



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

October 22, 2020  
9:30-10:30

Facilitator:	DL McKinney		
Meeting Attendees:	DL McKinney, Joe Kiser, Melissa Ware, Claire Hopkins, Casey Gordon, Erin Benson, Korey Mills, Carolyn Allen, Claire Hopkins, Samantha Westhouse, Melissa Ware, Edna Stewart, Anna Diaz, Leora Bain, Katlin Davis, Lindsey DeShetler, Stephanie Myers Staff: Courtney Myers-Keaton, Brianne Czyzio Robach		
Time Convened:	9:04	Time Adjourned:	10:15

<b>Introductions</b>			
<b>Review of Agenda</b>		<b>October 22, 2020</b>	
Motion by:	Casey Gordon	Support from:	Leora Bain
Discussion			
Amendments	Add Coordinated Entry Policies (#4a)		
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>		<b>September 27, 2020</b>	
Motion by:	Sam Westhouse	Support from:	Melissa Ware
Discussion			
Amendments			
Conclusion	All in favor, motion passes.		
<b>Youth Functional Zero List</b>			
Discussion			
Currently, there are 21 youth in shelter and 61 youth reporting unsheltered homelessness on the by-name list. Salvation Army has had some openings at La Grave for youth aging out of foster care.			
<u>CE Policies</u>			
CE Committee, Steering, and full CoC recently adopted new policies. The CE Committee will begin to focus on implementation of policies with the hope of implementing by the end of the year. Anyone interested in joining this conversation should reach out to Brianne ( <a href="mailto:brobach@hwmuw.org">brobach@hwmuw.org</a> ). If there are areas that there are questions or comments around the policies, please highlight and bring to attention of staff.			
There is an ongoing project with Community Rebuilders focusing on Monroe Center using dynamic prioritization and prioritization pools.			
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline	
<b>Youth Homelessness Awareness Update</b>			
Discussion			
This project received a Neighborhood Match Fund grant to do a social media awareness campaign in November to align with Youth Homelessness Awareness Month. They approached the project with a “nothing about us without us” attitude and hosted focus groups with youth experiencing homelessness. Joe will share the social media information and asks the group to follow, share, and engage with social media posts and pages.			



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Thanks to Joe and the team for all their work on this effort!		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Homeless Outreach Team Update</b>		
Discussion		
<p>D.L. shared a document with the goals that the HOT Team recently presented to the outreach group. One of their goals is to respond to immediate complaints, the second goal is to improve public health and safety outcomes and includes collaboration with community partners. Meetings over the past few weeks focused on developing a stakeholder map and talking through how to best communicate and collaborate.</p> <p>Anna shared that in planning for the Monroe Center project, they found it helpful to outline specific roles and responsibilities for the outreach teams. The planning group discussed the fact that the HOT Team plays a role and is perceived as law enforcement, which is different than the role of outreach workers whose focus is engagement.</p> <p>Courtney indicated that there has been discussion around HMIS and the purpose it may serve the HOT Team. Conversation around the Could allow access how this could be implemented and the impacts if it is. Members voiced concern that this access this may impact trust and perception in the community. This conversation will likely be continued with other groups of the CoC.</p>		
<b>Community Partner Updates</b>		
Discussion		
<p>November meeting falls the day after Thanksgiving. This will be pushed back a week to December 4<sup>th</sup> and the December meeting will be rescheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>In the meantime, if there are youth specific things that come up, please reach out to CoC staff.</p>		
<b>Community Partner Updates</b>		
Discussion		
<p><u>Guiding Life to Independence through Development and Education</u> – they are working to open a physical location in Kent County. Once they are open, they will have housing available to youth. They are looking for spaces to collaborate in the interim. Please reach out to Leora if you have opportunities (<a href="mailto:Leora.bain@glidehome.org">Leora.bain@glidehome.org</a>)</p> <p>If you all need to connect with any of the AYA Youth Advocates please email <a href="mailto:advocates@hqgr.org">advocates@hqgr.org</a>.</p>		
<b>Adjournment</b>		