



## Eastern District Innovative Grant Program

### Fiscal Year 2006/2007 Application Form

Completed application form should not exceed (3) pages, using a minimum font size of 11 point, and no less than 1-inch margins. Submit completed application electronically to [karen.smiley@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:karen.smiley@ces.uwex.edu), and fax signature page (if electronic signature not available), by **Friday, March 30, 2007**.

***Project must be completed by December 31, 2007, unless prior approval received for extended timeline.***

1. **Project Title:** Youth Delegates to Door County Legislative Day
2. **Funding Requested:** \$ 387.00
3. **Project Lead/Grant Applicant (Name & County):** Dawn Kuelz, Door County
  - a) **Project Collaborator(s) (if applicable)**
    - Door County YMCA Youth in Governance Program
    - Door County Legislative Days Committee
    - Door County 4-H Junior Leaders
    - School Districts (Principals, Student Councils, Guidance Counselors)

4. **Signature:**   
**Grant Applicant/Lead**

#### 5. Project Description

##### a) Situation Statement

Youth in Governance continues to be an important topic for Youth Development programs throughout the country. Allowing youth the opportunity to learn more about their government, how they can get involved and helping adults to see the value in youth participation in government is a part of that movement.

Currently in Door County, a group of community members and staff from the Door County Economic Development Corporation and UW-Extension work together to plan an event called Legislative Days. The two-day event includes delegations of residents who travel to Madison to meet with our Legislators to thank them for their support in the past, as well as inform them about current and emerging issues and lobby for future support.

In the role as Youth Development Educator, I have not had the opportunity to work in this programming arena, and was approached by members of the Door County Legislative Days committee to see if including youth would be an option for this year's event. The planning committee felt the inclusion of youth in the delegation would help to strengthen the program for not only the participants from Door County, but would convey a strong message to our Legislators in Madison.

Since this is the first time a youth delegation has been included for Legislative Day, I have been working with UW-Extension staff in Douglas County, who have been very successful with their youth component of Superior Days, a similar program to our Legislative Days. I think that this could be a very successful first-run of the program, and could be continued in the future and become as beneficial to the youth as Superior Days is. Other counties who conduct programming similar to the Legislative Days could adapt this to fit their needs, and could tap into resources within their counties.

b) Project Objectives/Expected Outcomes

- Allow youth, both 4-H and non 4-H to experience government in Madison, through Legislative Day visits and sessions.
- Infuse Youth in Governance activities into current UW-Extension youth programs in Door County
- Increase youth interest in civic involvement by exposing them to needs assessments, planning sessions and lobbying sessions with the government officials.

c) Project Timeline

The timeline for my project is fairly short, as the event is coming up in early May. At this point, I am hoping to have a planning meeting for interested youth in mid-April and then they would be encouraged to attend orientation sessions with other delegates during the first week of May. Legislative Days are being held May 8 & 9, and I anticipate conducting an evaluation by the end of May while the experience is still fresh in the youths' minds.

d) Evaluation Plan

In order to evaluate the effectiveness of this experience, I will be sending an evaluation to the participants to see what they learned from the experience, and if they have ideas for how to expand upon it in the future. I also will contact those on the Legislative Day planning committee to see if they felt the youth component was an effective addition to the current structure, and if they would be interested in continuing it in the future and expanding to fit more of the youths' needs.

**6. Detailed budget breakdown (specifying the amount and purpose of funds requested from District Resource Management funds, and clarifying the source and amounts from other funds):**

Registration Fees (\$20 per person – 6 people)	\$120.00
Transportation/Mileage (368 miles)	\$164.00
Hotel Costs (\$89.00 per night – 3 rooms)	<u>\$267.00</u>
	\$551.00

Transportation funds will be covered through office budget. Other funds to cover partial cost of registration may be available through the Door County Economic Development Corporation, but that hasn't been finalized at this point.

**7. If you have received Resource Management funds for a similar/related project, in the past, include the following information:**

In the past, I have applied for and received a Resource Management Grant for providing scholarships for Summer Camp participants in Door County. The goal of that grant was to

provide youth who were not already 4-H members to experience UW-Extension Youth Development programming, and hopefully join 4-H as a result. It was a great way of reaching populations that hadn't been served through our county's traditional 4-H Community Club program.

This project is slightly different, in that I am focusing on broad-based youth development and concentrating on Youth in Government efforts. This is an opportunity to work collaboratively with community groups who also conduct similar programming and could set a precedent with the Legislative Days program and encourage youth to become more involved in our community.