

HOPE 4 Youth August Board Update September 1, 2022

Where did our summer go?!? I hope you have the chance to enjoy our traditional final weekend of summer over Labor Day weekend. I will be heading north with three-four families joining us for a long weekend. 😊

Facility updates

- We officially paid off HOPE Place! With the proceeds from the Heartland Tire Golf Event raising over \$129,000, the Mitchell's and Heartland Tire have fulfilled their \$500,000 commitment to fully fund the mortgage at HOPE Place. The golf event on the 22nd was amazing, we invited five youth to share in our appreciation of the golfers and the Mitchell's. It was a GREAT day!
- We have a formal Purchase Offer and will be moving it to legal review. It is an offer above market compatibles, we feel good about offer and are gearing up to move. We will office at HOPE Place in four open office spaces as well as utilize two open desks as *drop zones* at the Drop-in Center. The opportunity to strengthen team support and team cohesion has many colleagues thrilled. The timing isn't great – but sincerely, when is moving convenient?
- I spoke with Rep Stephenson and he shared, if re-elected, the HOPE 4 Youth facility funding Bill will be his top priority. With redistricting impacting both Rep Stephenson and Senator Abeler (our Bill authors), they are working hard on their re-election status. There is still a very small chance that our legislative body will go into special session, however, with each passing day the likelihood lessens.

Fundraising connections – your connections are invaluable to our momentum.

- We are seeing good momentum with the Summer Appeal. Thank you for sharing Julie's email with your network where and as appropriate. To date we have raised \$29,000!
- Please spread the word regarding our *Darkest Night 4K* walk/run – there is still time! We see this event as a community highlight to both engage people of all ages as well as educate the participants of the reality of youth homelessness.
- If you enjoy 'adult beverages', please stop by the new Coon Rapids Total Wine & More through Labor Day weekend, HOPE 4 Youth will be the recipient of their *charity of choice* gift.
- We are working on three new foundation grants with our contract Grant Writer Katie Greener. While these grants are tied to government entities, we are still below 2% of government grant funding.

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

- Our Management Team fully embraced the Traction methodology allowing us to expand our commitment to team transparency and mission excellence. When you see our directors or managers, ask them about their ROCKS!
- For those not at the Heartland Golf Event, I shared, since we opened the HOPE Place doors nearly 80 youth have called HOPE Place home. It continues to be a driving force of HOPE 4 Youth to empower young people with the tools to live independently and sustainably.
- As shared last month, 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 ready to implement a first phase of updates. Beginning in August's reports you will see the results of our modified intake process showing more realistic visits and interactions with our youth.

Fall Board Retreat – thank you for your energy, insight, and creative thinking.

- 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 the opportunity to leverage your expertise in all we do. See (most) of you at our annual Board Retreat on October 3rd from 5:00p – 8:00p. Come hungry – the food at Panino's is amazing!