

Philanthropic Youth of Today Award

In 2011, the board of the Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter of AFP initiated this award to recognize the important philanthropic efforts of youth living in Southeastern Wisconsin and to encourage more area youth to undertake voluntary fundraising activities. The board selected the youth of Lead2Change as the first honorees in this category, just months after the group became a registered charity. Lead2Change, Inc. is the only youth led philanthropic organization of its kind across the country.

The fund is guided by a Youth Advisory Council that receives, reviews, and funds projects that meet grant guidelines. The council consists of up to 30 youth ages 13 – 18 that represent very diverse backgrounds. Going forward, the AFP-Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter plans to partner with Lead2Change in making this an annual award, with the youth of Lead2Change making the final awardee selection.

The Philanthropic Youth of Today Award recognizes a young person or group of young people who have made a significant difference in Southeastern Wisconsin through philanthropic leadership in the past year.

The criteria for the youth leader in the community is:

- Philanthropic activity must have taken place when the nominee(s) is/are between the ages of 12-24, and within one year of nomination;
- Groups nominated must be comprised of a majority of youth;
- Philanthropic activity must be led and implemented by a young person/youth group;
- Activity must demonstrate leadership, dedication, service and creativity; and
- An account of the philanthropic activity must be available (a non-family member must be able to vouch for the accomplishment of the youth).