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www.youthgo.org

E-mail: info@youthgo.org

Phone: 920-722-1435

Youth Go
213 Nicolet Blvd
Neenah, WI 54956



Youth Go's Annual Awards Banquet Celebrating Youth Go

We invite all interested persons to attend our event and celebrate the accomplishments of our youth!

When: Thursday, April 17, 2025
Doors open at 6:00pm
Dinner begins at 6:15pm
The Awards Ceremony will follow dinner.

Where: Best Western Premier Bridgewood
Resort Hotel
1000 Cameron Way
Neenah, WI 54956

** RSVP by calling 722-1435 by Monday, April 7, or
emailing info@youthgo.org **

Youth Go's Annual Fore the Youth Golf Classic



When: Saturday, June 21, 2025
Where: Lake Breeze Golf Course
6333 Ball Prairie Rd
Winneconne, WI 54986



Open three weekends...September 26th & 27th
October 3rd & 4th, 10th & 11th



Board President's Report

Youth Go's focus in 2024 was to get more involved in the community and continue to provide a place of support to our youth.

After a soft launch in 2023, we grew Youth Go's annual golf outing in 2024, the "Fore the Youth Golf Classic," and hope to continue to provide more people with a good time thanks to our partnership with PGS;

We were blessed with great weather this year for the Hallows, as we opened for three weekends for the first time from September 27, 2024 through October 12, 2024;

Thank you so much to all of the staff, donors, participant families, and fellow board members for your part in helping to make these things happen.



Matthew J. Borkovec
Board President

Giving Note: For anyone who has an IRA, please consider the option of including Youth Go as a beneficiary of your IRA. Your generous gifts help Youth Go to remain the special place that it is for so many young people in our community.

Executive Director's Report



As I reflect on 2024, I'm filled with immense gratitude and a deep sense of pride for everything accomplished together at Youth Go. This year has been a testament to the resilience of our youth, the dedication of our staff, and the unwavering support of our community.

Every day, I witness the transformative power of our programs. In 2024, we saw countless young people find a safe haven, discover their potential, and build the skills they need to thrive. From our after-school tutoring that boosted academic confidence to the creative programming that ignited new passions, we've strived to provide a nurturing environment where every young person feels seen, valued, and supported.

None of this would have been possible without the tireless dedication of our staff, the steadfast commitment of our board members, and the generous contributions of our donors. Your belief in our mission fuels our work and empowers us to make a lasting difference in the lives of the young people we serve.

As we look ahead to 2025, we are filled with excitement as we prepare to celebrate our 56th anniversary! Fifty-six years of serving the youth of our community is a milestone we don't take lightly. We invite you to join us on this journey as we continue to empower young people to reach their full potential. Your support, whether through volunteering, donations, or simply spreading the word, is vital to our success.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for being a part of the Youth Go family. We are truly grateful for your partnership and look forward to celebrating 56 years of making a difference together.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Alice Zarda
Executive Director



Youth Go will be partnering with PGS to bring you the 3rd Fore the Youth Golf Classic charity scramble again in 2025. The event will take place at Lake Breeze Golf Club in Winneconne on Saturday, June 21st. Teams of four will hit the links in this fundraising event for Youth Go. Sponsorship opportunities are available! If you have any questions, feel free to call Youth Go 920.722.1435 and ask for Timothy.

We would like to thank all of our sponsors from last year's outing. We appreciate the support from our community. As you can see from a couple of the logos, two of the sponsors found creative ways to remain anonymous while contributing to the cause. You never know who, or what, awaits you at the 18 tees during this fun event. We look forward to seeing you there!



community support provides the fuel

Thanks to the Anonymous Fund within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region, Youth Go was able to award three of our participants with scholarships to aid in payment of tuition and book fees. In addition, 4 Schmidts & Giggles funded the Josue Ortega Scholarship, awarded to Ethan Hoffman.



Vincent Gallatin



Jordan Rusch



Alexander Groeschel



Ethan Hoffman

Make sure to mark your calendars for September 27th. You won't want to miss out on the amazing food at Octoberfest in downtown Appleton. 4 Schmidts & Giggles, LLC will once again support us by serving spectacular food with fantastic service.



2024 was a year of excitement at Youth Go. We are thankful for our third van, to support the continued increase in attendance and participation numbers. Thank you to all of the people and places that supported the work and mission of Youth Go. Every gift, at every dollar amount, makes an impact and helps us to provide youth with a safe and supportive place full of opportunities and fun!

