



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

September 24, 2021  
9:30-10:30

Facilitator:	Kendra Avila		
Meeting Attendees:	Michaela Scheer (for Tiffany Clarke), Li Kaplan, Marcelle Marcelletti, James Zerka, Crystal Kitten, Alyssa Anten, Lewis Strom, Pavneet Banga, Becky Diffin, Jameela Maun, Toni Wolford, Regina Archie, Kendra Avila, Monique Carter (late), Stephanie Myers (late) Staff: Brianne Robach, Courtney Myers-Keaton (late)		
Time Convened:	9:30	Time Adjourned:	10:30

<b>Introductions</b>			
Discussion			
<b>Approval of Agenda</b>			
Motion by:	Crystal Kitten	Support from:	Marcelle Marcelletti
Discussion			
Amendments	None. Motion passes.		
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>		<b>August 27, 2021</b>	
Motion by:	Becky Diffin	Support from:	Lewis Strom
Discussion			
Amendments	None. Motion passes.		
<b>Youth Functional Zero Initiative Update</b>			
Discussion			
<p>Kendra has met with The Salvation Army and Community Rebuilders to determine areas of focus to begin this focusing on with this initiative. Workgroups and the structure of these committee meetings will also be discussed. Work will start with the youth functional zero (YF0) list and workflow. The group anticipates examining the recent changes implemented in Coordinated Entry (CE) for families, determine what would work well for youth, and what would need to change. This will be discussed at the October Youth Committee meeting.</p> <p>Courtney shared that FFO is considering a structure with workgroups, a planning group, and then full workgroups every other month. The hope is to use FFO as a starting point to build a design that will work for the committee and everyone involved.</p>			
Action Items		Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>YHDP</b>			
Discussion			
<p>The community applied to be selected as a Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program community in this year's round. Awards were announced a few weeks ago, and unfortunately, our community was not selected. Once staff receive our score and feedback from HUD, these will be reviewed with the committee to identify areas to strengthen for next year's round.</p>			
Action Items		Person Responsible	Deadline
<b>Youth Action Board Update</b>			
Discussion			



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Kendra shared that there are 4 youth actively participating with the action board and they hope to recruit youth across agencies in upcoming months. If you have youth with lived experience who may be interested in joining YAB, please connect with Kendra.

The group has a retreat last week which included community-building, Robert’s Rules, and meeting structure. They are still discussing what it would look like for members to attend committee and Steering meetings.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

**Youth Functional Zero List Update**

Discussion

Alyssa shared that currently there are 96 youth on the Youth Functional Zero list. 76 are unsheltered (31 singles) and 20 sheltered (16 singles)

Li is the Outreach Specialist with AYA Youth. She shared that she is seeing a high number of youth staying outside. Li currently working with 49 youth who are unsheltered singles. They have had conversations around how data is collected. The current YFO list only contains those who have contacted HAP. She shared that many youth have jobs and some are engaged with trade-skills programs. Many youth want to maintain employment, but this is extremely difficult for those staying outside and in vehicles. Li anticipates the number of youth employed will decreased as the weather gets colder and youth have to focus on funding somewhere safe and warm to stay.

Action Items	Person Responsible	Deadline

**Community Partner Updates**

Discussion

- JobCorps enrolling for youth in need of job training, high school diploma, and employment skills. There is currently a 60-day virtual enrollment, but youth experiencing homelessness may be able to begin to stay at the center during enrollment.
- Members should continue to send referrals to Paige Putans for any youth who was in foster care after the age 14. She and her team can work to get them connected to housing vouchers.
- AYA has a direct cash transfer program for any youth currently experiencing homelessness (outside or in shelter) ages 18-24. Youth should apply by connecting with AYA, Family Promise, or Mel Trotter. Funds are being prioritized for getting youth into safe and stable housing.
- TSA has an open security deposit and first months rent program. Call HAP at 616-454-5840
- Network180 has openings for Healthy Transition program for youth experiencing housing instability and in need of mental health supports.

**Adjournment**

Motion by:	Jameela Maun	Support from:	Li Kaplan
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