



Bylaws

Youth Opportunities Unlimited Throughout Hillsdale
YOUTH Advisory Council
Hillsdale County Community Foundation
Revised on November 1, 2005

Article I

Purpose

YOUTH's mission is to meet the needs of the youth of Hillsdale County by enhancing the awareness of opportunities, providing information and resources through cooperative leadership and financial support for projects which will improve the youth community.

Article II

YOUTH Council Membership

The members of the YOUTH Advisory Council shall include youth of school age, and student representatives under the age of 21 years.

YOUTH Membership

1. The members of the YOUTH Council will represent the area schools within Hillsdale County:
Camden-Frontier; Charter/Private Schools; Hillsdale; Jonesville;
Litchfield; North-Adams; Other; Pittsford; Reading; Waldron
2. Once appointed, a YOUTH member can serve until age 21 as long as the member is living in Hillsdale County, actively serves the Council and meets attendance requirements.
3. A maximum of four YOUTH may represent each area school. New members are not eligible to vote in the first grant cycle that they attend. In addition, new members must go through training before being eligible to vote on grants.
4. When possible, YOUTH Council members will be appointed from active YOUTH members. Seniors can recommend their own replacement as needed and are highly encouraged to do so. Replacements will start in August of that senior year (or whenever they are able). New member voting stipulations apply to replacement members as well.
5. If a situation occurs in which a school has more than four representatives, the members from that school shall alternate voting rights, so that there will not be more than four votes for that school.

Adult Participation

1. Adults will serve as advisors/project coordinators as necessary but not as voting Council members.
2. Adults serving for an extended period as advisor or program coordinator are subject to approval by the Hillsdale County Community Foundation Trustees.

Article III

Attendance

1. All Members are expected to attend each scheduled meeting.
2. When absences occur, an evaluation will be conducted:
 - After three consecutive absences from regularly scheduled Council meetings.
 - After three unexcused absences.
 - After five absences (A member will be considered for possible termination from Council.)

The evaluation will be conducted by the President and Vice President regarding the cause for any member's absence. An evaluation will determine his/her eligibility to continue as a member of the Advisory Council. If it is impossible for the member to serve in a regular capacity, the member will be replaced on the active Council.

3. Notification and explanation of a member's expected absence from a meeting must be given to the HCCF office prior to the meeting time in order to be considered excused.

Article IV

Officers

1. The officers, to be elected from the council will be:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Financial and Development Chairman
 - Grant Committee Chairman
2. All officers shall be elected during the month of August and will serve a term of one year.
3. All nominations will be open prior to the election. Voting will be done by secret ballot.
4. One person may hold no more than two consecutive terms in the same office.
5. To vote in elections, members must have been active with the council for at least three months.
6. To be elected to an office, a member must have actively served on the Council for one year.

Article V

Meetings

1. Regular meetings will be held once a month.
2. Additional meetings will be held as often as necessary.
3. The Council shall set the date and time of all called meetings with the approval of the advisor and executive director.

Article VI

Quorum

A quorum shall consist of those present.

Article VII

Amendment

Changes and amendments may be made to the bylaws of the YOUTH Council by submitting the proposed change at a regularly called meeting or by notification of proposed changes not less than ten (10) days before the date of the meeting.

Article VIII

All changes to the By-Laws of the Y.O.U.T.H. (Youth Opportunities Unlimited Throughout Hillsdale) must be approved by the Board of Trustees of the Hillsdale County Community Foundation prior to enactment.