

## YMAD The Thousand Dollar Difference

YMAD stands for Youth Making A Difference. YMAD is a group of youth members from seven different counties which include Barber, Comanche, Kingman, Kiowa, Pratt, Rice and Stafford. South Central Community Foundation is the supporting organization for YMAD. South Central Community Foundation awards thousands of dollars in grant money every year. In the last seven years, YMAD has awarded over \$104,000 in grant money among the seven different counties. The YMAD group meets once a month in Pratt, KS to learn more about local organizations and the grantmaking process.

In December, Denise Unruh, the Executive Director of South Central Community Foundation, presented YMAD members with the opportunity to write a grant application. The grant application had to help fund a nonprofit organization's project in their respective counties. Katie Becker and Summer Girty, Barber County youth representatives and Co/Presidents, looked at several options and decided to write a grant application for the South Barber 7-12 Library to purchase new books. They felt that supporting the library will help many people, not only now, but for many years to come. Every day the high school students have a thirty minute reading period. The students will enjoy having new books to choose from.

“The grant process was an amazing opportunity, which many teenagers and even adults don't get to experience” said Summer Girty. For the \$1,000 grant, Katie and Summer had to find a project, write the grant and present the materials to the SCCF Grants Committee and their YMAD peers. Maggie Southard, Program Manager, said “Katie and Summer have represented their county well and they will be missed next year as they graduate and move on to other endeavors.”

On Wednesday, April 14, 2010 Katie Becker, Summer Girty, and Maggie Southard had the pleasure to award Mrs. Daughhetee, the South Barber Librarian and Mr. Gillig, the South Barber 7-12 Principal, a grant for \$1,000 to purchase new books.