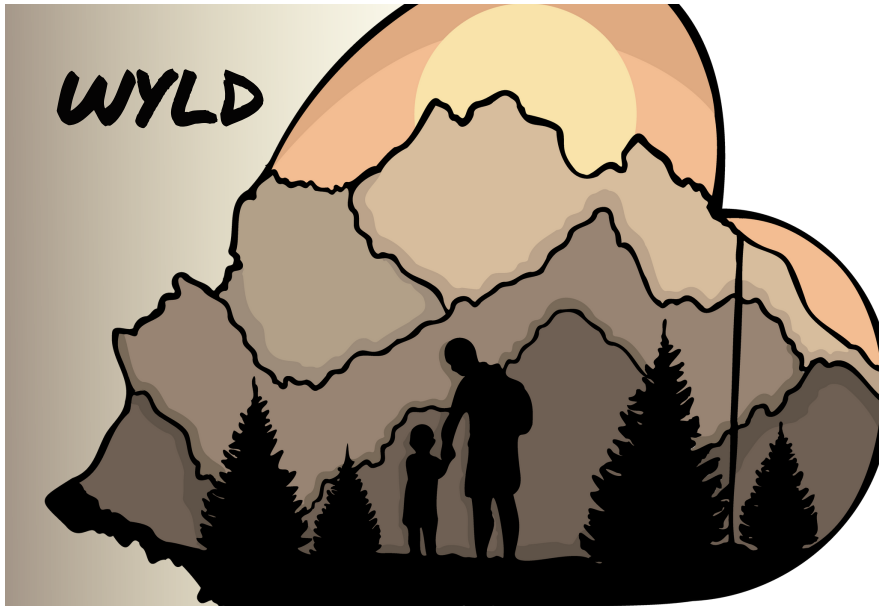


Wilkes Youth Life Development

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CREATING RESILIENT YOUTH

Wilkes Youth Life Development (WYLD) is a youth serving non-profit organization focused on developing healthy and resilient youth in Wilkes County. Our goal is to give them the support and skills they may need to become successful, independent adults. We plan to accomplish our mission by modeling healthy relationships, building positive environments, providing meaningful experiences, and creating a sustainable organization through strong governance and community partnerships. We serve Wilkes County youth ages 8-18. We strive to serve youth regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status.

This year, one of our big achievements was hosting a focus group. We wanted to hear thoughts from youth in Wilkes County on mental health, substance misuse and youth programming in the county. We learned what exactly the youth in our county feel that they need to be successful. Now, as we move forward we can meet their needs with our programs.

WE HAVE HAD A GREAT FIRST YEAR! WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE FUTURE WILL BRING TO WYLD AND OUR YOUTH!



Big Wins!

\$94,615

Raised in community support just this year!

482

Teen Action Council (TAC) members dedicated over 432 hours of service.

385

Medication lock boxes distributed across the county to provide safe medication storage during our "Lock Your Meds" evidence based media campaign.

250

Water bottles passed out to local youth to educate about the dangers of consuming alcohol during our "Water Over Alcohol" campaign.

18

Signs placed around Wilkes County declaring areas Tobacco Free Zones.

16

Local businesses that serve alcohol signed our "Proud to ID" campaign.



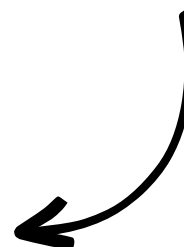
TEEN ACTION COUNCIL

The purpose of the Teen Advisory Council (TAC) is to empower youth within Wilkes County to pursue positive, healthy, and substance-free choices through evidence-based advocacy and skill building programs, social support, and positive youth development activities. TAC is youth-led and adult-guided to ensure that program recipients, Wilkes County youth, are engaged in the planning and implementation of activities. The adult “leaders” will focus on facilitating accessible and open community collaboration between stakeholders in order to create a well-trained team and optimize the amount of youth being served through TAC. TAC will also focus on engaging youth and families in evidence-based activities to increase the knowledge and preparation of the target population to make healthy choices. TAC began with 5 members and has grown to 12 kids in the past six months. This group of teens is dedicated and passionate about bringing change to Wilkes.

WHAT'S NEXT...

- Implement a teen Mental Health First Aid curriculum for 10th-12th grade students within all five of our public high schools, reaching around 1,905 students
- Expand our Teen Action Council into each of our high schools using the Positive Action model, expecting 7-12 kids in each school club.
- Create a middle school version of our Teen Action Council that will be lead by our TAC leaders.
- Start a Youth Connection Podcast that will connect youth from all across the county and highlight what is going on in the lives of Wilkes County youth.

**Scan here to see us on social media
or to donate to our mission!**



2022 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Children's Center of Northwest NC
Community Impact NC
Crossroads Harley Davidson
Dom Bakeries
Nina's
The Block
The Health Foundation
Town of North Wilkesboro
Town of Ronda

Town of Wilkesboro
US Army Corps of Engineers
Wilkes Family YMCA
Wilkes Chamber of Commerce
Wilkes Community College
Wilkes County Cooperative Extension
Wilkes County Schools
Wilkes Custom Printing
Wilkes Recovery Revolution

The ones who make our work possible!

