

# The Role of Young Men's Christian Association in Community Empowerment Through Saul Alinsky's "Human Power" Approach and Its Implications for Community Development in Medan City.

**Piki Darma Kristian Pardede<sup>1</sup>, Dwi Suryanto<sup>2</sup>, Rujiman<sup>3</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Regional and Rural Planning Study Program, Postgraduate School, Universitas Sumatera Utara, Medan, 20155, Indonesia

<sup>2</sup>Department of Biology, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Universitas Sumatera Utara, Medan, 20155, Indonesia

<sup>3</sup>Department of Management, Faculty of Economics and Business, Universitas Sumatera Utara, Medan, 20155, Indonesia

**Abstract.** The purpose of this study was to analyze the empowerment process carried out by the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) through the "Human Power" approach and its implications for the development of the city of Medan. In this study carried out using qualitative descriptive and data collection techniques used in this study, namely in- depth interviews (In-depth interview) and documentation. The result obtained were changes in public awareness of economic and educational conditions. The aspect of education, the presence of YMCA in forming Community work with the alternative education program Duta Kasih Club which has encouraged children to continue to get education even with informal channels. Then YMCA as an organizer consisting of young people able to touch the issue of youth in joining and building a business unit or credit union (CU), a global alternative tourism package (GATN) and fostering youth capacity to gain skills (Citizenship Education). Empowerment is not a product but a process that is continually sought to build the quality of life of the community. The development approach asserted by Alinsky puts forward "Human Power" as the power to use human energy, the human spirit, and the ability to realize it to others.

**Keywords:** Empowerment, Human Power, Medan City. Youngmen's Christian Association

**Abstrak.** Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis proses pemberdayaan yang dilakukan oleh Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) melalui pendekatan "Kekuatan Manusia" dan implikasinya terhadap perkembangan kota Medan. Penelitian ini dilakukan dengan menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Teknik pengumpulan data yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu wawancara mendalam dan dokumentasi. Hasil yang diperoleh adalah perubahan kesadaran masyarakat akan kondisi ekonomi dan pendidikan. Aspek pendidikan, kehadiran YMCA dalam membentuk kerja masyarakat dengan program pendidikan alternatif Duta Kasih Club yang telah mendorong anak-anak untuk terus mendapatkan pendidikan bahkan dengan saluran informal. Kemudian YMCA sebagai organisator yang terdiri dari kaum muda yang mampu menyentuh isu kaum muda dalam bergabung dan membangun unit bisnis atau credit union (CU), paket wisata alternatif global (GATN) dan mendorong kapasitas kaum muda untuk mendapatkan keterampilan (Pendidikan Kewarganegaraan). Pemberdayaan bukanlah produk tetapi proses yang terus-menerus dicari untuk membangun kualitas hidup masyarakat. Pendekatan pengembangan

---

\*Corresponding author at: Postgraduate School, Universitas Sumatera Utara, Jalan Prof. Mass, Medan 20155, Indonesia

E-mail address: [piki\\_pardede16@yahoo.com](mailto:piki_pardede16@yahoo.com) | doi: <https://doi.org/10.32734/jeds.v1i1.4607>

Copyright © 2020 Published by Talenta Publisher, e-ISSN: 2745-4592

yang ditegaskan oleh Alinsky mengedepankan "Kekuatan Manusia" sebagai kekuatan untuk menggunakan energi manusia, jiwa manusia, dan kemampuan untuk merealisasinya kepada orang lain.

**Kata Kunci:** Kota Medan, Pemberdayaan, Human Power, Youngmen's Christian Association

*Received: 13-08-2020 / Revised: 13-09-2020 / Accepted: 17-09-2020*

## 1. Introduction

Development is a physical reality as well as the determination of the community to work as hard as possible through a series of social, economic and institutional processes to achieve a better life. This effort is a manifestation of intentional economic, social and cultural transformation through policies and strategies towards the desired direction, while still pursuing accelerated economic growth, handling income inequality and poverty alleviation [1].

