



This past July three students from cooperative member families attended Youth Leadership Congress (YLC) at UW-Stout in Menomonie. Dayne Beaudette, Cicely Kiecker, and KC Rose completed an application process and were selected by the cooperative to attend. CVEC sponsored the students and paid all fees to attend the event. This is a great example of co-op principle #5 in action (see following page).

The annual YLC is a dynamic three-day event for youth leaders across Wisconsin to develop their leadership skills while learning about the purpose, operation, and scope of cooperative businesses. It is a by-teens, for-teens cooperative leadership conference that is planned and developed by a youth board elected at the previous year's event. One of CVEC's students, KC Rose, was elected to the youth board this year and will be a part of planning the 2023 YLC. Congrats, KC!

Cicely, Dayne, and KC shared their experiences with CVEC. It's great to read what they took away from YLC!



Dayne Beaudette

Thank you for the opportunity to attend YLC; I really enjoyed learning about cooperatives. My favorite part of YLC was the hypnotist and next, I really liked Craig Hillier (motivational speaker). I was awarded the MVP for my district because I was engaged and participated the most.

(Dayne is pictured in the center).

Left: District MVPs included CVEC delegates Cicely Kiecker (front row, far left) and Dayne Beaudette (front row, center).

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Cicely Kiecker

I am an upcoming senior at Bloomer High School. I'm looking to major in business after high school and am eager to expose myself to anything business-related this summer in preparation. YLC was a perfect opportunity for me, as it not only taught me the cooperative business model, but also helped me learn and grow as a leader. I got to listen to various talented and successful members of the co-op world and hear how being a part of a co-op has opened doorways and led them down paths they never would have imagined. I didn't even know what a co-op was the day I came to camp, and I left two days later with a thorough understanding of its inclusive and community-rooted values.

Yes, I learned the seven principles of a co-op at my time at YLC, but equally as important, I made genuine friendships and connections with others. I wasn't expecting to make such close friendships in such a short amount of time, but I certainly did. Through interacting in our District Meetings, working as a team in group challenges, and even playing ping-pong and magnetic chess, I had so many

opportunities to interact and form connections with others. In fact, I talked to my roommate and we plan to meet up if we're ever close by. YLC was an educational, impactful, and fun experience, and I'm so thankful I had the opportunity to be a part of it!



KC Rose (left) and Cicely Kiecker dressed up for the etiquette dinner.

KC Rose

I attended the 2022 Youth Leadership Conference not really knowing what I was getting myself into, but I have learned and grown as a person because of it. I arrived at the conference with a few other kids and was placed in a dorm with another girl there. We all had a great time getting to know one another during the first activities where we were all forced to interact, quickly followed by some candy.

We learned from the many speakers that we had about different ways our very own cooperatives were helping people all over the world. We learned about how we could make a change by stepping back and looking at the full picture. We learned communication and interview skills. On our last night there we got to see a hypnotist and I even got hypnotized. It was a really cool experience, from getting to

know so many new people, to learning about things that I didn't even know existed.

I was super excited about being elected to the youth board, it seems like an amazing opportunity, and there are so many amazing people involved. I can't wait to go again next year!



Co-op Principle #5: Education, Training, and Information. Cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperatives. They inform the general public, particularly young people and opinion leaders, about the nature and benefits of cooperation.



CAPITAL CREDITS DONATIONS PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO LOCAL STUDENTS

Did you know you can donate your capital credits to Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative's (CVEC) scholarship fund? CVEC awards scholarships each spring to graduating high school students of cooperative members. Please consider donating your capital credits to help graduates lessen the expense of continuing their education.

We ask that members, active or inactive, contact our office if they are interested in donating their capital credits to the scholarship fund. It is a simple process to donate capital credits to this worthwhile program.

The following former members have unclaimed capital credits from Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative and have the option of donating them to the scholarship fund or collecting payment. If you know any of these people, please tell them to contact CVEC at 715.239.6800 or by email at cvec@cve.coop.

Any unclaimed capital credits will revert to Wisconsin Federated Youth Foundation, Inc. a charitable tax-exempt trust established by the Wisconsin Electric Cooperative Association for educational purposes (per WI Statute, Chapter 185).



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