



# September 2018

## Mission Grant Story

### Equipping Youth to Witness for Life Y4Life- \$25,000

*For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well (Psalm 139:13-14).*

Indeed, your works are wonderful, Gracious God, but too many people, faced with an unwanted pregnancy, don't think about that wonderful child that could be theirs. Instead they're thinking about an inconvenient and unwanted intrusion on their lives.

What to do about an unplanned pregnancy is a decision that young adults face more than any other age group. And, as a result, over 1.2 million abortions are done every year. This is a staggering number of lives lost.

Youth for Life (Y4Life) is program for young adults and older teens to speak to their peers about these issues and is part of Lutherans for Life. In their training they learn that 27% of those having an abortion have no religious affiliation and only 25% have been to church in the last month. A sad as this situation is, it is also an opportunity to share the Gospel and

God's love. Through training these young people can give guidance and information about alternative services while witnessing to their peers.

This grant will expand this campus ministry to include Lutheran high schools. Since abortion occurs at an alarming rate in high school age teens, the need for education about alternatives to abortion is great. And since 17% of Lutheran high school students have no religious affiliation, Y4Life has an opportunity to tell these fellow classmates about Jesus and provide helpful information about alternatives to abortion and the sanctity of life.

This grant will provide funds for an internship program, outreach events, leadership training, servant events and a director for this ministry. Students are also provided with on-going mentorship to ensure that the student-led ministries are supported and equipped for their work. Through this program even more young people can hear the life-affirming message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.