

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS

Democracy must be learned by all. This is the motto of the Indiana Youth and Government program which provides an opportunity for students across Indiana to learn how our State Government works.

The YMCA Youth & Government program instills a sense of civic duty among today's youth, allowing kids to see the inner workings of our legislative process.

The only group allowed to truly take over the State House, YMCA students begin the process by choosing whether they want to be in the Legislative Branch and author a bill that is argued on the floor of the House and the Senate, to serve in the Judicial branch as a lawyer or Justice during which actual court cases are presented, to become a media and journalism correspondent, to perform duties of an elected position, or to serve

in the Youth Governor's cabinet.

Over six months, students study court cases, research bills, hear from guest media correspondents, and learn about the legislative process from elected politicians, attorneys, and local university professors.

The YMCA of Southwestern Indiana continues to have the biggest delegation of students in the state, sending more than 50 students each year from 10+ local schools.

Many of the kids impacted by YMCA programs face difficult

everyday realities and struggles that can seem overwhelming, but these kids have huge dreams of becoming doctors, lawyers, politicians, teachers, scientists, or even the next president of the United States.

Funds from the Annual Campaign help construct youth development programs that not only develop the character of young people but truly build the next generation of great leaders that will drive change and shape our nation.

