



**Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County CoC  
Youth Committee  
MEETING MINUTES**

May 24, 2019  
9:00-11:00am

|                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                 |       |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Facilitator:       | Shandra Steininger                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                 |       |
| Meeting Attendees: | <u>Youth Committee members:</u> Shandra Steininger, Julie Clossen, Kendra Avila, Stephanie Meyer, Lisa Cruden, Casey Gordon, Lauren VanKeulen, Shannon Vinson, Erin Benson,<br><u>Youth Action Board members:</u> Tahbu, Max, Jarum<br><u>Staff:</u> Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio |                 |       |
| Time Convened:     | 9:06                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Time Adjourned: | 10:05 |

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| <b>Introductions</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                             |                    |              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                             |                    |              |
| <b>Approval of Agenda</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                             |                    |              |
| Motion by:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Max Barrigear                               | Second:            |              |
| Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| Amendments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| Conclusion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All in favor by acclamation with no dissent |                    |              |
| <b>Approval of Minutes</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| Motion by:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Julie Clossen                               | Second:            | Jarum Ybarra |
| Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| Amendments                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| Conclusion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All in favor by acclamation with no dissent |                    |              |
| <b>YHDP Update</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                             |                    |              |
| Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| The YHDP application was submitted. A huge thanks to Arbor Circle and Courtney for their work on the application. In addition, HUD seems to be appropriating money for another round of YHDP funding.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                             |                    |              |
| Action Items                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                             | Person Responsible | Deadline     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                             |                    |              |
| <b>Workgroup Discussion</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                             |                    |              |
| Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |              |
| Courtney Myers-Keaton asked the group to consider the following questions: Does Youth Committee want to dedicate time to workgroups? How long? When?                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                             |                    |              |
| <p>There are 5 workgroups: Workgroups: Coordinated Entry; Data and Evaluation; Discharge Planning; Housing First Resource Capacity; and Voices of Youth Count. Each of the workgroups has a description pulled from the USICH framework. There are specific benchmarks and criteria for each group. It would be helpful to know when workgroups will meet so others who are interested in workgroup can plan when they should attend. Perhaps a youth committee member could 'chair' the workgroup but assign tasks to others who are not members of workgroups. There are likely stakeholders that are not regular members of this committee. It will be the responsibility of each workgroup to reach out to stakeholders and decide how they will be involved in the process. It is important to note that if there is time dedicated to workgroups during the meeting, there is still going to be work that needs to be done outside of the meeting.</p> |                                             |                    |              |



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Recommendation: Brianne will let Youth Committee members know that workgroups will starting at the June meeting. The first hour of each meeting going forward (9-10 am) will be dedicated to workgroups. Workgroup members are welcome to meet early or after the meeting if they desire. After 10am, the Youth Committee monthly meeting will occur. A portion of the agenda will be dedicated to workgroup report-outs. Quorum will be required to made decision during the second half of the meeting.

| Action Items                                                    | Person Responsible | Deadline |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| Send workgroup details and signups with youth committee members | Brianne Czyzio     |          |

**Voices of Youth Count**

Discussion

Yesterday, Youth Action Board (YAB) members talked about when it would be best to hold the Voices of Youth Count (VoYC). Members decided that late September or mid-to-late October would be the best time for the count. With late September, it is a little closer to the beginning of the school year, it may be harder to make connections. YAB members plan to go to local schools to raise awareness that the VoYC is happening. They will not ask who is struggling with housing issues but will let students know where they can access resources if needed. They will also promote the date of the count and the locations of the 'Come and Be Counted' sites. They are also hoping to be able to share their 'What I Wish I Knew' postcard. If YAB wants to do a presentation at the schools, they will need to have a description and timing, and share this with the schools as soon as possible so it can get scheduled.

**Max Barrigear motioned that the Voices of Youth Count in late October. Lauren VanKeulen supported. All in favor by acclamation with no dissent.**

Youth Committee will keep VoYC count as a workgroup and as a standing agenda item for both Youth Committee and YAB. Members will work on inviting advocates from the school space. With last year's count, Youth Committee was not able to collect data in the schools for the count. The schools have McKinney-Vento data, but this cannot be unduplicated with VoYC data. The VoYC workgroup will work with the schools in hopes that schools can also be Come and Be Counted sites. Perhaps someone can be identified in each school as someone to go to. Last year, there were concerns from the schools around the questions that were asked. In addition, the schools would need to plan around capacity. Shannon Vinson suggested the group look into a way to generate awareness from other students who are not homeless, but that are willing to support those facing housing insecurity. Spearhead a movement of students/community members who can offer support. YAB just updated their mission and vision to raise awareness, this fits into their new mission. Other communities have done community-wide activities that focus on what youth homelessness looks like as part of their counts. Events include concerts, arts shows, and others. YAB looked at a Voices of Youth Count kick-off night and will need help identifying funds that can be used. Arbor Circle spent about 100 hours on the VoYC last year. This year, it will be important for people to support the count but to also use their connections to make asks. Potential connections and asks can be discussed as part of the Youth Committee agenda. This will help scale the count up. The VoYC workgroup will develop the framework and requirements for the count, then YAB members can work on drafting the questions



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and potential Come and Be Counted Locations. Last year the goal was to do a count and create a by-name list so that youth experiencing homelessness are able to quickly access resources. Is there a way to have extra beds/spaces available in the few days after the count so that space is available for youth who need it? This can be part of the VoYC planning process.

CoC staff will put an ask out to full CoC. Clear communication that workgroups will be starting in June, there are spaces for all to plug in, especially with the VoYC planning.

Recently, Casey Gordon, chair of the CoC, suggested that committees do not meet in July as July is a busy month. However, with the upcoming VoYC, Youth Committee will meet in July.

| Action Items                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                             | Person Responsible | Deadline      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Inform the full CoC of youth committee workgroup meetings and encourage involvement                                                                                                                                                                          |                                             | Brianne Czyzio     |               |
| <b>Agency Updates</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                             |                    |               |
| Discussion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                             |                    |               |
| DRIVE Challenge is looking for opportunities for youth aging out of foster care. Please connect with Shannon Vinson about any resources or contacts you may have. They are in the process of writing a grant and may be reaching out for letters of support. |                                             |                    |               |
| HQ has noted a steady decrease in minors receiving services. They will be increasing outreach this summer. Has anyone else seen this trend with their organizations? If you have thoughts/ questions/ ideas for outreach, reach out the Shandra.             |                                             |                    |               |
| <b>Adjournment</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                             |                    |               |
| Motion by:                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Max Barrigear                               | Second:            | Julie Cnossen |
| Conclusion                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | All in favor by acclamation with no dissent |                    |               |