Referring to the development function in the 1945 Constitution, development is also defined as a broad process of participatory social change in a society intended to achieve social and material progress (including increasing the amount of justice, freedom and other valued qualities) for the majority of the people through the greater control they have towards their environment.

According to reference [2] In 2016 North Sumatra Province recorded the number of poor people in North Sumatra as many as 1.455 million people spread across 33 regencies / cities in North Sumatra. Of the 33 districts / cities, the highest number of poor people is in five districts / cities. The five regions are Medan City with 206.87 thousand inhabitants, Langkat Regency with 114.19 thousand inhabitants, Deliserdang Regency with 110.09 thousand inhabitants, Simalungun Regency with 92.19 thousand inhabitants, then Asahan District with 84.35 thousand inhabitants, and Regencies Serdang Bedagai 58.17 thousand inhabitants. Whereas in 2017 the number of poor people in Medan decreased by 2,500 people and the number of poor people in 2017 in Medan reached 204.22 thousand inhabitants.

The impact of the still high number of poor people in the city of Medan occurs due to the ability of the community to develop the economy and the potential of resources that are not the same, and the unavailability of access for the community to support their lives to improve development or enjoy the results of development.

Essentially the essence of development must reflect the total change of a society or the adjustment of the overall social system, without neglecting the diversity of basic needs and desires of individuals and social groups within them, to move forward towards a better,

materially better living condition and spiritual. Thus, the results of development can be enjoyed by all people fairly across (penetrating) the inter-region and inter-generation.

The balance of roles and positions determines the achievement of community welfare as a whole. According to reference [3] views that the development goals can be achieved if it involves all elements of society in a country. The community must have a balanced role and position with the government. The community is not only the object of development but also the development agent. to increase growth. This is what is referred to as human resource development within the framework of production centered development.

It can be understood if the topic of discussion in the perspective of such a development paradigm is limited to the problems of education, skills enhancement, health, link and match, and so on. Increased human quality is the main prerequisite in the development process and meets the demands of industrial society. Another alternative in the social development strategy is what is referred to as people-centered development, or the importance of people first means that humans are the primary goal of event, and human will and capacity are the most critical resources.

National and regional development cannot be separated from the use of human resources in this case young people as motivators and innovators for development where an analysis of the importance of the involvement of a community group will provide a stimulus in development. According to reference [3] that the community must be encouraged to become the main actors in development. In this study, the author tries to analyze the contribution of youth as part of a community group in the national event, especially in Medan.

The role and participation of youth are significant in building the welfare of the community so that it cannot be denied that every country always tries to make the knowledge, skills, and character of the youth. There is a proverb that reveals that whoever controls youth, will dominate the future of the nation. Youth have a central role in the progress of the Indonesian people.

Therefore many young people with various backgrounds take on the role and responsibility to the conditions of community development, including the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) youth organization as an organizer who also concentrated on conducting youth development and contributing to community development in the city of Medan. In a program carried out by the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Medan as a pioneer in empowering youth and society, young people are strived to be allowed through

activities needed to respond to social conditions in their environment to create a state that is independent for their communities.

Taking this initiative the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) raises community creations based on the needs of the community and the organization itself which primarily relates to unemployment, education and economic inequality so that thinking is needed to create youth activities that can deliver youth to be independent and empowered. Young people can be an alternative force of civil society to respond to some socio-political distortions of the nation.

In addition to supporting community goals to be able to foster independence, according to reference [4] the need for intervention from communities that have the same vision, The link between group interventions that occur between youth organizations and community groups through the "Human Power" approach Alinsky is a comprehensive solution that is associated with three models of community organizing practice, namely Local community development, Social Planning and Social Action. So that it can be concluded that community intervention is an effort to change taken and carried out together with the community to meet the needs and overcome problems experienced by the community based on a plan that has been jointly prepared and agreed in the form of a program with the aim to create progress social and economic aspects for the community through active participation and initiatives from the community itself.

The contribution of youth is seen by the consideration and thinking of the response in increasing attention to the problems faced by the community during development as a marginalized group and various efforts to improve their involvement. One of the initiatives taken was to empower the community through the "Human Power" approach with the primary mission of community empowerment and the expansion of democracy [5].

