Celebrating 5 Years of Partnership!

Northfield Youth First
2020 report
Youthprise

Founded in 2010 by the McKnight Foundation, Youthprise strives to increase equity with and for Minnesota’s indigenous, low-income, and racially diverse youth. It envisions a Minnesota where outcomes for youth are no longer predictable by race, geography, or socioeconomic status.

Guided by a strengths-based approach, Youthprise works to transform how funders, institutions, providers, and communities work with youth. In 2015, Youthprise approached HCI and the City of Northfield about launching a shared partnership. This became Youth First.

Why Northfield?

**Relationship**
Northfield has a strong, trusted relationship with Youthprise.

**Leadership**
Northfield is seen as one of the leading communities in Minnesota for youth development efforts.

**Results**
The partnership has yielded exciting results in its first 5 years.
YouthBank
Grants totaling $5,750 awarded in January 2020 to support youth-led efforts designed to meet local needs

In place of spring grant round (because of COVID), YouthBank conducted its own projects, totaling $5,000 (including bins of school supplies and personal hygiene products that went out with school lunches)

21 local youth served on the YouthBank team in 2020

Northfield Community College Collaborative

- 69 students took college classes through the NCCC
- 883 college credits were earned
- 10 students graduated with their associates of arts degrees
- 81% were students of color and 98% were first-generation college attendees

Northfield Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention

- Trained 142 local individuals to identify and respond to mental health concerns through evidence-based Youth and Adult Mental Health First Aid
- Community members trained in mental health awareness made 1,136 referrals of individuals for mental health support
- Coalition-led parent education initiatives reached over 3,000 households in Rice County
- Trained over 185 local beverage servers in Rice County on safe serving practices
- Collected 29,886 pounds of medication (program lifetime-to-date) through the Take It to the Box program

Youth on Boards

126 Northfield-area youth (unduplicated count) served on local boards and commissions in 2020. These included governmental boards and nonprofit organizations.

2014 - youth served on 2 boards
2020 - youth served on 23 boards

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2020 - youth served on 23 boards

Opportunity Reboot

- 124 local Opportunity Youth ages 14-24 served
- Provided academic support, job access, career readiness, postsecondary exploration, and support services
- Bridge Mentors provided 7,613 contacts to youth in the cohort
- 39 participants earned diplomas or certificates (exceeding the initiative’s target of 20)
YOUTH ON BOARDS
- Maintain engagement with youth during the pandemic, while overcoming the challenges of connecting online
- Through the Mayor’s Youth Council, work to engage all Youth on Boards participants around police policy issues, composting, and Riverfront Enhancement work

NORTHBANK
- Support the implementation of projects funded at the end of 2020, which focused on COVID-19 and racial justice
- Find new ways to amplify youth voices in the community, especially around issues of justice and equity

NORTHELFIELD ALLIANCE FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION
- Implement evidence-based alcohol curricula in schools
- Implement the community-wide multicultural resiliency and mental wellness toolkit
- Train 300 students in Teen Mental Health First Aid
- Implement community messaging for parents and youth about opiates and naloxone

NORTHFIELD COMMUNITY COLLEGE COLLABORATIVE
- Grow the program with individuals who want to return to school after a gap in their education or who never pursued their education
- Expand the pathway program to include 2-3 more education pathways for students to pursue

OPPORTUNITY REBOOT
- Provide academic and job support to over 100 Opportunity Youth in Rice County
- Strive to ensure that at least 85% of participating youth re-enter or remain in school or secure stable employment
- Develop additional career pathway opportunities for participating youth

Goals for 2021
Thank you for your continued support of this partnership!

For more information, call Healthy Community Initiative at 507-664-3524 or contact these staff members directly:

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