



# BP Educational Consultation

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## The Young Icons

Episode #916

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Participants: **Lou Wegner – Animal Rights Activist**

**Emily Lopez – Autism Activist**

**Alec Loorz – Environmental Activist**

**Ileana Najarro – Cancer Advocate**

**Thad Novak – Diabetes Advocate**

### General Synopsis for Episode #916

In this episode of ‘Teen Advocates, talented young people share personal stories and reasons for their commitment to giving back to the community. Actor **Lou Wegner** is a 15-year-old animal lover whose passion is to get dogs off the streets, out of cages and adopted. Organizing Kids Against Animal Cruelty, he created a website for people to network and share information on dogs and get them into good homes. He thinks anyone can make a difference if you have an open heart and stand up for what you believe in. Ten-year-old **Emily Lopez** became an activist when her brother was diagnosed with autism. As the founder of Lemonaid 4-Autism, Emily sets up lemonade stands throughout Los Angeles raising hundreds of dollars for autism research. Her passion has inspired others to see that a simple idea can help so many. Inspired by former Vice President Al Gore on global warming, **Alec Loorz** started a nonprofit group called Kids vs. Global Warming to help teens learn what to do to lead the green revolution. He shares, “Only you can save energy, your actions matter the most.” Turning a personal loss of losing her mother to cancer into a mission, **Ileana Najarro** decided to become involved in raising money for cancer research while interning at the Lynne Cohen Foundation. She led a cause at her school to get students involved in finding a cure. Ileana knows her mother is proud of her accomplishments. **Thad Novak** was diagnosed with diabetes at the age of five. Thad and his mom hold an annual online auction to raise money to benefit diabetes research. This year they met their goal of raising one million dollars. Thad states, “Diabetes doesn’t hold me down, I can manage it and it is a fight, I will win.”

### Observation and Conclusion

In episode #916, viewers will be moved by the inspirational stories of these motivated advocates as they share their journey to educate others as they pursue their goals and passion. This episode of The Young Icons delivers an educational and informational message that supports current social, intellectual and emotional aspects of children ages 13 and up. Attributes and advice emphasized by guests instill a grounded balance of priorities, commitment, and perseverance children can apply to their lives.

Sincerely,



Barbara J. Pierce, MA Ed.

Educational Consultant