

Northfield Union of Youth
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www.unionofyouth.org



**Providing power and
voice to Northfield youth**

March 17, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

Northfield Union of Youth (NUY) operates The Key, the nation's longest-running youth-led youth center, where young people are not just participants but decision-makers. Through our youth board, volunteer opportunities, and leadership programs, we empower youth to take ownership of their future while providing a safe and supportive space.

The Youth Intervention Programs (YIP) grant is vital to our mission. With this funding, we offer food access, safe shelter, and critical support to young people facing homelessness, mental health challenges, and other barriers. YIP allows us to provide mentorship, crisis intervention, and essential resources—all within a trusted environment designed by and for youth. Without this support, many young people would lose access to the stability and guidance they need to thrive.

We strongly urge you to fully fund the YIP grant. Investing in youth intervention doesn't just change lives—it creates stronger, more resilient communities. The young people we serve today are the leaders of tomorrow, and they deserve every opportunity to succeed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelli Podracy".

Kelli Podracy
Executive Director