

Watonwan County Youth Development

March 18, 2025

Dear Committee Members,

Watonwan County has been a recipient of the Youth Intervention Program (YIP) grant since its inception, and it has played a pivotal role in supporting youth development in our rural community. Over the years, this grant has allowed us to work with hundreds of students. Our flagship program has always been the Teen Court program, which provides a second chance to first-time offenders of petty crimes. Additionally, it offers youth throughout the county the opportunity to serve as Teen Court jurors. It is student-led and the program benefits both the offenders and the jurors, making it a true win-win for everyone involved.

As the Youth Development Coordinator, I can confidently say that Teen Court is a valuable program for our young people. Without the YIP grant, we would be unable to continue offering this innovative and impactful program. I strongly encourage the committee to fully fund this grant, as it is a vital source of support for Watonwan County's youth development efforts. Thank you for your continued support, both now and in the past.

Sincerely,

Shawna Asendorf
Youth Development Coordinator