

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Northcountry Cooperative Foundation

Traveling Cooperative Institute



The Youth TCI is part of the Kris Olsen Traveling Cooperative Institute programming series that has served the Upper Midwest for over a decade as part of the work of the Northcountry Cooperative Foundation (NCF). The mission of the NCF is: “helping transform lives and communities through cooperative enterprise.” NCF, a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation, helps develop community-owned and democratically governed enterprises through training, development assistance, research, education and specially designed projects. NCF acts with a clear and common purpose, teaches and practices shared leadership and management, and seeks power for those who have little of it.

Emily M Lippold Cheney

Cooperative Organizer

As a cooperative youth organizer, Emily M Lippold Cheney (EMLC) focuses her work on strengthening the engagement of youth in the cooperative movement through the provision of leadership development opportunities and the creation accessible cooperative development tools.



Her leadership role in the cooperative movement began with the founding of a community housing cooperative, Bloomington Cooperative Living, while a college student. Subsequently, she managed and developed other housing cooperatives locally and nationally. Through her work with the North American Students of Cooperation (NASCO) - a binational membership association of common equity housing cooperatives, she became involved in national and international youth organizing. That involvement led to her role in the founding of the USA Cooperative Youth Council (USACYC) - a national cross-sector cooperative organization of youth and their allies that provides experiential learning opportunities using a peer-to-peer model. In complement to this work, she led the evolution of NCF's TCI program to focus on youth and students. EMLC also cooperates across borders in the international cooperative movement. She is a primary author of the Guidance Note to the 6th Cooperative Principle stewarded by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), as well as an At-Large member of the ICA Youth Network Executive Committee.