

2014 Annual Report

What is the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program?

The Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program awards grants of up to \$1000 each to young people to fund their environmental sustainability projects in Carmel, Indiana. This grant program is unique in that it is administered by a volunteer board comprised primarily of middle and high school students who inspire and mentor youth, ages 19 and under, to identify environmental needs within our community and to design, fund, implement, and evaluate appropriate projects to address those needs. Projects funded through our program must be youth-led and serve to reduce pollution, conserve natural resources, save energy, or reintroduce native species or habitats in Carmel, Indiana. This program is sponsored by the City of Carmel, Carmel Utilities, and the Carmel Clay Schools' Green Team. Since inception in 2009 thirty-seven youth-led environmental projects have received funding, engaging over 600 young people and saving Carmel citizens an estimated \$120,000 and over 250 tons of carbon dioxide emissions annually.

2014 Youth-led Projects Funded by the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program:



Carmel Pollinator Garden - \$295 - Students in the Carmel High School Sustainable Living Club created a pollinator garden for butterflies, bees, and birds in the CCS Plots to Plates Community Garden's meditation area. This garden, planted with perennial plants native Indiana, will increase biodiversity in our area through providing a habitat for butterflies and other pollinators. Informational signs will enhance the area and serve to educate our community.

Trees for Future Generations - \$220 - Members of the Carmel High School Do Something Club thought that kids these days could be doing more to help the environment, so they created a lesson plan about the benefits of trees for the 104 first graders at Smoky Row Elementary School. Their lesson involved an interactive PowerPoint, singing, prizes, and a tree seedling for each student to take home and plant with his or her family.





Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program



CHS TEDx Conference - \$100 - The Carmel High School TEDx Club organized and hosted a TEDx Conference that took place on April 19, 2014. This conference was based upon the official TED layout with multiple speakers talking for 18 minutes or less. A portion of these talks and videos discussed and promoted environmental sustainable living and how to implement simple practices in daily life to minimize one’s environmental impact. The group used reusable cups at their lunch to illustrate how easy it is to go green.

UHS Campus Green Up - \$1000 - The University High School EcoBlazers complimented their Carmel Green Teen funded community garden created in 2013 by establishing and implementing a composting system and building a multi-purpose rain harvesting structure. The students and staff now compost school lunchroom waste for use in the community garden, and the rain barrels adjacent to the new structure provide needed water for their teaching garden.



Saving the Earth: One Kid at a Time - \$371.56- Girl Scouts of Central Indiana’s Ciara Pickering chose to educate elementary aged students at Forest Dale Elementary School about preserving the environment. Students learned about recycling, pollution prevention and other ways to care for the earth through hands-on activities and crafts in conjunction with the Extended School Enrichment (ESE) program. Her teaching guide and curriculum is now available to ESE programs for use districtwide and on the CarmelGreenTeen.org website.







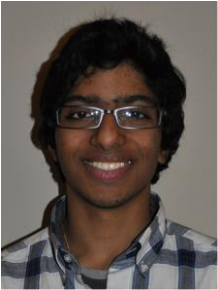






Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program Numbers

Grant Period	# Grants	Funds Distributed	Youth Participants	Total Beneficiaries
2013-2014	5	\$1,986.56	75	15,823
2009-2013	32	\$17,596.57	555	95,178
Total	37	\$19,583.13	631	111,001 (entire community)



Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program

Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program Board Members:

<p><i>Aaron V.</i></p> 	<p><i>Eden S.</i></p> 	<p><i>Ilsa S.</i></p> 
<p><i>Lauren M.</i></p> 	<p><i>Marisa A.</i></p> 	<p><i>Natalie C.</i></p> 
<p><i>Shiva V.</i></p> 	<p><i>Sitha V.</i></p> 	<p><i>Claire Lane</i></p> 
<p><i>Josh Lane</i></p> 	<p><i>Margot Gibson</i></p> 	<p><i>Paula Shepley</i></p> 
	<p><i>Sue Maki</i></p> 	



Carmel Green Teen

**Citywide Recycling and Used
Book Collection Drive
Fall 2014**



Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program

Service Projects

In addition to running the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program to empower other students through service, our board members also contribute to the community and help our environment through a service project of our own. Since 2010, members of the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program have helped to organize and promote an ever-evolving twice-yearly citywide recycling drive at the Carmel High School stadium parking lot.

Citywide Recycling and Used Book Collection Drive Spring 2014

This year the Carmel Green Teens partnered Carmel Utilities, Carmel Police Department, Crime Stoppers of Central Indiana, Technology Recyclers, and Wish-TV for two very successful events held on Saturday, April 26, 2014 and Saturday, October

25th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

At both events combined, over 50 tons of electronics were collected for recycling, over 20 tons of documents were shredded and recycled, and approximately 5200 used books were collected and donated to the Indy Reads Books to support their adult literacy programs.



Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program Awards and Recognition - 2014



Youth
Changing
the World

Youth Service America 2014 Summer of Service

This award was given to the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program to recognize our youth board members who are creating lasting, positive change through volunteer and community service projects. Youth Service America recognizes ongoing, youth-led projects that highlight the creativity and commitment of young people working to meet the needs of others. The Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program received recognition as well as \$1,000.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



CHS Earns 2014 Green Ribbon School Status

The U.S. Department of Education recognized 49 schools nationwide in 2014. Green Ribbon School recognition honors schools that are exemplary in reducing environmental impact and costs; improving the health and wellness of students and staff; and providing effective environmental and sustainability education, which incorporates STEM, civic skills and green career pathways. The cumulative impacts from the Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program and its funded projects helped earn Carmel High School this recognition.

For more details about The Carmel Green Teen Micro-Grant Program visit carmelgreenteen.org
To create a Green Teen Micro-Grant Program in your community visit yourgreenteen.weebly.com