**To:** Guidance Counselors and Youth-Serving Organizations in Rock Island and Scott Counties

**From:** Kelly Thompson, Vice President of Grantmaking & Community Initiatives

**Date:** April 10, 2017

RE: Teens for Tomorrow – youth philanthropy opportunity for 9-12th graders

Do you know a high school student looking for a unique way to be a leader and serve his or her community?

Please encourage your students to apply to join Teens for Tomorrow, the youth philanthropy program of the Community Foundation of the Great River Bend. Each year, up to 35 teens from Rock Island and Scott Counties come together for a nine-month program where they learn to assess community needs, develop a grant program, accept applications, and work together to make decisions. Each year they grant out $10,000 to Quad Cities nonprofit organizations.

Liz, a member from 2014-2016, loved having that chance, ***"Sometimes, when teens feel powerless, we don't take the issues in our own community seriously. Why should we try to help if we don't believe we can make a difference? With T4T, we suddenly assume the responsibility of making an impact."*** Liz is now in college and through her unique leadership and community knowledge she was accepted into a special international study program.

T4T gives many members their first taste of regional thinking, working cooperatively with their peers from other towns and schools. ***"The group is a great way to meet other teenagers all while doing something good for the community,"*** says Tabi, also a member form 2014-2016. ***"It just so happens that teens are the foundation of the future, which is why T4T is around to help us create a bigger, better, and more active community."***As a member, Tabi helped create and present a workshop on grantmaking at the Iowa Youth Philanthropy Conference.

We are now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. We welcome high school students of all grades to apply. **Applications are due by May 31, 2017 through our online system.** For more information about T4T and how your students can apply, please see (and share!) the enclosed flyer, visit [www.cfgrb.org/t4t](http://www.cfgrb.org/t4t), or contact me at 563-326-2840 or kellythompson@cfgrb.org.

**Thank you for helping us promote this great opportunity to the young people you work with!**