## **2. Methodology**

This study uses a qualitative descriptive research type, which describes in full, detailed, clear and systematic way for whether the YMCA has carried out its function as an organizer to support community development through Alinsky's "human power" approach following the provisions of community development or not. The research subject is reflected in the focus of this deliberately determined study; the issue will be the respondent who provides the information and information needed. Key informants according to this research technique are the Medan YMCA Branch Board as an empowerment organizer and local community as a target group in empowerment

### **3. Result and Discussion**

#### **3.1 Analysis the role of Young Men's Christian Association in Community Empowerment Through the Alinsky "Human Power" Approach.**

##### **A. Local community development**

From the researchers' observations and unstructured interviews with Medan YMCA administrators about community empowerment in Medan. The YMCA as an organizer set the Medan city community specifically the Maju VIII village community, Ex. Simalingkar B, Kec. Medan Johor, as a basis for developing the capacity of the community itself, shows the role of the YMCA in analyzing basic community problems. Based on Alinsky's intention that put forward the role of practitioners and media changes in social action that is the involvement of organizers as a force for encouragement from outside the community to be able to receive input for change.

Alinsky's "human power" approach has a number of principles, assumptions and values that lead to empowerment related to the organization, namely:

##### **a. Equal vision (equity)**

Access to education and economic resources, when viewed from how the YMCA creates an equal atmosphere between communities by providing alternative education to children in advanced VII environment, by forming communities and learning centers without discriminating against educational backgrounds (both those attending school (not attending school), and formed a cooperative business unit under the name Credit Union. Karya Mandiri that can be accessed by the community, both in terms of becoming a member, and using cooperative access.

Mission The community can play a role in development through community empowerment by playing a role as mentoring children in increasing knowledge for children and elementary school students. For the YMCA, children are the successors of the nation's civilization because it is important for the YMCA to prioritize education for children to have knowledge and not be left behind with other children. It seems that there are 40 children participating in alternative education and English language courses. Another mission is also shown by YMCA's focus on fostering youth, it appears that 3 young people can continue their education to tertiary level, then YMCA employs youth and residents to reduce unemployment, as many as 15 people are involved as part of cooperatives and provide access to individuals who need them. needs. Members are willing to take part in the training even without any reward. The existence of business units and other empowerment programs recognized by the community can generate new enthusiasm and motivation in continuing life to improve development. This can be seen from the community's participation in running the business unit program.

b. Leadership

The establishment of an aspirational institution as a task force selected and managed by the local community with a background of education that is not too high but is equipped with capability and citizens' skills are able to control economic activities and strengthen social values in the community. It can be seen from the contribution of 3 young people as students who can propagate other young people to care for the environment and care for children around their environment, this is shown by their involvement in the community work program with the YMCA. Whereas in Karya Mandiri credit union cooperatives, education is carried out by the chairman and its members. Education time is prepared at the time of incorporation, both for old members and new members entering into regular education. The question regarding the perception of citizens about education was responded by 7 members stating that they had received education from the YMCA and the management of the credit union cooperative. Furthermore, activities facilitated by YMCA and credit union cooperatives are to provide education about credit union cooperatives to members. Education about credit union cooperatives is proven to bring benefits to cooperative members in terms of looking at financial position, regarding financial risk.

c. Organizational resources (community organizer)

In carrying out its role, the YMCA needs to get support from both inside and outside the organization. Carrying capacity from within the organization (internal) in the form of an increase in organizer capacity that is emphasized on institutional strengthening. Institutional strengthening is characterized by the existence of training for members and administrators such as pre-basic training, basic training, advanced leadership courses, skills training, and labor camps. It is expected that members who are mobilized as assistants can direct the community according to what the community needs. This aspect has been compiled by the YMCA in the imperative strategy of the presence of the YMCA as an organizer engaged in the field of community empowerment. Meanwhile, the carrying capacity of external organizations (YMCA) is supported by communication between fellow YMCA institutions in the success of the empowerment agenda such as encouragement in the GATN program which is focused on the development of a culture-based and economic community. However, the implementation of GATN did not produce maximum results due to the need for environmental carrying capacity and the ability of the community to manage and absorb information for the advancement of the local area. Due to the inadequate carrying capacity of the community and the environment, the YMCA medan makes the Maju village community a pilot village in terms of restoring ecological conditions. In this case the YMCA empowers young people and parents to focus on revitalizing environmental conditions by encouraging clean and friendly villages in upholding local culture and heritage with a good quality of life.

