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Rose Youth Foundation

JEWISH YOUTH MAKING A DIFFERENCE

2005-2006 Application

A grantmaking initiative of



ROSE
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
600 South Cherry Street, Suite 1200
Denver, Colorado 80246-1712

Address Service Requested

What if someone gave you \$50,000 and said, "Take this money and use it to make our Jewish community a better place." What would you do? You could be one of a group of Jewish teens answering this question.

Rose Community Foundation is looking for a diverse group of Jewish youth, grades 8 through 12, who want to make a real difference in the Denver metro Jewish community by learning about philanthropy and becoming grantmakers. We are looking for teens from Golden to Aurora to Arvada—anywhere in the metro area. We are looking for a diverse group of Jewish teens who are not involved at all Jewishly, and those who are; those who are honor students and those who are not; those who are involved in community service and those who are not; we are looking for *yeshiva bochurim*, athletes, computer geeks and skateboard freaks. In other words, the only requirement is that you be Jewish and want to make a difference.

In May 2005, Rose Youth Foundation completed its fourth year. Twenty-three Jewish teens from 16 area schools worked together to identify needs within the Jewish community. After much deliberation, last year's group decided to fund fostering inclusion and acceptance of diversity in the Jewish community; creating Jewish community connections for young Jewish adults 18 to 30; and providing basic safety net services to families with children under 18. They made grants to nine organizations totaling \$50,000. (Visit rcfdenver.org/RYP for more information).

Rose Youth Foundation is a youth-driven program. Adult mentors act only as facilitators. Each year, Rose Youth Foundation members decide on which area of need within the community to focus. Rose Youth Foundation members decide on the organizations to grant money to and how much to give. Rose Youth Foundation members even decide on the best way to make decisions.

Being able to combine a Judaic worldview in thought with principals of philanthropy in action has been invaluable to me.

Danny Townsend, Cherry Creek High School

It's so hard to find something you love to do and never feel like you need a break from it. I found that in Rose.

Sophie Wolman, Kent Denver School

One of the most valuable aspects has been the ability to really make a difference in the lives of people right here where I live.

Sammy Forshner, Rocky Mountain Hebrew Academy

I don't often get a chance to meet with such a diverse group of kids who are all Jewish.

Sam Levy, Cherry Creek High School

— Rose Youth Foundation Members

What's the Commitment?

You must commit to two Sunday afternoons per month from November 2005 through April 2006, a mandatory five-hour retreat on a Sunday in November from 1 to 6 pm and one to two additional weekdays for site visits (scheduled after school or during spring break) and occasional phone calls and research outside of regular meetings. Rose Youth Foundation meetings are held at Rose Community Foundation, generally from 5 to 7 pm.

Why Should I Get Involved?

With commitment comes reward. Here are some of the things members can look forward to learning and doing:

- Be a part of a youth-run community service activity.
- Make a difference in your community.
- Make friends with Jewish teens you might never meet otherwise.
- Explore Jewish values.
- Develop leadership and collaboration skills.
- Work with community leaders to show that youth are a community resource.
- Learn about philanthropy and foundations:
 - Investigate the issues and needs within the Jewish community.
 - Review grant proposals and visit organizations that apply for grants.
 - Decide on which organizations and programs will get grants and how much.

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How Do I Apply?

Applications must be received by Tuesday, October 11, 2005. There is space available for 15 new members.

By Mail: Send completed application form to
Rose Youth Foundation
c/o Rose Community Foundation
600 South Cherry Street, Suite 1200
Denver, Colorado 80246-1712

Electronically: Go to the Rose Youth Foundation page at rcfdenver.org/RYPF, fill out the application and submit it online.

By Fax: Fax to 303.398.7430, Attention: Jaci Arkin. Put your name on all faxed sheets. Applicants will be notified in late October.

Application *(Please Print)*

Name _____

Parent/Guardian name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

Cell Phone _____

Email _____

School _____ Grade _____

Date of Birth _____ Male Female

To answer the following three questions, attach a separate piece of paper. Please answer the three questions on no more than one page.

- 1) Why do you want to participate in Rose Youth Foundation? What part of the program is most appealing to you?
- 2) Describe your strengths and weaknesses working in groups.
- 3) Tell us what you have to offer to a very diverse group of Jewish teens.

List all extracurricular activities, leadership roles or jobs that you are or will be involved in this school year:

Check all that apply:

Do you consider yourself Jewish?

Yes No Other (describe) _____

If yes, which applies:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Secular – just Jewish,
not religious | <input type="checkbox"/> Orthodox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reform | <input type="checkbox"/> Modern Orthodox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reconstructionist | <input type="checkbox"/> Traditional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal | <input type="checkbox"/> Conservative |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> No Denomination |

Check all that apply:

Not currently involved in Jewish community.

My family is affiliated with _____
congregation or synagogue and/or other
Jewish organizations. List here: _____

I currently or formerly belonged to a Jewish youth group(s). List group(s):

Did you/do you hold an office and if so what?

List all activities and educational experiences you do now that you consider to be Jewish:

Not currently involved in Jewish activities or education.

How did you hear about Rose Youth Foundation?

Have you been a member of Rose Youth Foundation before?

Yes No

Have you applied to Rose Youth Foundation before?

Yes No

For more information contact Jaci Arkin at 303.398.7445 (jarkin@rcfdenver.org), or on the Web at rcfdenver.org/RYPF. Rose Youth Foundation adult mentors are Lisa Farber Miller, Senior Program Officer; Scott Esserman, teacher at Cherry Creek High School; and Jaci Arkin, Youth Coordinator.

Rose Community Foundation makes grants to organizations that help improve the quality of life of the Greater Denver community. Grants are made in five areas: Aging, Child and Family Development, Education, Health and Jewish Life. Rose Community Foundation's Jewish Life program area is focused on the future—on building a strong and dynamic Jewish community where every Jewish person can take part and contribute.