

JYPI Teen Philanthropy

The Jewish Youth Philanthropy Institute's (JYPI) three year-long youth philanthropy groups began their funding programs last month with a total of 74 teens representing more than 20 schools and 15 congregations in Maryland and DC.

In the two 8th-9th grade youth philanthropy groups, teens met twice in October to begin familiarizing themselves with responsibilities as a funding group, key components of evaluating grant proposals, and general information about their grant portfolio and the non-profit organizations applying for funding this year.

JYPI's "seasoned" teen philanthropists returning for a more advanced grant making program began meeting last month with their new funding peers in JYPI 201. This is the second year of JYPI 201, our second-year program where teens research and develop their own funding priorities and send out a Request For Proposals to organizations they select based on criteria they develop as a group. This will be another exciting opportunity for these experienced teen funders to review grant proposals advocating for initiatives around the globe creating change in areas related to creating self sufficiency, the environment and education.

Funding decisions for these three youth philanthropy groups, as well as for the three semester-long JYPI youth philanthropy groups beginning in January, will be announced in the Spring. Last year, 125 teens participated in JYPI and awarded more than \$100,000 in grants to over 30 nonprofit organizations. As Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever had." For information about the youth philanthropy groups starting in January (10th-12th Grade MD/DC group, 10th-12th Grade Northern Virginia group and 8th-9th Grade Northern Virginia group), please contact Leah Siskin at 301-348-7328 or leah@jypi.org.

-Montgomery County Volunteer Center