



Contact: Charee Gillins  
951.255.4254  
cgillins@iegives.org  
www.iegives.org

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## **Local High School Students Give \$38,000 to Nonprofits in Riverside & San Bernardino County**

*Riverside Students Award \$10,000 to Nonprofits Serving Youth*

Riverside, CA – [Inland Empire Community Foundation](#) which serves Riverside and San Bernardino Counties has area high school students fund grants for local nonprofits.

Weeks into the statewide shutdown, YG made the shift to a virtual format for all of its gatherings. Students met over Zoom to do everything from organizing site visits and community service projects to analyzing grants and presenting awards to organizations in virtual ceremonies. “I wasn’t sure how our committee activities would be impacted being fully online,” said Denisha Shackelford, IECF Youth Initiatives Manager. “The students, however, went above and beyond and surprised me constantly with their creativity.”

The YG program, which began in 2009, is dedicated to teaching the tradition of philanthropy and community involvement to youth in the Inland Empire. Over the course of nine months students learn to read and analyze a grant application, respectfully debate the most critical needs, and prioritize the many worthwhile requests.

With representatives from 29 high schools in both counties, 108 Youth Grantmakers make up the Riverside, San Bernardino, Coachella Valley, and Native programs. Since the inception of this program, Youth Grantmakers have awarded \$509,000 to deserving nonprofit agencies.

In 2020-2021, they awarded \$38,000 in grants, of which \$12,000 were “Charity of Choice” recipients. \$26,000 was awarded to 15 nonprofits:

### **2020 Grantees**

#### **Coachella Valley**

Boo2Bullying, Inc	\$1,000.00
Boys & Girls Clubs of Coachella Valley	\$1,500.00

SCRAP Gallery	\$2,500.00
The Unforgettables Foundation	\$1,000.00

**Riverside**

Assistance League of Riverside	\$2,500.00
Exceptional Opportunities, Inc.	\$2,500.00
LGBTQ+ Center of Riverside County	\$1,235.00
Pomona Economic Opportunity Center – IE Immigrant Youth Collective	\$1,265.00
Youth for Truth International	\$2,500.00

**San Bernardino**

Generations Rise	\$2,500.00
Magdalena’s Daughters	\$2,500.00
Pomona Economic Opportunity Center- IE Immigrant Youth Collective	\$500.00
Project Fighting Chance	\$2,000.00
Queen of Hearts Therapeutic Riding Center, Inc.	\$2,200.00
San Bernardino Fatherhood	\$300.00

“Although we could no longer meet in person, this obstacle did not stop us from our ultimate goal of helping at-risk youth who needed our help more than ever,” said YG Participant Juan Velasquez. “We may have been delayed, but through many zoom calls and digital problem solving, we still came to a consensus.”

To learn more about the [Youth Grantmakers Program](#), contact the Programs Department at 951.241.7777.

*About the Inland Empire Community Foundation*

*Founded in 1941, the Inland Empire Community Foundation is the oldest and largest community foundation in Inland Southern California. We partner with individuals, families and corporations to help them achieve their charitable goals. Since inception, we have given out over \$100 million in grants and scholarships. For more information visit the IECF’s website at [www.iegives.org](http://www.iegives.org). Be a part of our conversation on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.*

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