

## The Goals

### Alleviating the Effects of Poverty on Youth

RYY Fellows will work with their host organization and all necessary stakeholders to develop measurable, sustainable services and programs that address the self-identified needs of Rochester's youth and aim to build on their strengths and assets.

### Strengthening Communities

RYY Fellows will work to build the capacity of their host organizations to develop and/or enhance programs that engage youth and families in positive and productive activities and initiatives. Equally important, Fellows will work to empower youth and families to take an active role in improving their own neighborhoods.

### Promoting Civic Engagement and Community-Centered Leadership

RYY Fellows will create lasting partnerships between the community, their host organizations, and their alma mater. Serving as role models and liaisons, they will engage college communities in substantial opportunities that contribute to the life of the Rochester community.

## Apply today!

Email [youth.year@rochester.edu](mailto:youth.year@rochester.edu) or call 585.276.3277 for more information!

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[www.youthyear.org](http://www.youthyear.org)



## Fellowship Program



Give. Live.  
Learn. Earn.

## The Challenge

Urban youth in Rochester face extraordinary challenges rooted in extreme poverty. In 2000, the city ranked 11th in the nation for the highest poverty rate among children, with nearly 42% of youth (18 and under) living in poverty citywide. In some neighborhoods, as many as 9 in 10 children live in poverty. The ramifications of concentrated poverty have become entrenched and are far-reaching.

## The Opportunity

The Rochester Youth Year (RYY) Fellowship is an AmeriCorps\*VISTA sponsored program administered by the Rochester Regional Network (RRN), a consortium of six local colleges. RYY places talented recent graduates of RRN colleges in community-based organizations for one year to create or expand initiatives that address the various challenges facing youth and families in Rochester.

## Why Rochester Youth Year?

Why choose the Rochester Youth Year Fellowship among the various other public service programs out there? RYY will allow you to establish deep roots and form a vast network in the region you've called home for four years or more. Working with residents, nonprofit organizations, government leaders, and educators, RYY is your chance to engage in the Rochester community and your opportunity to make Rochester a more vibrant city. A position with RYY guarantees you a highly valuable hands-on experience which will benefit you professionally and enrich you personally.

Employers recognize and appreciate public service; RYY will help set your resume apart from those of your peers!

RYY is a small and selective program, admitting ten or less fellows into the program each year. Because of this, there is a pervasive sense of camaraderie and cohesion in our program. We provide RYY Fellows with a high level of support and are committed to helping them make the most of their year with us. Fellows receive ongoing skill and leadership development workshops and networking opportunities throughout their term to maximize their professional development.

## The Benefits

- o A bi-weekly stipend
- o A \$4,725 AmeriCorps Education Award or a \$1,200 final stipend
- o Student Loan Forbearance or Deferment of qualified loans
- o Repayment of interest accrued on qualified student loans
- o Non-Competitive Eligibility for most federal jobs after term of service
- o Healthcare and prescription drug coverage
- o Reimbursement for relocation travel expenses, if eligible
- o Relocation allowance, if eligible
- o Ten personal days and ten sick days
- o Frequent professional development opportunities
- o Child care allowance, if eligible
- o Life Insurance (can waive)

## Rochester Regional Network Partner Colleges

Nazareth College  
Roberts Wesleyan College  
St. John Fisher College  
SUNY Geneseo  
The College at Brockport, SUNY  
University of Rochester\*

\*The program is hosted at the University of Rochester

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