Youth Guardian (\$20,000+)

Anonymous Donor
Community Impact NC

Youth Empowerment (\$5,000 - \$9,999)

The Leonard G. Herring Family Foundation
In Memory of Clate Edsel

Youth Promise (\$1,000 - \$4,999)

Angela Reins
Wilkes Community Foundation
XR Racing Events

Youth Friend (\$1-\$999)

Angela Day
Angie Taylor
Autumn Nichols
Bob Nichols
Brandi & Gabby
Bridal Traditions Wedding & Prom Attire
Carolina West Wireless
Cary Johnson
Champion Buildings
Champion Towing & Recovery
Created by Coffee Designs
Crossroads Harley Davidson
David Wingler
Deborah Kearsing
Denise Greene
ECMD
Fred Costello
Grant & Molly Roberts
Gwen Dowell
In Memory of Lisa Ruth Wood
Infusionspoints, LLC
Injected Diesel Performance, LLC
Jane Casarez
Jodi Jarvis
Jordan Forsythe
Judy Snyder
Kate Curchin
Ken Noland
Kensley Green

Keyton Greene
Kim Hefner
Linda Cheek
Liz Henderson
Luke Jarvis
Matt Matthews
Megan & Jeff
Melanie Nichols
Micah Dunlevy
Mike Lipford
Mike Perkins
Morgan Sturgill
Nina's
Northwest Automotive, LLC
Pat Melton
Randy Pennell
Renegade Graphics
Rodney Phillips
Stone Wheel Trucking
Suzanne Moore
SweetFrog
Talia Espresso
Taupe
The Rutherford's
Thomas Salley
Tommy Phillips
Town of North Wilkesboro
Town of Ronda
Town of Wilkesboro
Wilkesboro Qdoba

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



My name is Luke Jarvis and I am one of the founders and Executive Director of WYLD. I just want to say thank you for taking the time to review our impact report and learning more about us. I could say so much about WYLD and our team, but what I really want you to know is that WYLD was built on a foundation laid by determination.

As WYLD was developing, we spent countless hours planning, brainstorming, and researching on the best ways to serve the youth of Wilkes. Over the past few years every single person has been faced with some type of hardship during the COVID-19 pandemic. Programs ended, organizations closed, and the capacity to serve youth was altered. So we had to adapt, rethink strategies, and reevaluate ways to reach youth. In doing so we were able to lay the foundation of WYLD.

Our team is made up of individuals who are passionate about the work they do, they are determined to give their all, and they will not accept anything but the best. We are a group of individuals who truly believe in our mission to the fullest and are willing to go the extra mile to make sure our mission shines through. Our organization is full of people who have grown up in Wilkes County and have seen how the world has changed over the course of our lives. They are devoted to taking their lived experiences and coming together as a group to make sure that everything we do aligns with our pillars and is in the best interest of our community, especially the youth in our community.

We have sought advice from other grassroots organizations who have overcome adversity and who are truly making a difference in Wilkes. We have been guided, we have been mentored, and we have listened to the ones who have had faith in us and have been willing to support us. Our organization is not above asking for help if we need guidance or are unsure of how to move forward. We understand that one organization cannot change the world alone. We know that in order to go far, we have to go together, and we are willing to do that.

We are made up of leaders from a variety of sectors in our community and we all understand the important role that youth play in our community. Our organization plans to take advantage of opportunities that are laid before us that align with our mission. We will use the experiences that we gain and lessons learned to further educate ourselves as a team. Despite the potential obstacles we may be faced with, we will continue to come together to determine the best solution like we always have. We will continue to strive to keep Wilkes County youth at the forefront of planning and implementation. Our tight knit bond, our determination, and our passion to support the future of Wilkes are our organization's greatest strengths to achieve our outcomes.

With gratitude,
Luke

WYLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JANE CASAREZ- BOARD PRESIDENT, SUBSTANCE USE PROFESSIONAL, PARENT

JESSICA HAMMER- BOARD SECRETARY, MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL

ANGEL BELL- BOARD MEMBER, SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKER, PARENT

ANGELA REINS- BOARD MEMBER, BUSINESS OWNER

BRYAN TERRY- BOARD MEMBER, NC HIGHWAY PATROL

CRYSTAL KEENER- BOARD MEMBER, NORTH WILKESBORO, PARENT

JAMISON WATKINS- BOARD MEMBER, FINANCIAL ADVISOR

JEFF WALKER - BOARD MEMBER, NON-PROFIT PROFESSIONAL, PARENT

MARCUS HURTADO- BOARD MEMBER, PERSON IN RECOVERY, PARENT

MATT MATTHEWS- BOARD MEMBER, BUSINESS OWNER, PARENT

MICHAEL LIPFORD- BOARD MEMBER, BUSINESS OWNER, PARENTS

STONEY GREEN- BOARD MEMBER, BUSINESS OWNER, PARENT

THOMAS SALLEY- BOARD MEMBER, WILKESBORO, PARENT

LUKE JARVIS- EX OFFICIO