1,875 unduplicated young people were served in 2024.

———— **Youth Go Cares** ————

314 walked through the doors and participated in our in-center programming.

———— **Youth Go Serves** ————

1,561 youth participated in out of center programming.

———— **Youth Go is Friendly** ————

In 2024, a total attendance of 4,841. Youth Go was a busy place in 2024.

———— **Youth Go is Safe** ————

128 unique youth participated in one or more of the 225 offered creative arts activities for a total attendance of 1,214.

———— **Youth Go Creates** ————

161 unique youth were nourished through one or more of the 244 meals served at Youth Go with a total of 1,993 meals provided.

———— **Youth Go Provides** ————

154 unique youth took part in one or more of the 322 recreational activities with a total attendance of 1,949.

———— **Youth Go is Fun** ————

99 unique middle school aged youth took part in one or more of the 126 Study Star homework sessions for a total attendance of 1,720.

———— **Youth Go Supports** ————

We offered four Family Night events where our youth and their family members were able to gather for food, friendship and fun! These events are at no cost to families and everything is provided. 105 unique youth attended one or more event with a total attendance of 446 when all families were included.

———— **Youth Go is Community** ————



WE'RE MORE THAN JUST A HANGOUT

Thank you for helping to keep the doors of Youth Go open!

Anonymous
 Tony Ansems
 Cindy Baehman
 Richard and Lori Batley
 Jeremy Bauman
 Jerold and Mary Jane Belot
 Thomas Berven
 Laverne Beyer
 Gary Bezella
 Lou Blasczyk
 Kelly Borkovec
 Matthew Borkovec
 McKenzie Borkovec
 Roxana Braasch
 Michael and Jennifer Breining
 Mark Brink
 ""In Memory of Pita Kotobalavu
 Brenda & Scott Broeske
 ""In Memory of Dick Johnson
 Shanta Burton
 Ann Cattau
 Nicholas Chandler
 Kelly Christensen
 Bonnie DeBaal
 Jacklyn Dickens
 Sue Erdmann
 Brenda and Jason Feucht
 Timothy Flaherty, MD
 Phillip and Mary Florek
 Tim Fluhr
 Kennedy Foss
 Judd and Mary Beth Fowler
 Matthew & Jessica Fraley
 Patrick and Amy Galloway
 Timothy Galloway
 Ray and Judy Germonprez
 James & Sally Godlewski
 Kathy Grinsel
 Rex Gromer
 Mame and Daniel Heaney
 Erliss Helling
 DR Thomas Hennes
 Brian Hoefs
 Laura Jackson
 Barbara Johnson
 David and Julie Johnson
 James and Tammi Johnson
 Lisa Johnson
 William and Beverly Johnston
 Ronald Klatt
 David and Ellen Kneip
 Dave and Dana Kohlmeyer
 James Lyons
 John Marra
 Betty Mathison
 Maribeth and Kevin McCann
 Erol Melik
 Donald Merkes
 Robert and Susan Merriam
 Robert and Judith Mickelson
 Tilman and Ann Moe
 Richard and Martha Moore
 Coreen Moriarity
 Richard Mosbacher
 Deanne and George Paveletzke
 John and Kathleen Peterson
 Patrick Pirwitz
 Ivan and Linda Placko
 Keri Pritzl
 Trevor Rabbach
 William and Janet Rausch
 Julie Reiser
 Patricia and Gerald Rickman
 Chris and Kathy Rigotti
 Gerald Robak
 Eloise Robinson
 Pat Rosenak
 Jack Salm
 Irene W Schaper
 Adam Schmitz
 Heather Schulze
 Elizabeth Schutte
 David Sebora
 John S. Sensenbrenner, Jr.
 Fred and Deborah Shaffer
 David Shirkey
 Wayne Sigl
 Dennis Simon
 John Speech
 Judd and Judith Stevenson
 Wayne and Ruth Streck
 John Swartz
 Terry and Ruth Tessier
 Donald and Mary Turner, MD
 Kathy VanderVelden
 Ken and Wendy Weir
 Douglas Welter
 Dennis and Mary Ann Wepfer
 Sara Westgor
 Keith Wilk
 Marvel Williamson
 Ediwin Wilson
 Michael L Wise
 JoEllen Wollangk
 Paul and Elizabeth Yee
 Josh Zuelke
 103.9 WVBO
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 Five Below
 Fleet Farm
 Fox Communities Credit Union
 Fox Valley CPA's LLC
 Friends of Youth Go
 Galloway Company
 Gardan Manufacturing Services
 Gerard Machine LLC
 Great Harvest Bread Company
 Great Northern Laminations
 Funded in part by a grant from the Green
 Bay Packers Foundation
 Groundswell Charitable Foundation
 Harbor House
 J. J. Keller Foundation, Inc.
 Jake's Network of Hope
 John N Bergstrom Endowment Grant
 Katherine & John Davis Family Foundation, Inc.
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 Miller Electric
 Morton LTC Pharmacy
 Neenah Club
 Neenah Lions Club
 Neenah Parks & Recreation
 Neenah Police Department
 Neenah Police Officer Benevolent
 Neenah Rotary Club
 Nicolet National Foundation

