

CYA



**Quarterly
Newsletter**

Winter 2021

Court Youth Advocate Program



Volunteer Birthdays

January to March

January 4 Daryl Penfold

January 6 Natalie Conlon

January 12 Kayla Pedraza

January 26 Tommy Watkins

February 3 Maggie Fritzen

March 2 Larry Sheagley

March 4 Cheryl Sietz

Generous Donation Makes A Difference in Youth Holiday

Due to the pandemic, the CYA program was unable to host the annual Shop-with-A-Cop event. This event gives youth the opportunity to shop with La Porte County Police Officers to strengthen the relationship for those who may have had negative experiences with law enforcement. Through a generous donation from an anonymous source, CASA and CYA teens were able to have a bright holiday.

Forty youth who are part of the CYA and CASA programs each received a Walmart gift card to spend on what they needed or wanted. Our volunteers took their youth holiday shopping and had fun while doing so. Volunteers report their youth buying items for their otherwise bare bedroom, presents for their family and more.

Youth who benefited from this donation personally wrote the donor thank you letters or cards for making their holiday cheerful and included items they bought using this money.

We're thankful to our dedicated volunteers who were able to take their youth on this holiday trip and give them a memory they will never forget!



Skills for Mentors

According to the Center for Health Leadership and Practice, there are key skills that mentors should possess. In each newsletter, we'll share a new skill to help in your mentoring!

Determining Goals and Building Capacity

As a mentor, you may have your own career and personal goals. When appropriate, you can share these goals with your mentee. It is likely that they will ask you how you set and achieved your own goals. With this dialogue, you can help your youth identify and achieve their career and personal goals.

How to Help Your Youth Set Goals and Achieve Them

- Assist them with finding resources such as people, books, articles, tools and online information
- Convey knowledge and skills by explaining, giving useful examples, demonstrating processes, and asking thought-provoking questions
- Help your youth gain broader perspectives of their responsibilities and organizational skills
- Discuss actions you've taken in your career and explain your reasonings for them

Important Announcements

- The CYA Program will have a new volunteer training on January 26 & 28 at 4 PM both days. If you know of anyone who wants to volunteer with us, please have them contact Brenda or Kayla!
- The CYA Program will be hosting an online trivia night this year instead of our annual Bowl-a-thon! Stay tuned for details.
- Family Advocates will roll out new logos for the organization and its programs near the end of January/beginning of February. Please keep a lookout for them!