**Table 1.** The role of the YMCA in the Local Community Development Component According to Alinskie

The Role of YMCA	Community development activities	Target Group	Social Action
Local Community Development	Alternative Education	<b>Children:</b> 40 Advanced village children can enjoy access to non-formal education with a focus on calistung and discussing English <b>Youth:</b> Training and education on the use of computers and information media, englihs clubs, college socialization <b>Women:</b> managing family cash, organizing social gathering groups, distributing roles	The YMCA formed a non-formal learning center called Duta Kasih Club-Y, and invited and fostered children, youth and mothers to get involved in the activities that had been arranged.
	Non-Governmental Community	Exploring and exploiting village potentials (waste management, animal husbandry, education, culture)	The establishment of a business unit initiated by KSM Karya Mandiri in theform of a credit union as a community partner.
	Leadership Training	Implementation of basic leadershiptraining for young people with the aim of mobilizing the community. Agenda in the form of Lay Leadership, pre basic training and Youth Cityzen Education	Involving local youth in the YMCA agenda specificallythe capacity building agenda. There are 10% or around 5 active Youth activities and are motivatedto push themselves to continue their education to tertiary level

## B. Social Planning

Social planning is carried out in an orderly manner, YMCA recruits and guides youth leaders appointed from the youth of the local inhabitants of the village of Maju Simalingkar B, Medan Johor, there is a division of tasks between individuals who will be responsible for carrying out their respective duties and there is leadership that is not only consists of several people but leadership at various levels.

Social planning meant by Alinski is an effort by the organizer in understanding the needs of the community. This pattern is expected that the YMCA must be able to interact with the community related to life issues. In social planning, YMCA focuses on the condition of education as a pillar of community development that was initiated by forming the DKC-Y, YMCA has the principle that change can be started early, namely children, children must be weighted with knowledge to look to the future in order to have a better life good going forward. This rational view was initiated by the YMCA as a first step in the community empowerment mission. In addition to interacting with children, in this social planning agenda YMCA and the community formed KSM Karya Mandiri agreed in regulation and standardization of environmentally friendly management of livestock pens, by making the riverside area as a place of animal husbandry so that livestock waste does not interfere with the activities of the surrounding community.

This step is also taken by the YMCA in providing an understanding of the environment, besides it also becomes a health counseling material for families who have cattle pens. In terms of

YMCA's environmental management and YMCA's support Kumamoto together with local community youths also conducted greening by planting various types of trees around the river in preserving the environment and as an anticipatory effort to prevent flooding and environmental sustainability. In addition, YMCA and the community agreed to create a waste processing business unit and business unit that could provide facilities for the community to access the economy, namely the establishment of CU Karya Mandiri.

**Table 2.** The Role of The YMCA in Social Planning According to Alinskie

The Role of YMCA	Social Planning Activities	Target Group	Social Action
Social Planning	1. Determination of the expected results of overall community development (total development vision).	KSM Karya Mandiri	Koperasi (cu) Karya Mandiri, with the participation of loans and savings for members.
	2. Determination of goals and potential for each empowerment goal.	Global Tourism Alternative	The existence of CHANGE-based Tourism which has been carried out in several places such as Nias, Sibolangit, Langkat and especially Medan City, namely in the village of Gg Maju developed as a pilot village with concepts on the Holistic approach, Advocating global citizenship, preservation of nature and heritage, gender and children; and economy
	3. Determination of implementation strategies to achieve the expected results for each target in each sector.	Network (GATN)	
	4. Determination of the stages of empowerment and the results to be achieved at each stage of implementation (temporal vision) both as a whole and in each sector.		
	5. Determination of the empowerment plan.		

