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RACINE COUNTY ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS FOR 2018 YOUTH IN GOVERNANCE PARTICIPANTS

Racine – Do you know a youth who is curious about or interested in government? Consider nominating them for the Racine County Youth in Governance program, which is currently accepting nominations. This an opportunity in which students can contribute their voices to community issues and concerns and develop their confidence, independence, leadership skills, and civic knowledge while serving on one of five County Board committees for an entire year. Nomination forms are due by Thursday, February 8, 2018.

“Our hope is that students will hone their skills of observation and participation in government matters to become the civic leaders of tomorrow,” said County Supervisor Janet Bernberg, chairwoman of the Government Services Committee. County Executive Jonathan Delagrave added, “This is about motivating young leaders from all over our County to contribute their talents to public service now and in the future.”

To participate in Youth In Governance, students must:

- Be a Racine County resident;
- Be a high school freshman, sophomore or junior at time of application;
- Have a GPA of 2.5 or greater on a 4.0 scale;
- Be able to attend the monthly meetings, typically occurring once or twice per month

The Racine County Board of Supervisors established the Youth In Governance program in 2013 and has partnered with UW-Extension faculty to facilitate the program. “We know from research and experience that when youth are engaged in decision making, they become substantial resources for their communities,” said Racine County UW-Extension Director Bev Baker. A youth participant stated that “Youth in Governance creates an environment for students to feel confident in their opinions, and to feel safe to voice this opinion. I have never been part of a program where I have felt so empowered to be a leader and to share how I felt on certain issues.”

All youth who are nominated will receive a letter and application materials. Nominations must be received no later than Thursday, February 8, 2018. Obtain a nomination form by contacting Racine County UW-Extension at (262) 767-2929, uwextension@racinecounty.com or by visiting <http://racine.uwex.edu/4-h-youth-development/youth-in-governance/>.

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