

# Who Are We?

## Mission Statement

We believe our youth need time to grow and develop strong roots that help sustain their foundation as adults. We will foster a positive sense of self-worth through programs that promote physical, mental, emotional and social development in the youth of our community. We will provide opportunities for healthy growth and development in all youth with the inspiration and guidance of caring mentors.



## Vision Statement

- Empowering youth to make healthy decisions
- Providing a safe place for youth to gather
- Value and respect young people
- Mentoring youth to become productive members of society

## Board of Directors

Kirk Gottschalk , Seward Middle School Principal  
Rachael Gray, Seward Homemaker  
Karen Koch, SCC Instructor  
Erika Kratochvil, SCC Instructor  
Ron Petsch, SCC Instructor  
Janae Phillips, Health and Human Services  
Deb Sloup, Retired Middle School Teacher  
Allison Sommerfeld, Seward Police Officer

## Seward Youth Center Staff

Director – Sue McHugh

Prior to becoming the Director on June 1, 2013, McHugh worked in public relations and marketing at a non-profit member based organization. She comes to the center with 13 years of experience working with primarily small communities in Nebraska. McHugh is married, has two elementary school children and active in her church serving on several committees, teaching and serving as Sunday School Superintendent. McHugh is an alumnus of the Unite 16, Seward Leadership Class.

Activities Coordinator – Malinda Standerfer

Standerfer began her tenure at the Youth Center in August 2013. Originally from Indiana, she is a sophomore at Concordia studying Theology and Christian Education with an emphasis on Youth and Outreach. Standerfer has worked as a Summer Camp Counselor as well as a Junior High Youth Leader.



Seward Youth Center

Giving Youth the Power to Belong

## Pledge Card

- YES!** I want to help the SEWARD YOUTH CENTER!!

### I can...

- Pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ per year, for three years.  
 Give a one time donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_  
 Offer the following service, materials or labor:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Seward Youth Center  
PO Box 44 · Seward, NE 68434

Your donation is TAX DEDUCTIBLE.  
Please provide your name and address to  
receive a receipt for your donation.



Seward Youth Center

***Enriching today's youth  
and empowering  
tomorrow's leaders by  
giving them the  
power to belong...***

Serving Seward  
and the surrounding community...

sewardyouthcenter@yahoo.com  
www.sewardyouthcenter.org

## Afterschool Program

We believe youth are not just the future of our community, they *are* our community. With the active partnerships of Seward Middle School, Concordia University, local businesses, community organizations and energetic volunteers, the Seward Youth Center offers daily learning opportunities, cooperative activities, as well as free tutoring, while providing a positive way to interact among varied personalities. We strongly believe in and encourage the respect of each other, the respect for diversity, and the respect for authority. The Seward Youth Center is committed to enriching today's youth and empowering tomorrow's leaders by giving them a place to belong.

The Seward Youth Center is also committed to providing opportunities for youth to develop talents and skills to their fullest potential by providing a safe, clean, healthy, drug-free atmosphere to enhance and encourage social interaction with peers, as well as learn, grow and develop life-long skills. The Seward Youth Center strives to follow the 40 Developmental Assets created by the Search Institute which are building blocks identified as necessary to the healthy development of youth so that they "grow up healthy, caring and responsible." To learn more about the 40 Developmental Assets, visit [www.search-institute.org](http://www.search-institute.org).

The Afterschool Program's daily activities cover a diverse array of activities and presentations, all meant to open the eyes of each youth and give them opportunities to develop their self-esteem and worldly awareness. Seward community business owners and organizations have been invited to present their own craft periodically throughout the school year during the Afterschool Program. To learn more about the Afterschool Program visit our website at [www.sewardyouthcenter.org](http://www.sewardyouthcenter.org).



## How You Can Help

The Seward Youth Center is a non-profit organization that operates solely on grants, donations and fundraisers. There are several ways that you can choose to support this essential community organization.

### Monetary

First and foremost, the Seward Youth Center is always appreciative and in need of monetary donations in order to continue daily operations. Even a small amount is important in the continuation of enriching the future leaders of our community.

### Rent the Youth Center Building

We encourage you to keep the Seward Youth Center in mind as a rental facility for future events. Whether it is a child's birthday party or family reunion, a holiday party for your own organization or simply a get-together for friends, we boast 1500 square feet of room capacity and amenities such as vending machines, pool table, ping pong table, big screen television and much more. We also encourage long term rentals for weekly or monthly meetings and can negotiate discounts for repeat renters.



## Contact Information:

Sue McHugh, Director  
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Seward, Nebraska 68434  
402.643.3337  
[sewardyouthcenter@yahoo.com](mailto:sewardyouthcenter@yahoo.com)  
[www.sewardyouthcenter.org](http://www.sewardyouthcenter.org)

## Volunteer

If you are unable to donate financially, another vital way to support the Seward Youth Center is to donate your time. These are just a few ways you can volunteer:

### *Afterschool Program Volunteer*

We are always looking for responsible, enthusiastic individuals interested in working with Middle School youth during the Afterschool Program from 3:00-6:00 on days that the Seward School District is in session. Volunteers assist with facilitating games, discussion groups, program presentation, set-up and clean-up.

### *Afterschool Program Presenter*

Whether you have a unique job that you would be willing to present during a career day or a business/hobby that includes a trade you can teach the youth, there is a place for everyone in the community at the Seward Youth Center. We truly believe that the more we can teach these youth, the more we are enriching their lives and the future of our community.

### *Grounds Upkeep and Facility Maintenance*

If you own a business or have a general interest in facility maintenance and repair, janitorial services or lawn care, we are always looking for individuals and businesses that are willing to donate their time.

### *Fundraising Event Coordination and Grant Writing*

With the Seward Youth Center operating on donations and grants, we are appreciative of any assistance in coordinating fundraisers and writing grants. If you have any experience in event planning or grant writing, this is a great way to contribute to the Youth Center. We are always looking for volunteers to help during fundraisers, as well.

