Answering the need

_Spectrum Health Foundation grant_

In its recent community health needs assessment for Osceola and Mecosta counties, Spectrum Health learned that mental/behavioral health is one of the top three significant health needs in our area. The findings match up with national research that shows teenagers in particular experience increased rates of depression and anxiety.

The Community Foundation recently awarded a grant to Spectrum Health Foundation to help address behavioral health needs of Osceola County high school students and help them achieve and maintain mental health and wellness. Their creative approach will integrate behavioral health service delivery into school districts by providing telehealth virtual visits. The intention is to break the barrier that exists for students to receive services and to leverage the limited behavioral health care resources in the community by extending the reach of existing providers through telemedicine. The program will be introduced in the fall and students will be able to sign up for private appointments with a licensed professional who specializes in adolescent behavioral health.

**OYAC seniors**

_Thank you for your commitment!_

Over the past four years, the current seniors of the Osceola County Youth Advisory Council (OYAC) have awarded grants, fundraised, assisted at events, and been agents of positive change within their schools and our community. Their hard work and diligence to help build a better Osceola County has not gone unnoticed. Their commitment to positive change has even included their assistance with implementing the “be nice.” mental health awareness program in their schools. We would like to acknowledge and thank our OYAC seniors and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!

OYAC seniors:
Reed City: Claudia Francke
Pine River: Lorean Yeomans
Evart: Kincade Dubrueil
Marion: Ashley Colberg