

ANNpower Fellow- Sarah Jacobus

The CHS Webmaster Team recently sat down to interview Sarah Jacobus, a CHS junior, after her trip to the ANNpower conference in Washington DC.

**Q: What is ANNpower?**

*A: ANNpower is a partnership between ANN INC and Vital Voices. Every year, they offer the chance for 50 young women nationwide apply to be an ANNpower fellow. Being an ANNpower fellow means a trip to Washington DC to meet outstanding women, receive mentorship from amazing woman across the globe, and the chance to win a \$2,500 grant to help with a community service project.*

**Q: What was the application process like?**

*A: In order to become an ANNpower fellow, I was required to complete an application. I wrote about a project I had started in my community- mine being yescranford.com. We also had to submit a video, and write about the importance of women in the work place.*

**Q: What kind of "training and mentorship" did you receive during your time in Washington D.C.?**

*A: At the conference we received styling direction, and heard stories from women who made a change in their country. We met with and heard from Hillary Clinton and Joe Biden, who spoke about Women's rights and domestic violence.*

**Q: What have you taken away from this conference?**

*A: The biggest thing I took away from this conference would have to be something one of our mentors told us- "If you don't take a risk on yourself, no one else will." Being in a room with so many like-minded individuals was an amazing and humbling experience. I loved working with all of them and wish I could go back!!*

**Q: How will the time spent at the conference affect your project, YEScranford.com?**

*A: If nothing else, the conference motivated me to make it everything I know it can be. I'm not sure it made me want to change the site so much, but I was definitely inspired by everyone there.*

**Q: What will you do with the grant if you are chosen to receive it?**

*A: I plan to use the grant to improve YesCranford.com. I have a three phase plan for the website. Phase one is Youth Engagement. The website will have ads for community service and volunteer activities, and will hopefully be the platform for the Junior and Senior Service Projects. Phase two for YesCranford.com is to "master Cranford," so the site is self sufficient. The final part of the plan is to franchise the YesCranford.com concept to other towns, so other towns will be able to have this concept in their community.*

**Q: What was the funniest thing that happened at the conference?**

*A: Well one day I was in this room filled with important women, talking about women's rights, when suddenly this big cockroach crawled up the wall. Everyone was freaking out, and they eventually had to call in a guy to kill it. It was pretty funny.*