



## Program Overview

### Good Neighbor Innovation School

**Grants:** YSA will award \$5,000 grants to 20 K-12 public schools in the United States to support their efforts to create a culture of meaningful learning through service in their school by using YSA's service onramp tools (Semester of Service, Classrooms with a Cause, Global Youth Service Day).

**Eligibility:** K-12 public schools (elementary, middle, or high school) with principals, head of school, or superintendents that commit to (a) providing service-learning training to their staff and (b) convening and working with a service-learning team that includes another administrator, students, a guidance counselor, at least five teachers representing different departments or grade levels, and community partners.

#### Focus Areas:

- Using service-learning as a strategy to meet state academic standards and teach career and workforce readiness skills, including the 4 Cs: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, Creativity and Innovation, Communication, and Collaboration
- Aligning service-learning activities with other innovative educational strategies or methods, including:
  - Student Leadership Development
  - Citizenship & Civic Education
  - Whole Child Education
  - Asset-based Positive Youth Development
  - Project-based & Experiential Learning
  - Environmental Education / Citizen Science / STEM / Maker movement
  - Flipped Classroom
  - Global Education
  - School Climate
  - Extended School Day / Out-of-School Time
  - Career Exploration
  - Deeper Learning
  - Character Education

#### Administrator Training

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 (tentative), YSA will convene the principals, head of schools, or superintendents from the 20 schools in the U.S. for a service-learning leadership forum/training in Washington, DC. This training will follow a "train-the-trainer" approach and will prepare administrators to train their staff how to implement and

evaluate meaningful service in their school. They will be required to lead a training(s) for their staff during professional development or in-service workshops throughout the 2015-2016 academic year.

YSA will then support the service-learning teams at each school with ongoing training and technical assistance opportunities throughout the year, including:

- Webinars and networking calls
- One-on-one consultation with YSA staff
- Successful project examples on YSA.org

Each Good Neighbor Innovation School needs to:

- Address Substantive Issues in your School/Community – What are the issues in your community that classrooms will address? What factors contribute to the problem?
- Measure the Impact – The Good Neighbor Innovation School program impacts students, as well as the community issue they have identified. YSA has arranged for an independent, outside evaluation of this program. Applicants will receive additional information about the evaluation process when the grant is awarded.
- Reflect Diversity – YSA and State Farm are each committed to programs that provide opportunities to engage students traditionally not asked to serve, including youth from diverse socioeconomic and ethnic backgrounds, youth with disabilities, youth in the juvenile justice system, youth in foster care, and youth who are refugees or recent immigrants. At the conclusion of the program, grantees will be asked to report on the diversity of the students engaged, in addition to the number, age, gender and ethnicity of student participants, and the school’s free/reduced lunch demographic.
- Support Youth Voice –At all stages of the program, students should have a voice in deciding what happens, and how the program is shaped.
- Include Publicity – Engagement of traditional and social media, and elected and other public officials and VIP’s can bring added visibility and credibility to your efforts, and highlight student efforts..
- Include Global Youth Service Day – Global Youth Service Day (GYSD) is an annual campaign that celebrates and mobilizes the millions of children and youth who improve their communities. It is celebrated in April. Incorporating GYSD into your program shows youth involved that they’re a part of an international movement, and are working alongside other youth to change the world.

- Encourage Continuous Reflection - Activities that prompt deep thinking and analysis about oneself and one's relationship to society help students to become aware of what they know, and encourage them to think about the impact that the program has on them and their community.

- Build for Sustainability - How will the program to be sustained, replicated, and increased in scale?

Selected grantees will also use YSA's helpful resources, which can be downloaded at [www.ysa.org/resources](http://www.ysa.org/resources)!

Need Help?

For additional information or questions about this State Farm Good Neighbor Innovation School program, send an email to [sganske@ysa.org](mailto:sganske@ysa.org)