

Youth Leadership Conference Proposal

The goal of this conference is for students in our county to learn leadership skills and step out of their comfort zones so they may become leaders within their everyday lives.

This conference will be held at the El Dorado County Fairgrounds on July 15 through July 17, 2012. During the conference, participants will attend various workshops, breakout sessions, and guest speaker presentations.

On the first day we will be hosting incoming 7th and 8th graders. These students will learn basic leadership skills through various workshops on topics such as photography, robotics, crafts, etc. Each workshop will have a leadership curriculum created. Rotations throughout these various topics will educate students about possible volunteer opportunities or organizations that they would like to join after this conference.

The second day we will host incoming high school freshmen that will be educated on the important roles of being in high school and beyond. To this group of students, the counselors, which will be made up of trained high school and college students, will speak about the possible opportunities to become leaders within their high school and local communities. There are many opportunities such as school clubs, sports, and volunteer organizations that have yet to be discovered by these students.

The students will be chosen by teacher referrals. Teachers will be requested to select students with leadership potential and show interest in developing leadership skills. We are aiming to host 75 - 100 students each day from all middle schools in the county.

These students are our main priority because we believe that leadership is an important characteristic that will open many doors. Students will also learn how to establish relationships with adults.

These students will also have time to bond with each other to create connections around the county. There will be activities to encourage them to step out of their comfort zones and bond with the youth around them.

This conference will improve the self-esteem of those students in our county that haven't been able to step out of their shell and show their full potential. They will be educated on how everyone can make a difference and share with others their ideas that can improve the schools and/or programs that they are involved in. Also, we want these students to join more programs in the county to volunteer at and have the youth's voice heard. Youth is an essential part to the county that makes a difference by working in adult mentor/youth partnerships therefore this conference will educate incoming students on how to establish those relationships.

Being a member in the youth community, leadership is something that needs to be nurtured by us, the mentors, since opportunities are less and contenders are more in today's world.

The fiscal overview has not yet been established. Most of the financial costs will come from grants, donations, and fundraisers.