### C. Social action

In addition to local community development and social planning, organizers need to be aware that community strength and absorption are important. This can be seen from the social action that has been implemented by the organizer. If seen from the level of participation of the organizer and the community shows a harmonious communication pattern in every implementation of the empowerment program, social action and participation are judged by what happens under certain conditions, the community takes part in a development program from another party (organizer), but in relation where the position of society is as an object



**Tabel 3.** Level of Participation Based Social Action on Community Empowerment According to Alinsky

Participation shown	Participation Object				
	YMCA (1)	Children (2)	Youth (3)	Parent (4)	Government (5)
Provide input (energy, resources, programs)	+	+	+	+	-
Receive rewards for input provided	+	-	+	-	+
Enjoy the benefits of empowerment outcomes (outputs and outcomes)	+	+	+	+	+

Form 1 is a form of organizer participation that can be known from the indications on its participation in providing input in the form of programs, receiving compensation for inputs provided in the form of organizer absorption, and also taking advantage of development results.

YMCA's participation in this matter can be seen in the involvement of cadres / members in implementing empowerment projects such as Community Work, GATN, Youth Empowerment for the development of the quality of the local community.

Form 2 is the participation of children looks positive can be known from indications of involvement. that is, there is access for children to get education and teaching in the External Education program with DKC-Y, they do not receive compensation for the input provided, but they also benefit from the empowerment results in the children who are not in school can get non-formal education.

Form 3 is a form of youth participation that can be known from the indications on their participation in providing input in the form of contributions of thought and energy, receiving compensation for input provided in the form of income from business results, and also taking advantage of development results. Youth participation in this regard can be seen in the involvement of youth in running cooperative business units (CU).

Form 4 is the positive participation of people can be seen from the indications of their involvement in running the Global Alternative Tourism, not receiving rewards for the input provided, but also receiving benefits from the results of empowerment that is involved in the introduction of local culture, preservation of nature and heritage, Gender suffering and children- economically sustainable children and communities.

Form 5 is a form of government participation that can be seen from indications of its involvement in receiving rewards and enjoying the results of development, even though it

does not participate in providing input. This form of community participation occurs in bureaucratic patterns of development.

#### **D. Impact of YMCA's Role in Community Empowerment on Community Development.**

In accordance with the form and level of participation as outlined, the role impact is also adjusted based on the division of tasks arranged by the YMCA according to the target group by targeting groups of children, young people, women, and parents. It can be seen that the community work program that is targeting a group of underprivileged children to get an education initiated by the Ambassador of the YMCA Club by having 40 students in the village of Maju Kel. Simalingkar B, who can now experience non-formal education in an effort to increase children's knowledge and as many as 17 children can continue and feel elementary education. In addition, healthy bookkeeping is also very important because young people, women and parents are focused on managing funds independently with the strength of independent capital among community groups.

Based on the observations and interviews of researchers, more than 50 percent, children and youth were able to complete elementary school to junior high school level, 7 youth participated in the Kejar Paket C program in 2017, and as many as 3 young people / i were able to continue their studies to university. With the efforts to establish an informal school developed by the DKC-YMCA in improving the quality of education in the aspect of alleviating illiteracy and improving literacy for children at least able to change the quality of most of the community.

Efforts to empower youth by involving youth have also been carried out by YMCA by forming a Credit Union (CU) as one of the skills development and business management in improving the community's economic system. Community empowerment is implemented in the form of social action that enables their needs to be met by responsible credit union parties. This does not only involve social action but also an increase in the ability to work in the field of economic empowerment (70%) through empowering pigs and chickens, managing plantation products, how to market them, how to obtain loans for survival.

