At YES!, we know that healthy, vibrant communities are created when young people are given the skills and opportunities to take action on the issues that directly impact them. Our work has proven that youth have the capacity to become leaders and champion the issues that are important to them. The core of our work has always focused on engaging youth, in partnership with adults, to create community change.

YES! has had great success in supporting youth-adult partnerships that impact community, policy and systemic changes in the past four years. Our youth have led more than 38 systems and policy changes, impacting at least 10,218,626 people throughout North Carolina and Georgia.

Because of our work, we were honored with several awards, including:

- 2012 Advocacy Prevention Excellence Award and a Trailblazer Award for promoting workplace wellness from NC Prevention Partners

- 2012 SparkOpportunity Challenge Adult Ally Award from SparkAction

- 2012 Sydney S. Chipman Award in the Gillings School of Global Public Health at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

- 2012 Nonprofit Stewardship Award from the N.C. Center for Nonprofits

All of this success wouldn't be possible without a dedicated and passionate staff and board of directors who provide the spark that keeps YES! on the forefront of innovation. I would like to also acknowledge all of our funders and individual donors who are united by a shared belief that people and organizations, if given the right tools and opportunities, can join to improve their communities.

No matter the issue, YES! envisions communities where the valued standard is empowered young leaders working alongside adults to create positive change. In the coming years, we plan to continue to expand our youth empowerment work outside of North Carolina and beyond the areas of adolescent health, and to develop a presence in other fields where empowered youth can have an extraordinary impact, including the education system, workforce development, civic engagement and the environment.
Supporters *and* Partners

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation

John Rex Endowment

North Carolina Preventing Underage Drinking Initiative – UNC Greensboro

North Carolina Department of Public Health-Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch

Triangle Community Foundation

**Other Custom Service Partners:**

Georgia Department of Public Health
Georgia Organics
MDC, Inc.
Mecklenburg County Health Department
North Carolina Conservation Fund
North Carolina Council of Churches
North Carolina Division of Mental Health
North Carolina Public Health Foundation
UNC-CH Center for Health Promotion
Wake Forest University
Youth in Action

**Individuals who gave $100 or more:**

Emily Clabaugh, Jeanne Dairaghi,
The Duke Endowment (Matching gift),
Judy Fendel, Ingrid Friesen,
Diane and Bob Glenn, Sherry Heuser,
Aidil Hill, Dr. David Jolly,
Madhuri Jarwala, Cindy Kleiner,
Meredith Ledford, Jennifer Lord,
Bronwyn Lucas, Diana Manee,
Elisabeth McCord, Lisa McCracken,
Bernard McNamee, Debbi Meisner,
Anne Mulkern, Jonathan Nelson,
Shawn Nicole, Chad Onken,
Parrish Ravelli, Mikki Sager,
Keedra Sales, Meka Sales,
Renu Shah, Lynette Simons,
Robin Smith, Katie Spears,
Lee Storrow, Annie Thornhill,
Dane Vertefeuille, Jo Ellen Wilkes,
Peyton Williams

**Board of Directors 2011-2012**

Robin Temple
YES! Board Chair

Meka Sales
YES! Board Vice Chair

Lee Storrow
YES! Secretary

Nancy Zablud
YES! Board Treasurer

Anne Thornhill
YES! Committee Chair

JoEllen Wilkes
Past Board Chair

Heather Gates
Board Member

Saleem Hussaini
Board Member

Dr. David Jolly
Founding Board Member

Roxanne Elliot
Board Member
In 2012...

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL
YES! hires high school-aged students who learn skills, gain critical awareness and seize opportunities to create change in their communities.

100% (18 out of 18) youth staff became more empowered, reporting increased exposure to youth empowerment by learning new skills, taking action, and impacting change.

YES! youth and adult staff have implemented **38 systems and policy changes**, impacting **10,218,626 people**.

“I’m proud to say that I have sat at the table with many legislators and lawmakers and I have changed policies that affect my generation.”

Shevanique Winston
YES! youth staff
COMMUNITY LEVEL

YES! youth and adults change local policies and the youth and adults that they train effect change in their own communities or statewide.

Tobacco Sponsorships banned from Asheville/Buncombe County Bele Chere street festival.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg County Health Department’s The Core establishes a statewide youth food policy council.

“We must develop and use the critical tools of education, evidence, best practice policies, engagement of youth and sound practices to reverse the obesity trends that threaten the quality of life for our citizens and future generations, both in terms of their health and the economy. Movements such as Youth Empowered Solutions and similar initiatives provide leadership for obesity prevention efforts.”

Beverly Perdue, Former Governor, North Carolina
ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL

YES! youth and adult staff provide training and technical assistance to youth and adults with a focus on policy or systemic change.

865 youth and 324 adults were trained on the YES! Youth Empowerment Model at YES! trainings.

El Pueblo commits to engaging youth in organizational decision-making and creates strategic plan central to youth.

National Assembly on School-Based Health Care creates youth council, affecting more than 1,000 people nationally.

The North Carolina Rural Center commits to the New Generation Initiative, understanding the ability to create community vitality through youth leadership. YES! trains 11 local community youth groups throughout North Carolina to become engaged in relevant civic processes.

“Young people have the capacity to be incredible leaders among their peers and within their communities. When young people participate in the process of addressing the challenges of their community, they feel more invested in the process, more powerful in their own lives, and more motivated to stay and continue contributing in a meaningful, tangible way.”

Sue Lynn Ledford, Health Director, Wake County
Revenue: $1,143,535

- 84% Grant Income
- 14.2% Custom Service Revenue
- 1% Contributions - Individuals
- 0.3% Contributions - Corporate + In-Kind
- 0.4% Other
- 0.0003% Awards

Expenses: $1,088,879

- 93.4% Programs & Services
- 5.5% Fundraising
- 1.1% Management & General

YES! Return on Investment by Impact

$0.11

For every $1 invested, 9 people are impacted by a changed policy or system

Average cost per person impacted: Not specified

Average number of people impacted per change: 268,911