



Youth Advisory Board

Desert View Family Services and Counseling
San Juan County

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

HEALTHY TRANSITIONS EXPANSION GRANT (HTEP)

SUBMITTED TO

BLOOMFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

SUBMITTED BY

DESERT VIEW FAMILY SERVICES AND COUNSELING

SAN JUAN COUNTY YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD

PURPOSE:

Desert View Family Services and Counseling's proposal responds to the need of establishing a Youth Advisory Board within San Juan County to meet the need of a local chapter hood through Youth Motivating Others through Voices of Experiences (Youth MOVE) National.

BACKGROUND:

Youth MOVE National is a youth-driven, chapter-based organization dedicated to uniting the voices of youth nationwide. We believe strongly that youth are the leaders of today, not tomorrow; all youth should be equal partners in the process of change; and that youth can motivate others through their voices of experience.

Vision:

Youth MOVE National envisions a future in which young people are valued as empowered leaders, advocates, and designers of communities that are built for all youth to thrive.

Mission:

Youth MOVE National connects, supports, and develops youth leadership in advocacy to create positive change. We practice authentic youth engagement through youth driven decision making by elevating youth voices of lived experience. We ensure that young people are heard and valued as leaders in the agencies, communities, and systems that impact their lives.

OBJECTIVE:

Establish a Youth Advisory Board for San Juan County and obtain national chapter hood through Youth MOVE National.

EFFORTS:

Desert View has made diligent outreach efforts within the community to bring young people to the table for the Youth Advisory Board Meetings. Desert View has conducted outreach and recruitment efforts at each monthly and quarterly community meetings for San Juan County. Desert View has met with Bloomfield High School (BHS) to speak with staff regarding the implementation of the Youth Advisory Board. Desert View has sent the Youth Advisory Board flier to BHS with the hopes of having higher youth attendance. Desert View has hosted Youth Advisory Board meetings on a bi-weekly basis with the option of coming into the office or attending via Zoom.

CHALLENGES:

Despite all efforts made, Desert View has seen very little to no attendance at the bi-weekly Youth Advisory Board Meetings. As part of the Healthy Transitions Expansion Grant, Desert View has been selected to pilot the Youth Advisory Board and establish national chapter hood. To attain national chapter hood, Desert View needs a minimum of 8 young people on the Youth Advisory Board and there must be consistent participation at the monthly meetings for a period of six-months. It has been expressed by the youth that transportation is a challenge for attending the meeting.

PROPOSAL:

PROPOSED SOLUTION:

Desert View would like to establish a Youth Advisory Board at each high school within San Juan County as an official school group.

Having an approved club for the Youth Advisory Board at the high school would allow ease of access for the student population to attend meetings by eliminating the challenge of transportation. The club at Bloomfield High School would be considered a sub-group of the San Juan County Youth Advisory Board. All the schools across the county will share the same vision and work towards achieving that vision as one team. The different subgroups will also have the opportunity to identify needs and advocate for change within their individual cities.

Desert View will attend, at a minimum, one meeting per month at each school. To ensure San Juan County is fulfilling the fidelity of the Youth MOVE National outline; we plan to bring all sub-groups together at a minimum once per quarter. This will allow all the boards across the county to collaborate as one team to meet the community needs and live out the shared vision.

BENEFITS TO STUDENTS:

COMPENSATION:

Young people who volunteer their time to advocate for change within the community will be compensated. The young people are compensated \$25.00 for every meeting that they attend; however, to be eligible for the compensation, the young person must attend 3 Youth Advisory Board meetings. The young people are compensated via gift cards.

Desert View Family Counseling and Services is a 501c3 Non-profit organization. Our funding sources come from a variety of different grants at different levels. The federal grant that funds the Youth Advisory Board is the Healthy Transitions Expansion Grant provided by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration under the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

EXPERIENCE:

The Youth Advisory Board is designed for the young people to “run the show”. The adult representatives from Desert View or the Schools are there primarily for safety, and to assist if/when needed. Once there are enough young people present the board will then be structured into roles such as Board President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Public Relations, etc. These roles will be up for election, and it will be highly encouraged for the youth to rotate positions to gain experience within each position.

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