

Building a Community for Youth

The “Superior, A Community for Youth” Program is looking for youth and adults to join targeted efforts. If you would like to volunteer your time, even for a few hours a month, please let us know.

Please contact the Douglas County University of Wisconsin-Extension Office:

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Superior, A Community For Youth



*Everyone wins
when a
community
invests
in its youth.*



An initiative of the University of Wisconsin-
Extension Cooperative
Extension and partners in the City of Superior

Community Investments

Investing in the community results in big payoffs. Keeping streets clean and in good condition helps prevent accidents. Ensuring safe drinking water prevents disease. Controlling fires and crime reduces harm to community residents.

Investing in young people of our community can have similar paybacks.

- Involving young people in decisions lets them contribute back to the community.
- Providing safe and structured opportunities for youth prevents them from being unsupervised and in harms way.
- Creating caring relationships with youth means they'll be more successful as students and employees in our community.

The value of community investments in youth is more than preventing youth crime, drug use, and other negative behaviors; investments in youth encourage young people to become responsible and contributing citizens in their communities.

Communities For Youth

What is a community for youth?

A community for youth not only provides the mandatory supports for young people, but invests in young people in such pro-active ways as:

- Placing youth at or near the top of the public agenda
- Involving youth in community decisions and community building
- Recognizing youth as assets, not liabilities

How can Superior become a "community for youth"?

University of Wisconsin-Extension is partnering with the City of Superior. Our partnership will be long term and our mission is to build a youth friendly community.

To be most successful, sectors representing business, local government, law enforcement, media, youth, faith communities, school, and other organizations should be involved.

Investments will focus on:

Youth Leadership

Young people will take on visible and important roles, such as:

1. Facilitators for forums and public meetings.
2. Board members who provide opinions and perspectives to adult board members on issues affecting young people.
3. Active citizens who become engaged in community matters.

Building Community Spirit and Pride

Youth and adults will become partners in community building activities to:

1. Improve a park, community center, or other public places.
2. Establish community investment funds for youth programs.
3. Sponsor community-wide celebrations such as a block party or building a playground.

Establishing Policies for Healthy Youth

Local organizations will make changes in their ways of doing business to better support youth and families, such as:

1. Media features positive youth stories on the front page each week.
2. Organizations enhance their partnership efforts to create strong positive youth development programs.
Public and private policies are improved to create opportunities for youth