

## YOUTH OUTREACH NEWS

### Independent Living Skills

Throughout the semester we have been working on understanding budgeting, making payments, loans, income, unexpected expenses, risk management and insurance (health, home, and auto). We also have speakers come into our classroom for discussion and to answer any questions students have. This is so incredibly helpful because it gives our students a chance to ask questions in person and learn from each other's questions. This also gives an opportunity for our youth to meet these community members and have a connection to that establishment, such as Red Wing Credit Union, Express Employment, and MN Southeast Community and Technical College (these are a few of our speakers).

At the end of January we completed our first semester and we began our second semester teaching 15 new youth Independent Living Skills! This class will continue until the end of the school year.



ILS students listening to a guest speaker.

Here are some quotes from our first semester students:

***"I learned what the banks look at when you apply for a loan. I also learned not to spend money on things that aren't necessary, because unexpected expenses pop up."*** -ES

***"Things like life insurance and a 401k plan is worth the extra money now for the long run."*** -RH

***"That if you are saving for something you need or want, you need to look at your budget. If what you're saving for is important, you need to learn how to say no for small unnecessary things because they can add up quickly without you noticing."*** -CH

In order to be able to continue to support the youth in Red Wing, we need your help. If you are able to make a financial donation at this time, we have several options available:

- **Venmo App:** @RedWingYouthOutreach
- **Mail your donation:** Use the enclosed envelope to mail a donation to our office.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the included envelope to mail your donation.

- **Thrivent Choice Dollars:** If you are a Thrivent Financial member, designate Red Wing Youth Outreach as your preferred agency to receive your Thrivent Choice Dollars.

We thank you for your continued support of our programs. Stay safe and healthy!

Red Wing Youth Outreach  
410 Guernsey Lane • Red Wing MN 55066  
651-388-3371  
redwingyouthoutreach.org



## JANA LANGHANS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

### SPRING 2022

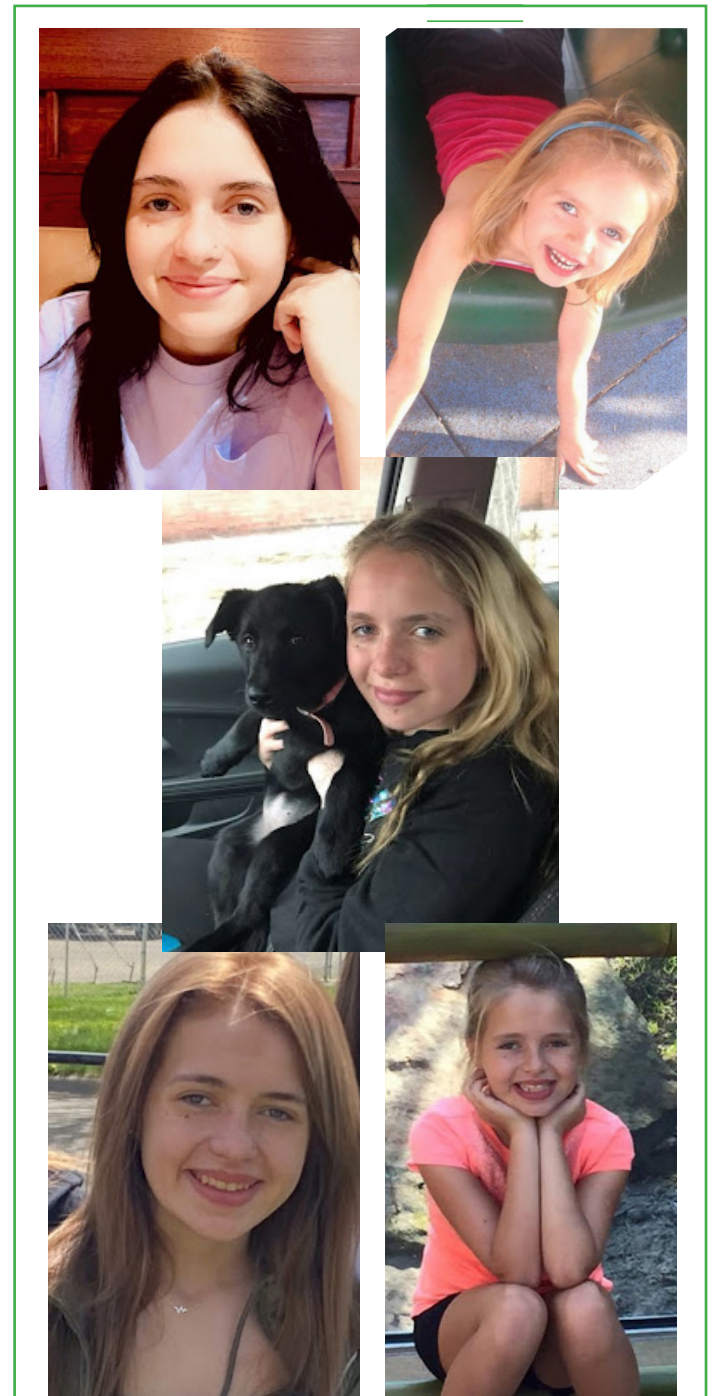
Jana Langhans joined our Red Wing Youth Outreach crew in the fall of 2020 when we first offered our Community Distance Education Assistance Program (CDEAP). Jana and her family, like so many others at that time, were looking for a safe space for Jana to complete her distance learning days. She spent several days with us at both of our locations where we got to know her spunky personality. Jana passed away on September 6, 2021. She is greatly missed by so many.