The embodiment of community empowerment in development is also seen in the contribution of the YMCA to encourage the community to be actively involved in the introduction of local tourism. The cooperation developed by the YMCA Medan branch council with the Asian regional YMCA by involving the community as the motor of the Global Alternative Tourism Network (GATN) by developing a village tourism package. Community empowerment through Alinsky's "Human Power" approach can create and support development where the community can be empowered because:

- a. The ability in the form of strengths in the community to change habits. As the opinion of DC YMCA Medan Purnabakti Chairman, Nanda Hutabarat said that the community has a willingness to change but limited driving factors such as facilities and capital make the community seem insecure in any development of their activities and businesses.
- b. Providing opportunities for young people, especially developed village youth, kel. Simalingkar B to participate in every level of life, for example youth participation in decision making for groups and opportunities in the management of CU Desa Maju business units that will affect group life. Although it has not been maximized because it requires continuous transformation in an effort to move towards democratization so that as many people as possible the people will gradually advance to the middle class

Community Empowerment through the "Human Power" approach Alinsky can increase the empowerment of local communities such as the community. Forward VIII, Ex. Simalingkar B, Kec. Medan Johor, Medan City, especially in carrying out daily activities with the aim of training the community by prioritizing resources as a force in the development of the village community itself. The strategy at the local community development level is based on continuing to involve various groups of citizens in solving problems. At the level of social planning, collecting data with related problems and choosing the most rational actions, while at the level of social action (which is the core of Alinsky's "Human Power" approach) is sought to crystallize the issue and continuously organize the masses to face the target.

In the aspect of vision and mission, the direction of the strategy needs to have a number of principles, assumptions and values that lead to empowerment related to the organization to realize the organization's vision, namely equality of "equity" access to economic resources to achieve a just and prosperous society. And in achieving the goals strived to reduce unemployment by providing training and skills in resource management to unemployed people (especially youth) and giving individuals access to manage small businesses that can sustain people's lives. However, in reality, the community is still unable to utilize the resources within and outside the group, this is caused by the low carrying capacity of the community to carry out the available policies.

The "human power" approach centered on YMCA in the aspect of action planning, organizers as social controls and agents of change with energy and spirit organizers in carrying out their functions has sought to identify changes in social conditions, such as education, and the environment around the communities that are assisted by the group. It can be seen from the efforts of the YMCA to establish an informal school for scavenger children, initiated by the YMCA Club Ambassador. So far the condition of the education of children in the YMCA assisted villages still looks positive with the discovery of the enthusiasm of 40 students who can now experience non-formal education so that it is hoped that the increase in children's knowledge can be equivalent to

children who receive formal education even though economic conditions are a factor that causes children can't get formal education yet.

Seeing the existence of youth as an organizer and youth as a target group in the eyes of leadership is an effort to change the leadership conditions towards decision making in community groups, of course, being an aspect to assess the success of youth as initiators and innovators in development. Judging from the researchers' observations, it can be seen that there is a change in the paradigm of thinking of youth in social communities to make decisions within groups.

The effectiveness of community empowerment in Medan city is achieved if there is an open culture of the community and is willing to support empowerment for them. From the results of the study, it is seen that there is an effort of youth culture to support activities that lead to conditions of empowered communities, although not yet at maximum level. But what is expected is that empowerment arises from within the community itself, supported by non- governmental organizations and organizers who are concerned in improving the quality of life of the community as the ultimate goal of development. So that efforts are needed that are continuously made aware of the local community to improve the ability and strength of the community so that it can achieve empowerment (the process of empowerment is done through providing opportunities to carry out activities in their environment, or skills training and strived by the community itself as initiators and dynamists in implementing it because the community owns and controls the institution).

### **3.2 Constraints**

Viewing and analyzing the role of the Youngmens Christian Association on community empowerment there are several obstacles that make the results not optimal because:

- a. Inadequate budget of Youngmens Christian Association in conducting group coaching for both youth and society,
- b. The still limited communication and coordination between elements that causes the lack of information that is spread as input for the organizer,
- c. Lack of action (response) and social-outcome produced by the community due to the still low capacity of the community and the existence of pessimistic attitudes.
- d. Lack of organizer support for local community activities, this is because the community is more concerned with survival than an optimistic attitude in improving class so that a continuous transformation of values is needed.
- e. Limited field workers who are tasked with supervising various activities making it difficult to monitor the activities being carried out.
- f. The existence of prejudice to the organizer that causes limited organizers to provide input to the community so that the maximum output is not expected from the action taken,
- g. Community action is still not effective so that the action experiences "resistance" and opposition.

