



UNITED WAY OF EAST CENTRAL IOWA  
**YOUNG LEADERS**  
 SOCIETY

The Young Leaders Society recognizes individuals and couples aged 40 years or younger who give \$250+.

## FY18 YLS ANNUAL REPORT

[UWECI.ORG/YLS](http://UWECI.ORG/YLS)



**1,000+**  
 Young Leader  
 Society members



**\$536,529**  
 pledged by  
 YLS members



**\$36,121**  
 contributions  
 to RED Ahead

### Our Mission

To improve the quality of life of children, ages 0–5, by engaging young leaders in addressing critical needs affecting our community.

### YLS & RED Ahead

YLS designates 10% of all gifts to RED Ahead (or Read Every Day to get Ahead). This program provides parents information and activities to help their young children develop the language skills they need to be ready for kindergarten. RED Ahead aligns with YLS's mission to improve children's lives specifically through focusing on education.

Learn more about the local families who benefit from RED Ahead at [uweci.org/redahead](http://uweci.org/redahead).

### RED Ahead Results

In FY18, YLS helped RED Ahead:

- Distribute **12,830** books
- Provide **3,114** families with developmental education and activities
- Serve **5,299** local children
- Teach parents the importance of reading to their child:  
**96.32%** increased amount they read together

### YLS Chair



Whitney Pino, Van Meter

### YLS Accomplishments



#### Time for Art 2018

On April 27, we hosted, Time for Art: A Celebration of Volunteers.

The evening featured a unique silent art auction and award ceremony that celebrated volunteering in our community.

During the silent art auction, participants bid volunteer hours instead of dollars and raised a record number of hours:

- Volunteer hours pledged: **5,220**
- Value to our community: **\$128,880+**



## Ways to Get Involved This Fall

### Young Leaders Society Newsletter

Opt-in to receive the YLS quarterly email newsletter to make sure you get the most up-to-date information on YLS's impact and events.

[Sign up at uweci.org/yls.](https://uweci.org/yls)

### Young Leaders Society Steering Committee

Interested in joining the first for kids in our community? Email Lauren DuBay to set up a time to learn more from one of our current committee members.

[Email lauren.dubay@uweci.org for more information.](mailto:lauren.dubay@uweci.org)

### Volunteers in Proficiency (VIP)

Volunteers in Proficiency (VIP) is a literacy program that pairs volunteers and elementary school students to read together for 40 minutes once a week during the school day. Sign-up to volunteer during the 12-week fall (October–December) or spring (February–May) session and help local students improve their literacy skills.

[Learn more at uweci.org/vip.](https://uweci.org/vip)

### Volunteers on Tap and Books & Brew

Sign up for our volunteer newsletter to stay current on YLS events throughout the year!

### BOLD Series

Join United Way Young Leaders Society Board Orientation & Leadership Development (BOLD) to learn more about board service, receive training, and find organizations with board or committee opportunities that match your skills and passions.

[Learn more at uweci.org/bold.](https://uweci.org/bold)

### Because of You Leadership Reception

Join us each fall as we thank you for fighting for our community. Pick up your leadership directory, take part in an impactful activity, and network with members of United Way's other leadership societies!

**Look for your invite at the end of each summer!**

[View our activities calendar at uweci.org/yls.](https://uweci.org/yls)



## How to become a YLS member

Donate \$250 by texting YLS18 to 41444 to use our online payment option.

Choose your preference:

- Payment frequency: One-time, weekly, or monthly
- Payment options: Credit or debit card or PayPal