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## Youth Empowerment Project Receives \$225,000 Grant from the Andrus Family Fund

**New Orleans, LA – October 11, 2017** – This week, the Andrus Family Fund awarded the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) a \$225,000 grant over three years to support YEP’s mission of engaging underserved young people through community-based education, mentoring and employment readiness programs to help them develop skills and strengthen ties to family and community.

“YEP is honored to continue the strong partnership that we started with the Andrus Family Fund in 2015. With this new, three year general operating grant from the AFF, YEP will be able to continue to build a strong and sustainable organization that will positively impact the lives of young people and their families for many years to come,” said YEP Executive Director & Co-Founder Melissa Sawyer.

The Andrus Family Fund focuses its energies on empowering young adults between the ages of 16-24 who have been impacted by the foster care and juvenile justice systems. Much of YEP’s programming mirrors this goal with a specific focus on opportunity youth, young people between the ages of 16-24 who are unemployed and/or out of school. The Andrus Family Fund has supported YEP since 2015.

The Andrus Family Fund also works to empower organizations like YEP “who are doing great work to connect those same young adults to the positive support and resources needed for a long and successful life”.

**About Youth Empowerment Project:** Founded in 2004, the Youth Empowerment Project (YEP) is a community-based nonprofit that engages underserved young people through education, mentoring, employment readiness and enrichment programs. In fiscal year 2017, YEP served 1252 young people through a total of 11 programs at six sites. To learn more visit: [www.youthempowermentproject.org](http://www.youthempowermentproject.org) or follow: @YEPNOLA

**About Andrus Family Fund:** The Andrus Family Fund seeks to foster just and sustainable change in the United States. We do this by supporting organizations that advance social justice and improve outcomes for vulnerable youth. For more information about the Andrus Family Fund and its grant programs, visit [www.affund.org](http://www.affund.org).

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