Likewise, looking at aspects of government policy in encouraging youth as a motivator of community development is far from expectations, where there is still a small budget focused on increasing the capacity and skills of youth as organizers rather than the budget focused on the government in sports. Within the framework of the empowerment policy as one of the concepts of youth development, this aspect should be emphasized more seriously because empowerment involves economic issues and independence to support community development in Medan. This concept reflects the new development paradigm, which is "people-centered, participatory, empowering, and sustainable" [6].

From some of the obstacles above cause community development has not reached its optimum point and still needs to be supported by optimal resources in increasing sustainable community development. In this obstacle also causes the attitude of community dependence is too high on the organizer, and there is a change in the community but not too dominating or comprehensive as expected.

Even so, empowerment is not a product but a process that is continually being pursued to build the quality of people's lives. The development approach emphasized by Alinsky emphasizes "Human Power" as the power to use human energy, human spirit, and the ability to realize it in others. It is found that the ability of young people to develop their own analysis and become critical thinkers by always raising issues remains warm, there is "self-determination" which is the discovery of some young people and people who have goals in their lives to be better by making decisions for the community and personal interests, and the existence of efforts to make decisions through democratic processes that concern their lives.

### **3. Conclusion**

Since its inception, the YMCA has focused on creating and supporting conditions in which youth are empowered. Being empowered here means that youth and society have the ability to put forward their views and opinions about themselves and their lives. From YMCA's community empowerment efforts through the approval of "Human Resources" Alinsky provided assistance to the community and developed village communities, environment VIII, Simalingkar B, Medan Johor sub-district to participate at every level of life such as the Karya Mandiri credit management unit, looking for alternatives and education alternatives based on the power to use energy, enthusiasm, and ability of groups, but not optimal because it requires transformation in order to encourage the democratization movement to enable small people to gradually advance to class in accordance with middle class society.

In the focus of YMCA community empowerment with Alinsky's "Human Power" approach, it is very appropriate to be applied as community control by involving youth in the community. The program initiated by the YMCA is in conformity with the concept of community development

which requires the need for cooperation between various components of society to encourage democratization in the midst of society. Because community empowerment is an important node in the development of the Medan City area. The role of young people who are both incorporated in the organizer and local youth have been able to maximize their role in terms of improving welfare and increasing community capacity. The role of youth has also been directly involved, both as an object and subject in the cycle of community development in the city of Medan.

#### **4. References**

- [1] T.P. Michael. 2006. *Pembangunan Ekonomi Dunia Ketiga*. Penerbit Erlangga, Jakarta.
- [2] Badan Pusat Statisti (BPS). 2017. *Provinsi Sumatera Utara dalam Angka*. Medan.
- [3] Tjokroamidjojo. 1996. *Teori dan Strategi Pembangunan Nasional*. Penerbit Gubung Agung, Jakarta
- [4] I.A. Rukminto. 2008. *Intervensi Komunitas pengembangan masyarakat sebagai upaya pemberdayaan masyarakat*. Rajawali Press, Jakarta.
- [5] S.D. Alinsky. 1969. *Refielle for Radicals*. Random House, New york
- [6] R. Chamber. 1985. *Rural Development: Putting the Last First*. New York, London
- [7] U. Binawaty. *Pemberdayaan Pemuda Melalui Pendekatan "Human Power" Alinsky*. Dr. [Dissertation]. Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta. 2001 [Online].
- [8] Laswell, D. Harold, A. Kaplan. 1950. *Power and Society: A Framework for Political Inquiry*. Yale University Press, New Haven.
- [9] A.P. Rizky, F. Luluk. *Peran Pemerintah dan Masyarakat dalam pembangunan JKMP*. Jurnal Pembangunan, Vol. 3, No.1, Maret 2015.