

## Grant Application Preview – Youth Philanthropy

Thank you for visiting our preview page.  
We think you'll be glad you did!

This page is designed to help you organize the thoughts and information you'll need for our online application. Here you'll find all the questions for your proposal along with helpful hints in purple.

The best course of action is to fill out this preview, make edits, and then copy and paste your responses into our online youth philanthropy application; or print out this preview and use it as a guide as you enter your responses directly into our online application.

**Please do not send THIS document to us.**

Please note: Unless stated otherwise, text fields in our application are limited to concise, 100-word answers. If more information is needed to consider your proposal, our program officer will request it during the review process.

For nearly 25 years, we've made grants to support community leaders as they help young people bring about change in their communities. We call this area of support youth philanthropy, and we think the teen years are the perfect time to offer these experiences.

Why is philanthropy so right for teens? Our youth development research tells us that teens:

- Are less interested in formal learning.
- Become interested in society and their role in it.
- Are capable of advanced reasoning and logical thought processes.
- Begin to carefully think through issues of social justice.
- Start to ponder their purpose in life.
- Need support and understanding from caring adults as they discover their place in society.
- Need positive adult role models.
- Need opportunities for meaningful participation at home, school, and within the community.

Our vision is that even more young people will have the opportunity to test their philanthropic ideas. We welcome communities, schools, and youth-serving organizations within our grantmaking areas to apply for support to increase the number of young people who experience the contagious feeling of doing good to help others.

### **Tab: Start**

Youth philanthropy is often a program orchestrated by volunteers who partner with a supporting organization to provide moral, ethical and legal oversight for the actions and recommendations made by the fund's advisors (young people).

**Your organization:** In order to consider your request, we need basic information about the organization that will hold your funds and provide oversight. You will want to have a conversation with the organization's leader so there is an understanding that you are making a request and so the leader knows the details of your request.

**Tax ID (Employer Identification Number, or EIN).** Example: 35-XXXXXXX

**The organization's basic information:** Name, address, phone number, and website.

**Year the organization was founded:** What year was your supporting organization founded?

**Annual operating budget:** What is the annual operating budget for your supporting organization?

**Organization's leader:** Full name and title of your supporting organization's leader. Example: John E. Smith, executive director, president, CEO, or superintendent.

**Your proposal contact:** The person who is responsible for this proposal. A Dekko Foundation program officer may contact this person to ask questions or set up a visit to learn more about your proposal.

**Your proposal contact's Information:** Title, phone number, email address.

**Has your contact communicated with your fiscal sponsor?** This is a simple yes or no. We have found that the most effective youth philanthropy efforts communicate openly and often with their supporting organization.

**Who's your adult sponsor(s)?** List the name of the person, or people, who will serve as philanthropic mentor(s) to your group.

### **Tab: Explain**

**Questions about your philanthropic youth group:**

- 1. What are your group's name, mission, and interests?** Your group's name, mission statement, and any special interest you collectively intend to address.
- 2. What is the makeup of your group?** Include the schools, clubs, or organizations that your members represent, the age of your members, any interesting facts about the group's demographic. You can upload a member list as an attachment.
- 3. What types of things does your group do well? How do you know?** This is a chance to brag a little! Do you pay extra attention to teambuilding to create a cohesive group? Do you have special youth/adult partnerships? Do you have a unique way to assess community needs? Maybe you want to tell us about an ongoing event you sponsor.

**Questions about the scope of your work for this proposal:**

**Title:** What should we call your work? A short project title; please use four words or fewer.

**Start date:** When will you start your work? Note: Please anticipate at least 45 days from the time you send your proposal until the time that we will have an answer for you about funding.

**End date:** When will your work be completed?

**Total budget:** What will it cost you to do your work?

**Requested amount:** What dollar amount are you requesting from the Dekko Foundation?

**Other sources of revenue:** Will you have other sources of revenue from an endowment, other contributors, fundraisers, in-kind donations?

**Budget breakdown:** How do you plan to allocate the funds? Categories may include administration/operating (funds that support your work such as stationary, stamps, post office box fee), grantmaking, teambuilding. Note: The total of your line items should add up to your total project cost. You can upload a budget spreadsheet as an attachment.

### Tab: Impact

From research and experience, we've come to understand that philanthropy is a learned activity. We believe children and young people learn to show a love of mankind and make their communities better places as they model the actions of caring adults. We also believe the best way for young people to learn philanthropy is by practicing it!

The investment we make in youth philanthropy initiatives is threefold:

1. We are interested in the positive change that young people can make in their community.
2. We think that democracy, capitalism, and philanthropy are vital to our country's existence.
3. We believe that most people are not born knowing about philanthropy. Schools often teach government and an economy based on the idea of a free market, but who supports young people as they build philanthropic skills, knowledge, and character? We've learned over time that young people benefit from having philanthropic mentors. A philanthropic mentor is someone who models and exposes young people to the idea of sharing their time, talent, and treasure. For more insights on the characteristics of a philanthropic mentor, visit <http://www.dekkofoundation.org/youthphilanthropy/> and click on the brochure icon.

### Questions about your proposed work:

4. **What problem has your group identified?** Tell us about the direction that your group's needs assessment has pointed you toward. Problems could include a community's unhealthy habits, lack of respect, homelessness, young people having nothing to do in a community. We understand that not all of your resources will go toward just one thing/area, but we're interested in what your group's focus is for your work.
5. **What change (specific improvement) do you want to achieve while sharing your group's time, talent, and treasure in your community?** When you consider the problem that your group wants to address, how much can you change it? Please be realistic with your change as it applies to your timeline; Rome wasn't built in a day! Consider what impact your group will have on your community. The more measurable you can make the change, the better. Visit <http://www.dekkofoundation.org/tips-from-our-program-officers/> and click on the "What will be different if a grant is made?" video for more information.
6. **What activities will the members of your philanthropic youth group be engaged in as a result of the proposed work?** What will your group do to address this problem? You may even want to attach a calendar of your events including grantmaking cycles (when applicable), events, presentations.

7. **What will you measure?** What will you report back to show your group accomplished the change you intended?
  
8. **What philanthropic skills, knowledge, and character will your group's members gain during your work?** Experience tells us that young people involved in philanthropy gain leadership, public speaking, problem-solving, and decision-making skills along with nonprofit awareness, fiscal responsibility, trust, integrity, and more. It seems that thinking about these qualities early helps you be more intentional about making them happen throughout your work. Incorporating skills, knowledge, and character in your work will cause members to have experiences that make them express “...*youth philanthropy was a turning point in my personal journey.*” That’s what we’re looking for! Visit [\(web address for Golden\)](#) for youth development ideas.
  
9. **What else do you want the Dekko Foundation staff and board to know about the work you have ahead of you?** This is your opportunity to share anything that we didn’t ask you about earlier!

**Thank you!**