

# Profiles in Leadership

## Shaila's Story...

*Seeing the issues from all sides...*



In September of 2006, Shaila Eckas was approached a HYSO Organizer about a joining Students United. Since this time, Shaila has worked on several Students United campaigns at the local and national level. She has traveled to Washington D.C. to talk to Senators about education reform and was a key leader in bringing the voice of youth to the Reauthorization of No Child Left Behind. Shaila was one of the main composers of the National NCLB recommendation document that was presented to the Committee of Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) in early August. Locally, Shaila has worked with her

school administrators to save the Debate and Forensic team at her school. In addition, she has been active in the school wide Taser campaign, participating on the city's Taser review board. Shaila sees Hope Street Youth Development as "an amazing program that helps bring out the best in every young adult." On top to her dedicated work in Students United, Shaila has taken advantage of HSYD's academic program and job shadowing program which are helping prepare her for the future as a lawyer. "II (involvement in Hope Street) has made me a better leader and is making me a more well rounded person. Everyone should be involved"



### From the Director

The greatest testament to the power of Hope Street Youth Development is in the lives of young people that are changed everyday.

This series contains a mixture of current students and graduates of Hope Street.

We provide these stories because we know that the work of youth development is not abstract philosophy but instead personal, intensive work with real people. These are their stories.

We measure our success by the difference we make in the lives of individual students because it's the only true measure of leadership development.

I hope these stories will help you believe in the work of Hope Street as much as I do and that you will consider joining us as we make a difference by changing lives.

Aaron Fowler  
Executive Director



The mission of Hope Street Youth Development is to provide opportunities for youth to build power and reach their full potential so they may think for themselves, speak for themselves and act in their community.

For more information how Hope Street Youth Development is making a difference and changing lives, visit other Profiles in Leadership at [www.hopstreet.com/profiles/](http://www.hopstreet.com/profiles/)

If you want to get involved or help support our work visit [www.hopstreet.com/involved](http://www.hopstreet.com/involved) or call 316.263.7325.