



## Grant Report for: The Lutheran Women's Missionary League

**Young Adult Corp**  
**Grant Award: \$25,000**  
**Reporting Period: October, 2016 through May, 2017**

In August, 2014, Lutheran Youth Corps held the first week-long "pilot" program with Philadelphia Lutheran Ministries through the ministry of Shepherd of the City Lutheran Church. Thirteen young people took part in the event along with staff from LCMS Office of National Mission. Participant engaged in acts of service, while learning more about urban and inner-city ministry and our theology of mercy.

This past summer, we conducted the second pilot short term mission trip here in St. Louis with two of our St. Louis partners. That event included leading a short Children's event at Christian Friends of New Americans, installing a sump pump in their basement, and preparing St. Trinity's building for summer camp.

In January, 2017 we conducted our last of three short term pilot servant events with our Community Partners. We hosted a four-day servant event at Shepherd of the City in Philadelphia, the second short term servant event with our Philadelphia Community Partners. We did extensive work on the church building and grounds, and we welcomed back several young people from the original 2014 pilot servant event.

Since LWML graciously awarded our grant, Lutheran Young Adult Corps (formally Lutheran Youth Corps) has continued to develop and grow.

We have a new logo with our adjusted name. We are currently promoting the program through conferences, new written materials, and publications like the Lutheran Witness. Additionally, we are connected on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to help recruit participants and promote the ministry of our Community Partners. LWML has permission to use the logo on their website.

Applications for the 2017-2018 program year opened on October 10, 2016 and closes April 1, 2017. We will be able to place a total of 25 participants in the 10 week and 10 month programs. LWML's Grant will allow us to pay a portion of the stipend for each participant in both of those programs. This allows us to keep the cost low or free to participants and low to the community partners where they are placed.



Participants will serve in three cities: Boston, New Orleans, and St. Louis. They will be serving with churches, campus ministries, and Recognized Service Organizations in each of these cities.

We will be able to place nine participants in the 2017 10 week Summer Term and 16 participants in the 10 month Gap Year Program. LWML's grant will allow us to pay a portion of the stipend for each participant in both of those programs. This allows us to keep the cost low or free to participants and low to the community partners where they are placed.

Service Location	10 WEEK Summer Term Program	10 MONTH Gap Year Program	Total Student Participants
Boston	4	4	8
New Orleans	2	5	7
St. Louis	3	7	10
Total	9	16	25

Lutheran Young Adult Corps (formally Lutheran Youth Corps) will launch its first program year in June, 2017. The 10 week summer term program will begin June 1, 2017 through August 14, 2017. The ten month gap year program starts August 1, 2017 and runs through May 31, 2018.

Applicants are finalizing the required paperwork and we are working through final preparations with our Community Partners. Each host site has a budget of \$40,000 and Synod has been committed to funding these expenses.

As participants begin their service we will post regular updates on our social media platforms and in our future reports. Updates will be found on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to highlight participants, Community partners and to help recruit future participants.



Top Left: A participant from New Mexico helping to shovel and salt Shepherd of the City's sidewalks.  
Top Right: Two participants cleaning out long ignored storage in order to make room for an after school program.





Top Left: Two participants from the 2014 servant event who came back for this one as well. They are pictured with Knox DeGroot, who was only three when they visited last.

Top Right: St. Louis Servant Event, Summer, 2016



Above: St. Louis Servant Events, Summer, 2016





Rev. Mark Kiessling reviewed the Young Adult Corp program with LWML President Patti Ross and VP of Gospel Outreach, Shelley Moeller on March 15, 2017. Pres. Patti Ross presented a grant check of \$25,000.

Links to our social media...

<https://www.facebook.com/LutheranYACorps/>

<https://twitter.com/LutheranYACorps>

[www.instagram.com/lutheranyacorps](http://www.instagram.com/lutheranyacorps)

*This report has been compiled by Mary Hamilton, LCMS Grants Manager with the above information provided by Julianna Shults, DCE, Program Manager and Rev. Mark Kiessling, Director Youth Ministry.*

