fee.

## Advisory Committee

Guadalupe Ancel, *Community Representative*

Kurt Heuer, *Wisconsin Rapids Police Department*

Mike Kumm, *Nekoosa Public Schools*

Sienna Pruess, *Student Representative*

Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, *Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools*

Dawn Vruwink, *Incourage Community Foundation*

Zach Vruwink, *City of Wisconsin Rapids*

Jeff Whitrock, *Pioneer Bank*

Sue Zirnhelt, *Lincoln High School Volunteer Center*

## Contact

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Guided by values of equity,  
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Incourage champions  
leadership, community  
resilience and local investing.

## Thank you to last year's sponsors for supporting 2013-14 South Wood County Teen Leadership

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Rapids Ford Lincoln Mercury  
Renaissance Learning  
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Walker Cranberry Company  
Wood County Courthouse  
Wood County Criminal Justice Taskforce  
YMCA Camp Alexander

**incourage**  
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