Red Wing Youth Outreach would like to honor Jana by helping to fundraise for a scholarship in her name, the Jana Langhans Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship will be awarded to a RWYO youth who graduates from Red Wing High School or Tower View Alternative High School.

***"Jana had a vivacious and bubbly personality. She was a fierce friend to all she met, a strong advocate and ally to others, and wasn't afraid to stand up for what she believed in. She was full of sass and energy. Jana had special connections with everyone she met and loved greatly. She was a beloved daughter, a cherished aunt, an avid animal lover, and a Disney fanatic. Even though Jana's time with us was short, the impact she left on the world was great and deep."***

Ashley Nelson, Social Worker at Red Wing High School

Please consider donating in Jana's memory. You can find a link to donate directly on our website under the Take Action tab or you can mail your donation directly to our office.



## YOUTH OUTREACH NEWS

### Mentoring

Beginning in December, all mentoring at RWHS went virtual. Although it is easier to run virtual sessions when students are all together in school, we would much rather have ALL of us together in person. We continue to focus on skills for overcoming obstacles. We are learning how to identify our own strengths and qualities, how to use those strengths when working with others, having respect for ourselves and others, and being self-aware. Many mentoring pairs are choosing to meet in person outside of school to enjoy a hike, movie, play, or dinner out.

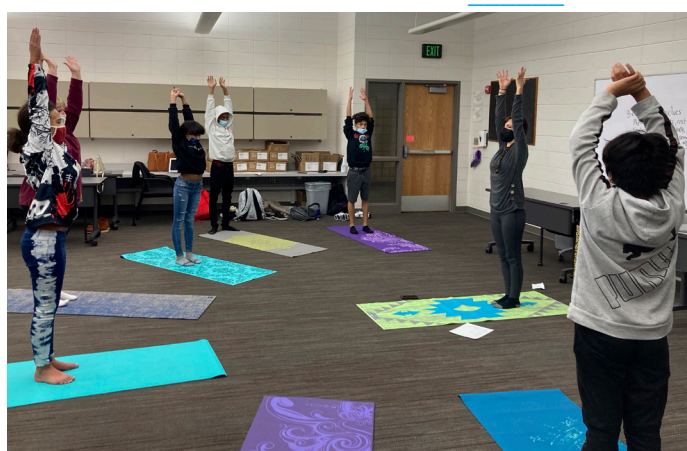
We are thankful to Kristin Diercks for leading a trauma-informed yoga group with several of our students. Along with centering and relaxing our minds and bodies with yoga, we have spent time discussing goal setting, how to be intentional, letting go of things we can not control, listening to ourselves and others, and so much more. Students have developed confidence, focus, and flexibility!!

In addition, we are thankful for the space we have at RWHS. Students continue to visit us on a daily basis. We are happy to be a safe place for them when the chaos of high school life gets in the way of productive learning time.

If you are interested in being a mentor, please contact Jennifer Tift at [jennifertift@redwingyouthoutreach.org](mailto:jennifertift@redwingyouthoutreach.org).



We want to welcome Jenna's new son, Mac Jameson Jeffrey, to the RWYO family!



Kristin Diercks leading a yoga group with students



Mentoring classroom at Red Wing High School

### Resources

If you know a child or young adult in the Red Wing community who may be in need of professional assistance, please contact Red Wing Youth Outreach at **651-388-3371**.

## YOUTH OUTREACH NEWS

### Youth Advisory Council (YLC)

We currently have 12 members in our Youth Leadership Council. They will focus on three different goals throughout the year:

1. Service projects
2. School Culture
3. Inclusion

Here is what our Youth Leadership Council has been up to:

#### October

YLC participated in a service project of fall cleaning up the Anderson Center in Red Wing. Our members were raking up leaves, cleaning up trash, and hanging Christmas lights!

#### November

Our new leaders organized Tower View's Community Closet and promoted it to the student body.

#### December

Our inclusion officers wanted to welcome all the new students that came to Tower View at the quarter break. They played games, had a welcome breakfast, and shared helpful tips for new students. Our YLC recognized that this school is different from the main school and it can be hard for new students.

#### Holiday project

Our youth set up a gingerbread house contest for everyone who wanted to participate. They organized posters and dress up days and on the day of our Leaders made sure that one YLC member was on each team to make sure people felt included!

#### January

YLC council set their goals and projects for the rest of the school year.

