

# 2009-2010 UWSLO Youth Board

## “Bringing new energy to community involvement.”



### Overview

The United Way of San Luis Obispo County (UWSLO) Youth Board is designed to increase community awareness and involvement among youth. High school students from San Luis Obispo County serve on the board, and fulfill many of the same duties as the Board of Directors, most notably the distribution of grant funds for youth-serving projects and programs.

As Youth Board members, students learn about the community and some of the resources that are provided to our most vulnerable populations. They are given the chance to make their voice heard on meaningful issues, as well as participate in organizational governance, connect with peers from outside their own school community, and network with the United Way Board of Directors and other involved community members, all while earning community service hours.

### Program Structure

The UWSLO Youth Board consists of approximately 15 members who meet monthly throughout the entire school year.

Throughout the first months of the program, members attend several training and teambuilding sessions. At these meetings they learn about the responsibilities of being a board member; adopt by-laws; elect officers; gain an understanding of what agencies, social services, and needs exist in the community; and learn specific skills such as how to read financial statements and how to evaluate grant applications. A component of each session also includes fun activities to promote teambuilding and group cohesiveness.

The UWSLO Youth Board also awards grants to youth programs. Important considerations when granting these funds are how many youths a program serves and in what capacity, and how youth are involved in the creation and implementation of the program. Board members decide what programs are recommended for funding, and then present their recommendations to the United Way Board of Directors.

### Requirements

High school students (ages 13-19) from San Luis Obispo County are eligible to participate in the UWSLO Youth Board program. Our goal is to develop as diverse a group as possible, with representatives from throughout the county with various service experiences, academic interests, and cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Ideal candidates are merely those students with a desire to serve.

Students wishing to complete the program must make a commitment to regularly attend meetings, actively participate, and serve for the entire school year. Approximately three hours per month are required for the training, teambuilding, committee meetings, and grant selection. It is up to the student to arrange transportation to Youth Board events.

### Application Process

Interested students should contact United Way to request an application. Parental consent is required upon commitment to the program.

### Getting Involved

Do you still have questions? Are you interested in becoming a member of the 2009-2010 Youth Board? Would you like to learn more about United Way? Please contact us:

**Call** (805) 541-1234

**Email** [youthboard@unitedwayslo.org](mailto:youthboard@unitedwayslo.org)

**Go online** [www.unitedwayslo.org](http://www.unitedwayslo.org)

**Don't forget, we're on Facebook, too!** Search *United Way of San Luis Obispo County*

# 2009 – 2010 Youth Board Member Application



**Please PRINT all information.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
High School Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

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Please list past and present activities.

Clubs (Year and office held, if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

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Sports and Seasons: \_\_\_\_\_

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Community Service and/or Organizations involved with: \_\_\_\_\_

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Why do you want to be involved with the United Way Youth Board? \_\_\_\_\_

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What do you hope to gain from your experience? \_\_\_\_\_

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How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

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Thank you for your interest in the Youth Board program! Completed applications may be submitted via email, fax, mail, or directly to the United Way office in downtown SLO. If you have any questions please contact us at 541-1234, or email [youthboard@unitedwayslo.org](mailto:youthboard@unitedwayslo.org).

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