

HOPE 4 Youth December Board Update

December 31, 2022

As we close out 2022, I would like to send a special thank you to YOU, our team, our partners, our volunteers, our donors, and the reason for our mission, our youth. It has been a year of learning and growing. The team we have assembled today is committed and passionate about our mission. We are excited to see how we can and will impact the youth we serve. Changes have occurred and new solutions/directions have emerged. In my 15 months with HOPE 4 Youth, I have never been more excited about our future than I am today.

- I appreciate each of you and your unique gifts.
- I appreciate your service on our board giving so freely of your time.
- I appreciate our amazing team and their relentless drive to make the world better.
- I appreciate the power of our community coming together.
- I appreciate the ability to align with our partners on behalf of our youth.
- I appreciate the HOPE I see in the eyes of the young people we support.

As we turn the page to 2023, we will continue to grow, evolve, and build.

- ✚ HOPE 4 Youth will be the top priority of Representative Stephenson (and me) in securing funding from the state of MN for a new Drop-In Center. This is not a light switch situation, rather a journey over the course of the coming year. We will do our best to advocate for these funds to support a new facility.
- ✚ We will welcome five new people to our team. In Advancement, we will welcome our new *Community Engagement Coordinator* and our new *Marketing and Special Events Coordinator*. In Program, we will welcome our *Youth Services Advocate* colleague focused on outreach, and two new roles. *Drop-In Center Program Coordinator* and our *HOPE Place Program Supervisor*. Both later roles are still posted on our website – spread the word!
- ✚ We will have final yearend financials completed in mid-January. We are seeing traction with our yearend giving campaign *Gift of HOPE*. Much more to come after we tally our final week's donations and expenses. I am extremely optimistic of our final yearend success being in the black – stay tuned.
- ✚ We will have our program totals and outcomes ready to share by mid-January as well. Watching our trends, we will serve over unique 400 youth this year, of which nearly 70 have children of their own. We are helping young people live in stable housing, leverage resources to meet their needs, and find HOPE in connecting with our talented team.
- ✚ We will spend the first couple of weeks in January creating office spaces for our new team members both at HOPE Place and the DIC and re-organizing our DIC offices providing more usable spaces.
- ✚ Finally, we will continue to strengthen our operation with imperative processes, we will find improved ways to communicate, and continue to celebrate all we are doing together. We will ready ourselves for our new 2024-2026 Strategic Plan by wrapping up our operational objectives and program enhancements in our last year of the 2021-2023 plan.

There is so much more to be thankful and HOPEful for. I will end 2022 with one final THANK YOU! We can only do what we do through the hearts, talents, and time of people such as you. See you at our board meeting on January 30th! We wish you a New Year built on wishes of peace, well-being, and HOPE!

**From our team to you and yours – Happy New Year
See you in 2023!!!!**