



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

July 23, 2021
9:30-10:30

Facilitator:	Kendra Avila		
Meeting Attendees:	Gaby Guzman, Alyssa Anten, Kendra Avila, Benjamin Kaiser, Patrick Buhay, Becky Diffin, Paige Putans, Regina Archie, Samantha Westhouse Staff: Brianne Robach		
Time Convened:	9:30	Time Adjourned:	10:30

Introductions

Approval of Agenda July 23, 2021

Motion by:	Ben Kaiser	Support from:	Patrick Buhay
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Discussion

Amendments

Approval of Minutes June 25, 2021

Motion by:	Ben Kaiser	Support from:	Regina Archie
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Discussion May minutes still need to be approved

Amendments

Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project

Discussion

CoC and AYA staff have been working on the YHDP application. Kendra has been working to get youth feedback and work with YHDP. Staff are excited at the prospect of being funded in this round. The narrative for our application is in final draft form, and attendees review the narrative and made comments and suggestions.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

Youth Functional Zero Workgroup Update

Discussion

The case conferencing workgroup for youth has been discontinued for now. AYA recently received a grant for direct cash transfers. They have been working to build relationship with Community Rebuilders to build a workgroup around Youth Functional Zero. More details will be coming soon.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

Youth Action Board Update

Discussion

Kendra has been doing heavy recruiting for the Youth Action Board and there is still an opportunity for youth to join. Youth should reach out to Kendra (kavila@ayayouth.org) directly if interested to learn more. The board was created to be youth led. Kendra will be providing education and resources around what YAB can be, but YAB will be youth led and youth designed. The first meetings will focus on expectations and structure. So far, about 5 young people have committed to joining the board. Options to meet in person and virtually will be available.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline



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Youth Functional Zero List Update		
Discussion		
<p>TSA is hiring staff to monitor the list as well as collect and display real-time data. This will be shared at future meetings.</p> <p>Sam shared the most current numbers and noted that they recently updated status for many youth so the number has dropped. There are 67 youth experiencing homelessness, 18 sheltered (16 singles and 2 families), 49 unsheltered youth (24 singles and 25 families). TSA staff have cross-referenced this list with the FFO list to update numbers.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Next Steps		
Discussion		
<p>Kendra noted that this group had set goals around YAB earlier in the year and decided to apply for the YHDP. As YAB is starting and the YHDP will be submitted soon, she feels that the group is at a point to start developing goals for the next few months.</p> <p>Ben suggested focusing on collaboration around messaging to community and landlords around vouchers given the new voucher openings and large number # of youth with vouchers. Creative use of resources could be leveraged for outreach.</p> <p>Next steps/goals will be discussed next month as well, feel free to bring ideas to that meeting or share in advance.</p>		
Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline
Community Partner Updates		
Discussion		
<p>Mel Trotter - Regina shared that construction is underway so the YES shelter has temporarily moved with capacity down (to 8), 1 bed is currently available. There are several beds available in the youth overflow space. Families are not on-site as of now, and are encouraged to go through the Community Housing Connect process. If families arrive at Mel Trotter, they will assist them in getting to shelter.</p> <p>Arbor Circle recently selected a Director for Youth Services who will be starting in the next month.</p>		
Adjournment		
Motion by:	Ben Kaiser	Support from: Regina Archie