How to use the community to get what you want

HELLO! I’m Mia Howie
About Me: I am a senior that lives in a small town named Palmyra. I really enjoy many things including playing video games, baking, drawing, & being with friends & family!
You can find me at Mia.howie@icloud.com or (315)667-0870

HELLO! I’m Lily Wells
About Me: I am a junior in high school, and am from a small town called Urbana-Champaign. I enjoy reading, traveling, and advocating for human rights! I am also a big video game fan!
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Where do we live exactly?
New York
Illinois
Image Source: https://suncatcherstudio.com/patterns/us-maps/

1-Previous Projects
Let’s start with Lily telling us about her project

A new Bus Shelter
My project was on prioritizing the installation of a bus shelter near my local independent living center.
My reason for a new bus shelter being the fact that my hometown’s wind makes the cold weather seem even colder, which can make disabilities feel worse.

What do you think the logo stands for in Disability EmpowHer Network?
The logo stands for a mentor and mentee sharing a bond which helps them spread advocacy and change.

Visiting a domestic violence shelter
My project took some time to get started because I had to find a shelter that was willing to work with me. I learned many things along the way... How many women each day are raped or sexually assaulted?

500 women
Whoa! That’s a big number!
That’s 1 in 4 women each day, according to futures without violence!
https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/

2-Our different Communities
Why it’s important to have support

Why I needed support during my project
Tried asking bus station for help, then Talked to mentor, then contacted PACE. PACE said to come to meeting, which gave me ideas, and influenced future involvement, where I discovered local disabled community, and gained more connections.

How I got my support during my previous project
• Sometimes you just have to find your community!
  o Hey Jill & Mandie! I’m stuck on this project!
  o Jill: you should do a domestic violence shelter!
  o Mandie: Good idea guys! I’ll call around, see if I can find a shelter!

3-Being leaders
What does that mean in different ways

Leading in different ways
• I usually lead with words and empowerment, which is very important when speaking to different groups.
• I use online resources to my advantage, creating posts and petitions.
• I let my community know the big issue is in our community
• I led myself and mentor through an online training to become a Certified Inclusion Ambassador

How can all of you lead?
• How do you lead in your daily life?
• Is there any time that you’ve led where you’ve felt particularly proud?

THANKS!
Any questions?
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