



## Saint Ann's Saturday Service: Local youth help the seniors at the residence in Duluth

On Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. the Northland Foundation's KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership Academy will be helping at the Saint Ann's Residence Center in Downtown Duluth.

The KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership youth with their mentors, who have named their service project team the Saint Ann's Saturday Service (or S.A.S.S.), plans to do many activities around the residence to help improve the care facility. Activities include fun games like Plinko, Wheel of Fortune, Beat Shazam, and a photo booth in the morning and a variety/talent show in the afternoon. Youth also plan to play games and give away fun prizes. There will also be one-on-one chore help, a resource table, and a technology table offering help to the residents with their phones, computers, iPads, etc. Youth will also be outside preparing the raised garden beds, painting the wood furniture, spreading wood chips, and cleaning up the grounds. Most activities will be engaging for the residents.

The Twin Ports Youth Leadership Academy is a select group of 50 9<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Duluth/Superior Area as well as 14 volunteer adult mentors. The students and mentors have been meeting each month since September, with the ultimate goal of planning and completing a service project for the greater good of the community, and learning how to be a leader. The youth created committees to take on specific responsibilities for their service project and have worked together to organize the event.

For any questions about the project, please contact Jan Amys of the Northland Foundation at (218)-348-8190.

### About Northland Foundation's KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership Program

The goal of the KIDS PLUS Youth Leadership Program is to develop in young people the skills and capacity to serve their communities now and in the future. Together, youth leaders and volunteer adult mentors engage in a year-long series of interactive workshops that build relationships and sharpen their leadership, communication, and team-building abilities. The program year concludes with the youth planning and implementing a community service project. This project allows the young people to put

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into practice their knowledge and skills, promotes the power of youth-adult partnerships, and helps community members recognize youth as resources and leaders. Young people discover that they can make a difference!

Since 1998, more than 1,250 young people and over 380 adult mentors have participated in 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. Currently, the Youth Leadership Academy joins ninth graders from the Twin Ports of Duluth, MN, and Superior, WI, which not only hones students' leadership skills but also strengthens the understanding and cooperation between the two communities.