A Proven Program for Ninth Grade Students and Adult Mentors

The KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership Academy helps young people develop the skills and capacity to serve their communities now and in the future. Together, youth members and volunteer adult mentors engage in a series of interactive workshops that build relationships and sharpen their leadership, communication, and team-building abilities.

The nine-month program year concludes with planning and implementing a community service project, which empowers the young people to put into practice their knowledge and skills, promotes the power of youth-adult partnerships, and helps community members see youth as resources and leaders.

Since 1998, more than 1,260 young people and 380 adult mentors have participated in KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership Academies offered in the communities of Hibbing-Chisholm; International Falls; Cloquet-Fond du Lac; the Quad Cities of Virginia, Mountain Iron, Eveleth, and Gilbert; Duluth; and Superior.

In its most recent format, the Youth Leadership Academy has joined ninth graders from the Twin Ports of Duluth, MN, and Superior, WI, honing the students’ leadership skills while also increasing understanding and cooperation between the two communities.

Mentors and Donors Play Vital Roles

We gratefully acknowledge the businesses, service organizations, and individuals who support the Youth Leadership Academy. Their generosity enables this nine-month long program, which costs $1,600 per student per year, to be provided at no charge to the participants or their families.

If you may be interested in supporting the KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership Academy, either as a mentor or as a funding partner, please contact the Northland Foundation.

We would love to speak with you about the opportunities available to help young people achieve their potential.