



# Grand Rapids/Wyoming/Kent County CoC

## Youth Committee

### MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT

July 26, 2019

9:00-11:00am

Facilitator:	Shandra Steininger		
Meeting Attendees:	Lauren VanKeulen, Anna Diaz, Erin Benson, Ashley Pattee, Drea McKinney, Julie Cnossen, Sierra Salaam, Becky Diffin, Shandra Steininger, Arielle Goodson, Valerie Dykstra (for Shannon Vinson), Tonisha Begay, Stephanie Myers, Regina Archie, Finn Marcks, Tahbu Aizer, Maxwell Barrigear, Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio		
Time Convened:	10:12	Time Adjourned:	11:03

<b>Introductions</b>			
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<b>Approval of Agenda</b>			
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Motion by:	Max Barrigear	Second:	Arielle Goodson
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Discussion			
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Amendments	Add Michigan Policy Council as item #10		
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Conclusion	All in favor by acclamation with no dissent		
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<b>Approval of Minutes</b>			
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Motion by:	Max Barrigear	Second:	Lauren VanKeulen
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Discussion			
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Amendments			
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Conclusion	All in favor by acclamation with no dissent		
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<b>Workgroup Report Out</b>			
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Discussion			
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**Coordinated Entry:** the group identified 4 priorities moving forward: collate information around current CE process for youth narratively and visually; Reach out to Light House Model in Cincinnati; HQ will meet with HAP to review process; and review HMIS access across youth providers.

**VoYC:** This year's Voices of Youth Count (VoYC) will be Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. The group is working to identify schools to present at; to develop the presentation for schools; and planning a kickoff event.

**Discharge Planning:** This month, they focused on learning around the different systems at the table. They are working on learning about how the systems currently work so that they can focus on improvement in the future.

**Resource Capacity:** they are working to create a spreadsheet with all the youth specific-resources in the community complete with details, as well as 18+ resources that can be accessed by youth but are not youth-specific. They may be reaching out to different agencies ask questions about programming to ensure all the information is in one place.

**HMIS:** they discussed what went well with HMIS utilization in last year's count and some areas for improvement. They are looking at creating a provider page again this year. They also are working to make sure that those asking questions use a trauma-informed lens and ensure there is the ability to make a connection with the YWCA if there is a safety. They are coordinating with HAP on the process to get youth onto the by-name list during the count and ensuring that the youth by-name list is looked at throughout the year.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
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VoYC: Next Steps, Timeline, Accountability		
Discussion		
<p>October 2 is this year's count day for schools in Michigan. Last year, the Voices of Youth Count (VoYC) did not include information from the schools due to questions on the survey. YAB is hoping to present at schools, they will be developing an outline today for the presentations. They will be reaching out to Casey Gordon in hopes of attending the Homeless Liaison orientation and asking what schools are best to target. The goal of the presentation is to raise awareness among students, to reach out to those who may be struggling and let them know they can reach out to school officials, and to try to reduce stigma around youth homelessness.</p> <p>The group would like to have some type of event to raise awareness for the count. If both are on the same day, then it will help ensure that the most youth are counted. The idea behind two events is to keep the count fresh in the youth's minds. Perhaps they do smaller events to keep the momentum going to lead into the larger event. The group also discussed whether agencies would be willing to contribute (financially or with donations) to a kickoff event or a count day.</p> <p>It seems that the goal of the count is to count the number of youth experiencing homelessness, as well as to collect basic demographic information to highlight disparities. VoYC provides a sample survey tool. The goal last year was the include questions that could help get youth on a prioritization list at HAP. What is the aim for this year? This will help drive what questions are asked and how they are asked, as well as what steps need to be taken before the count. Last year's survey questions were extremely intrusive, perhaps some could be asked later down the line as trust is built and youth are being connected to resources. Email may be the best way to connect youth to resources after the count because it likely hard for youth experiencing homelessness to maintain a cell phone number.</p> <p>Julie suggested the group use the Voices of Youth Count (VoYC) Toolkit. It is extremely helpful in laying out all the pieces that need to be coordinated ahead of the count. In addition, there are documents from last year that can be used as a starting point for this year. She noted that last year Arbor Circle ended up doing a lot of the work because they did not delegate. Julie recommended that the planning group delegate and be specific in their asks. People are more likely to get engaged if there is a specific ask.</p> <p>Tentative VoYC timeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- YAB/agencies present at schools the first week of October</li> <li>- Kickoff event during the third week</li> <li>- VoYC is Thursday of the fourth week</li> </ul> <p>It may be helpful to have the VoYC group plan a meeting in the next few weeks that is strictly a VoYC planning meeting for agencies who want to be involved. Courtney Myers-Keaton will help coordinate. YAB will come up with date options, as well as who specifically should be involved. Jamin will report back to the VoYC group what is discussed at the YAB meeting.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline



