YPAR teams will be developed, sponsored, housed, and facilitated over a 12-month project period by applicant organizations. Organizations best suited to sponsor a YPAR team are those that model positive youth development and value youth voice, youth leadership, and youth action. YPAR teams will receive training and technical assistance; however, applicant organizations must be able to dedicate a facilitator with some familiarity with research, evaluation, or organizing. YPAR teams produce research focused on social action that is informed by local community input, therefore applicant organizations must be familiar with and comfortable with engaging communities connected with their YPAR youth. Supporting this youth-led community engagement approach toward research is critical to developing leadership and technical skills as well as building the capacity of young people to be change makers. More information about how YPAR teams conduct and approach their project including youth, adult, and organization roles and responsibilities will be covered during the information sessions.

**Grant Program Information**

- $100,000 is available in funding for 2018 projects.
- Four to six grants ranging in size from $15,000 to $20,000 will be awarded.
- Grants are one year beginning on January 1, 2018 and ending on December 31, 2018.
- YPAR orientation, subsequent trainings, and technical assistance will be provided to prepare research teams for their projects.

**Eligibility & Requirements**

Eligible applicants include 501(c)(3) youth focused organizations and community, social justice, and research organizations that have a focus on issues that affect youth. Eligible applicants also include organizations described above without their own 501(c)(3) but with a 501(c)(3) fiscal sponsor and educational institutions. Organizations must be located in Minnesota and commit to the following:

- Assemble a team of young people 15 to 24 years of age to develop and lead research.
- Assign a facilitator with research, evaluation, or organizing qualifications or experience to provide support to youth.
- Participate in YPAR orientation and trainings.
- Participate and share information and data in quarterly meetings of the YPAR network.
- Present research, data, and findings to the community and the YPAR network.
- Submit your data and findings to Youthprise.
- Complete a final report that consists of an interview with Youthprise staff to summarize your process, your findings, your outcomes, and your research journey.

**Selection Criteria**

To model our commitment to youth leadership, this year our grant review process prominently includes youth in the decision-making. We will be inviting young people from our current YPAR cohort to participate in the grant review process and help to select the organizations recommended to the Youthprise board for funding. The selection process will include the following:

- Evaluation of your capacity to assemble a team of youth researchers willing to commit to a yearlong research project.
- Evaluation of your organization’s or facilitator’s qualifications or experience engaging youth and/or experience conducting research, evaluation, or organizing issues based campaigns.
- Evaluation of the scope of your research project, the potential for application of your findings, and degree of engagement with community.
- Evaluation of your project and participant goals and outcomes.