Thank you for helping to keep the doors of Youth Go open! (continued...)

Noodles & Company
 Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
 Oshkosh Area Foundation Hiwela Youth
 Fund
 Outlook Group
 Paper Valley B2B Referrals
 PortSide Builders, Inc
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 Stephenson National Bank & Trust
 Sugar Llama Cookies
 Texas Roadhouse
 The Rachael Ebertz Foundation
 The Robert W. & Susan T. Brown Family
 Foundation
 Theda & Tamblin Clark Smith Family
 Foundation
 Thrivent Financial
 United Way of Greater Milwaukee &
 Waukesha County
 U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation, Inc.
 Volunteer Fox Cities
 Wallace Family Foundation
 Watters Plumbing
 We Energies Foundation
 Westgor Funeral Home, Inc
 **Below are grants within the Community
 Foundation for the Fox Valley Region**
 *Allan J. & Marvel A. Williamson Fund
 *Anonymous Fund
 *Appleton Noon Optimist Club Fund
 *Doug & Mary Gunderson Family Fund
 *Gerald A. & Margaret L. Henseler Family
 Fund
 *John & Marie Oswald Family Fund
 *Michael & Stephanie Vrabec Family Fund
 *Mowry Smith Charitable Fund
 *Otto Bremer Trust Community
 Responsive Fund
 *Peter & Cari Ullrich Family Fund
 *Raymond & Betty Smith Charitable Fund
 *Sawyer Family Fund
 *SECURA Insurance Companies Charitable
 Fund
 *Springmier Family Fund
 *Stoll Family Fund
 *Water-Right Charitable Fund
 ^^Below are grants within the Women's
 Fund for the Fox Valley Region^^
 ^Girl's Grant Making Fund
 ^Mame & Iona Heaney Empowering
 Women Fund
 In the news...
 "After more than 150 years of service,
 Immanuel United Church of Christ closed its
 doors in December of 2024. The church, led
 by Pastor Tom Fritz, announced a transition
 from in-person ministry to a Legacy Fund
 aimed at supporting Neenah's community.
 Youth Go has been selected as one of the
 recipients of this incredible fund."

Board of Directors

President: Matthew Borkovec—Remley Law, S.C.
Vice President: Toni Schult—Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Treasurer: Larry Sawyer—Community Representative
Secretary: Sonja Pierce—Appleton Public Library

Board Members

Neal Gadzinski—Continental Girbau
 Nickole Evers-Swiertz—Motto Inc. & Former Youth Go Participant
 Jeremy Bauman—City of Neenah Police Department
 Trevor Rabbach—Schaper, Benz & Wise Family Wealth Counsel
 Douglas Welter—Associated Bank
 Tracee Lemke Hildreth—Neenah Joint School District
 John Swartz - Miller Electric

Youth Go 2024

Revenue	
United Way	\$218,910
Fundraising & Contributions	\$87,770
Contract and Program Fees	\$214,336
Interest	\$28,566
Grants	\$252,244
Miscellaneous/ Other Income	\$1,149
Total Revenue	\$802,975
Expenses	
Employment	\$537,250
Supplies & Services	\$51,296
Occupancy, Equipment, Depreciation	\$83,801
Special Activities & Other	\$77,778
Total Expenses	\$750,125



Current Staff Members

Alice Zarda	Executive Director
Timothy Chappa	Associate Director
Megan Kees	Support & Wellness Coordinator & Early Intervention Mentor
Danielle Karls	Arts & Education Coordinator
Kaitlyn Schlueter	Bridges Program & Early Intervention Mentor
James Evers	Youth Program Assistant, PACT Coordinator & Mentor
Ann Weyers de Ibarra	Youth Activity Assistant
Tristain Prosper	Early Intervention Mentor
Charlie Smith	Recreation Coordinator, LGBTQ+ Youth Advocate
Maddie Keeley	Youth Program Assistant
Morgan Sommer	Summer Youth Program Assistant