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Develop list of date options and agencies to include with VoYC planning	Youth Action Board	
Coordinate meeting with YAB and VoYC agencies	Courtney Myers-Keaton	
<b>Grand Challenge Application</b>		
Discussion		
<p>Prior to the meeting, Courtney shared information around the Grand Challenge with the group. The Grand Challenge is through A Way Home America and uses a targeted universalism approach to end youth homelessness. The group needs to decide whether they want to move forward with this opportunity. This opportunity is not funded but is technical assistance. The targeted universalism approach targets youth of color and LGBTQ+ identifying youth but does not exclude any youth or any person experiencing homelessness. This ties in with the True Colors work. True Colors launched a strategic planning process in this community 3-4 years ago. This opportunity is very similar to the strategic plan approach but brings together a broader group of stakeholders. There is not cash tied to this process, so the community will need to come together to ensure that resources as available. Julie noted that it is challenging to bring people around the table on a regular basis without funding. This has been a struggle in the past with the True Colors strategic plan. This is a great opportunity, but it is a lot of work and would require everyone to be on board. One requirement is a 'Ride or Die' team that is 51% composed of youth who have experienced housing insecurity.</p> <p>Courtney noted that it is important to look at the commitment level required of those who want to be involved with the work, and those who want to be involved with the Ride or Die team, as well as the resources that the community is able to bring to the table. The faculty team would likely work closely with YAB and YC to put strategic planning steps into a timeline. This would require activism on the part of all agencies around this table to bring this funding to these opportunities. This opportunity ties into the YHDP. However, the first few months of the YHDP are creating a community plan which will be a heavy lift. There may not be capacity to do both at the same time, even if they may overlap. Shandra shared that from her view, this may stretch us too thin. It may be better to do some things really well, as compared to trying to do everything. Max Barrigear moved that Kent County apply for the Grand Challenge application. No second. Motion does not carry.</p> <p><b>Lauren VanKeulen moved that Kent County does not apply for the Grand Challenge this year. If the application is available out again, the committee will reconsider based on capacity at that point. Tahbu seconded the motion. All in favor by acclamation with no dissent.</b></p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Youth Functional Zero Page</b>		
Discussion		
This topic was tabled until the next meeting. Erin Benson will send out the information.		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Agency Updates</b>		



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<b>Discussion</b>			
MI Homeless Policy Council – The council is working on a statewide plan to end homelessness. They have 5 sessions throughout the state for community members and agencies to provide feedback. Generally, when the state creates a plan like this it is in place for about 10 years. Julie noted that it will be important to have youth provider voices and YAB voice at these meetings. Courtney suggested that the group coordinate which session to attend. If you have questions, please reach out to Courtney. To coordinate carpooling, please reach out to Shandra Steinger.			
<b>Adjournment</b>			
Motion by:	Max	Second:	Lauren
Conclusion	All in favor by acclamation with no dissent		

DRAFT