

HOPE 4 Youth July Board Update

August 1, 2022

In light of our Board Meeting on August 1st, I will provide a high-level update with greater detail shared at our meeting. Thank you in advance for your engagement!

Making progress!

- In August, we will officially begin using *Traction* a methodology which elevates a well-thought-out vision, accountability, and clear expectations. We have a pro-bono consultant leading an introductory session with the management team at HOPE 4 Youth on August 9th. Thanks to Sue for making the introduction and the encouragement for Rob Abele to support our great mission.
- We will discuss the June staff survey at the board meeting. I have placed the full survey results in the Board Portal in the *Executive Director Monthly Update* folder.
- We will be signing an agreement to engage ABDO Solutions (our audit firm) to complete the Employee Retention Credit (ERC) application and submission. This will greatly impact our ability to strengthen our operation in 2022 and beyond.
- Our two new Youth Services Coordinators at the Drop-in Center are now in place, and we look forward to more fully supporting our youth with case management work and necessary referrals.

Fundraising connections – your connections are invaluable to our momentum.

- We have completed the summer appeal focused on our *Housing Stability Fund*. Thank you for sharing this with your network. Every dollar counts and helps to empower our youth in long-lasting ways.
- Please spread the word regarding our *Darkest Night 4K* walk/run. We will have flyers for you to share at the board meeting.
- I have worked with the team regarding a reforecast of revenue. With both our Private Foundations and Individual Giving down we need to reprioritize our time and outreach to engage greater Civic and Faith organizations as well as new and/or increased Corporate partners. As always if you have leads, please reach out to Julie or me.

Program and mission engagement – building and empowering our youth is what we do.

- Please see our board packet scorecard detail for outputs. The outcomes of our programming can be seen within the Housing Stability Fund Appeal, website stories, and the life-changing experiences of our youth.
- We continue to see mental health challenges with our young people. Our opportunity to engage them in case management and social and emotional well-being referrals are key to their transition from homelessness to a thriving community member.
- We are retooling our client tracking process to expand the information we receive from our youth as well as begin a bi-annual youth survey; we are implementing in Q3. We are additionally rethinking our intake process to enhance relational interactions with our youth.

Facility Update – working side by side will make us stronger.

- We are exploring better ways to engage our full team. I have noted a perception issue regarding the Administrative office/team and our Program team. We have the option of moving four team members to HOPE Place as a primary office base and are exploring new ways to use space at the Drop-in Center to accommodate two additional team members using a hoteling model. Additionally, we are exploring ways to leverage community assets for meeting space and private discussions. This step of transition will allow us to use more operational funds to directly support our mission work as well as bridge team cohesion in valuable ways.

Fall Board Retreat – thank you for your nimbleness in our rescheduled board retreat.

- We look forward to connecting in-person at the upcoming October 3rd Board Retreat held at Panino's (857 Village Center Drive, North Oaks, MN 55127). We will be DREAMING HUGE regarding our organization's next steps as we enter our 10th year of service to the community.

THANKS again for your time commitment and leveraging your expertise in all we do. See (most) of you at the Heartland Tire Golf Classic on August 22nd.