Youth Go 2024

Balance as of January 1, 2024	\$1,279,449
Receipts	\$26,686
Disbursements	(\$49,733)
Fees	(\$9,733)
Non-Cash Activity	\$1,362
Change in Accrued Income	\$157
Realized Gains/Losses	\$52,921
Unrealized Gains/Losses	\$39,054
Balance as of December 31, 2024	\$1,208,290

FAVORITE Staff Memories



James



"My favorite memory from 2024 would be the Among Us - Friday Night Frenzy. There were many awesome activities themed around Among Us including a real life version. We had headbands, with different customized Among Us characters, and little task cards with activities the kids had to complete. It was just awesome seeing them all run around with colorful headbands trying to finish their tasks. Even after we completed a couple rounds, some of the youth wanted to keep playing and made their own version to play. I appreciated the excitement, as I always love coming up with super awesome themes and activities for the kids to enjoy!"



Charlie



"Ann and I opened up the backlot. We'd just brought out the big parachute and some kids gathered for the typical playground parachute games. One of the kids figured out that if you put a dodgeball in the center, it could shoot straight up real high when we all pulled the parachute down from our corners, so we gradually added more dodgeballs for launch. At first the game was to dodge the balls as they fell from the sky but soon the focus became how to make them launch higher. Someone had the bright idea to add the cotton snowballs we have so we placed as many as we could in the center of the parachute. We really had to work together to make the snowballs all go up at the same time; the kids would point out the weak links in the game and laugh. It was difficult enough to coordinate, but each time the snowballs would rain down the kids would say "we can do better" or "one more, one more!" Ann and I complained about being tired but our feeble old people arms and complaints paled when compared to childhood ambition. Over and over, higher and higher. We'd gotten several good launches by the time everyone had clearly gotten tired, so we really wanted one last good launch. As a group, we all locked in, counted down, and pulled our parachute corners down as hard as possible. This last time was the big one. Snowballs erupted everywhere, high and scattered. Mount Vesuvius would be jealous. They landed on the garage, on the roof, probably lost a few in the neighbor's backyard. The look on everyone's faces was unforgettable as we watched it snow in the summertime."



FAVORITE Staff Memories



Danielle

"My favorite memory of 2024 was ending the 3rd Dungeons and Dragons campaign. It was a very different campaign than the previous ones that I ran and the kids did exceptionally well with it even though it was a very different style than what all of us were used to. Typically, when I finish a campaign I like to put together some sort of 'take-away' item for my players. This campaign was the Witchlight Carnival campaign and my players went to the Feywild and to many different notable places. However, my favorite stop they made was at the Goblin Market. At this market they got to purchase many different goblin-made treats that had really funny and interesting effects when eaten. They purchased things like candied roaches that would turn you into a butterfly for an hour or cricket suckers that would make you speak gibberish for an hour when consumed. So, to end the campaign the Goblin Market sent 'Thank you gifts' to each of the players that consisted of real flavored crickets, flavored worms, and a hard candy filled with ants. I am still not sure if any of them actually ate them, but it was delightful to put it together."



Megan

"It is so hard to pick just one memory from the year. Each season of Youth Go has its own wonderful moments and memories associated with it. We start off the year with our Awards Ceremony. It is one of my absolute favorite days of the year. I love getting to tell each of our young people just how awesome they are and how much we care about them. As we slide into summer, we get the joys of field trips, days spent outside in the backlot, adventure trips, amazing family nights, and the leadership camping trip. We revamped the camping trip this year. We took 19 youth on a two-night, three-day camping trip to Central Wisconsin Environmental Station (CWES). We have not been able to do an overnight camping trip since 2019. We were so excited to be able to partner with CWES to make this experience possible. No more tents, being subject to the weather, or having to cook our meals over the fire. Instead we got to focus on the camaraderie and building of leadership skills. We still got to be out in the woods without having to rough it. As fall rolls in, we get to provide all the scares at The Hallows. I love the excitement of the scare-actors and getting a few good screams out of the customers myself. Finally, as winter rolls in, we get to enjoy all of the holiday parties and winter break week fun. It is never a dull moment at Youth Go and 2024 provided us with so many wonderful memories."

