Update 4.7.2021

Program Announcements/Updates

- **The Final Report Form is going virtual!** We've updated prompts for clarity, eliminated several sections, and created separate project pages in order to make the form more straightforward for teams to complete and judges to review. These improvements will also ensure that YES! has accurate and meaningful data for reporting team accomplishments to funders. Sections include: Team Overview, Community Engagement & Impact, Career Awareness, Project Pages, Project Expenses & Revenue Sheet, and Your Visual. The online form may be completed in more than one sitting and edited after submission. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact your YES! coordinator! **Click here to open the online Final Report Form.**

  Important Dates for the YES! Competition:
  - **May 6: Deadline to submit Final Report and visual.**
  - **May 19: Spring Judging Day.** The judges would love to meet with students! Soon, teams will be able to sign up for a time to give a virtual presentation.
  - **May 20: Winners and Awards announced online**

- **Project Seed Funds Available!** Submit for up to $500 in **project seed funds** any time before May 1, 2021. (You do not need to fill out an application form.) The reimbursement form is found in **Coaches Corner** (password: sayyes!) or click here: **Project Seed Funds Reimbursement Request Form**

- **YES! signs** are a great way to increase the visibility of your completed projects and recognize the contributions of team members! The signs are 5" x 6.5" and have a sticky back. Get up to two YES! signs at NO COST (additional signs are $10 each); please contact your coordinator to order them.

Regional Updates

Southern Update: The Springfield team started growing plants with a hydroponic system. Due to some issues with a pump and timer, the students adapted the project by transplanting those seedlings into soil; they also plan to plant more seeds. ~Deb Groebner, South/Northeast Coordinator

WC/C Update: Minnewaska/WIN Academy and New London-Spicer YES! students participated in the "Lights!Water!Action" Kit workshop. They are doing a home Survey/audit to improve the energy and water efficiency in their home. They received 9 LED bulbs, an aerator, flow test kit and water leak detector tablets in each Kit to be used/installed at home. A big THANK YOU to Great River Energy (GRE), Kandiyohi Power Company (KPC), and Runestone Electric Association (REA) for contributing the Kits and for the expertise. And another shout out to Jacob Selseth from Clean Energy Resource Teams (CERTs) for providing his expertise in creating the Home Energy Survey.
~ Taylor Templer, West Central Coordinator

Northeast Update: Carlton team members gave virtual presentations for middle school classes about climate change. They also created an energy scavenger hunt for the students to do at home. This project was designed to not only teach younger students but also generate interest in joining YES! next year! ~Deb Groebner, South/Northeast Coordinator

Opportunities

T-Mobile Changemaker Challenge (Due April 8): Have an idea for technology, the environment, or education that would make communities more sustainable, connected, and inclusive? The **Changemaker Challenge** is a social innovation

challenge for young people (ages 13-18) in the U.S. Selected teams will receive **$5,000 in seed funding**, on-going mentoring, and publicity to support their projects, and one grand prize winner will receive $15,000 to supercharge their idea. The top 15 teams will also be invited to an all-expenses paid, three-day Changemaker Lab in Bellevue, WA focused on collaboration, storytelling, and skill development. The **online application** closes on **April 8, 2021** at 11:00pm Central Time. (Tip: After you go to the link, start the application process by clicking the blue "Participate" button.)

Coaches Corner: Password: *sayyes!*