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DEFINING YOUTH MOVE SUNCOAST



Youth MOVE stands for Youth Motivating Others through Voices of Experience. Youth MOVE National is a youth-driven, chapter-based organization dedicated to uniting the voices of youth nationwide. Founded in 2007 and we've grown to more than 60 chapters all around the country. 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.

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.

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.

Youth MOVE Suncoast is a youth-driven Sarasota-Manatee chapter dedicated to improving services and systems that support positive growth and development by uniting youth and young adult voices of those who have lived experience in various systems including mental health, juvenile justice, education, and child welfare. Youth MOVE Suncoast is committed to developing safe spaces for youth and young adults (ages 10-29) in a supportive environment that addresses their needs while engaging in activities and initiatives developed and led by youth and youth adults.

How do we do this? We host events, lead groups, create and coordinate initiatives, place youth and young adults in leadership positions, collaborate with community stakeholders, and most importantly... Make the change we wish to see in the community

23-24 BOARD YEAR REFLECTION



Before the 23-24 board year started, Youth MOVE Suncoast set out with the goal to grow in a way that was strategic and intentional. This prompted us to create a strategic plan that focused on four goals:

- 1. Have consistent collaborations with other local organizations
- 2. Have consistent member attendance and increase overall engagement
- 3. Create an integration between NAMI Youth Programs
- 4.Expand into multi-culture spaces.

To do this, we defined our current reality in these areas, what we want to see if these goals were met, and steps on how we can start working towards these goals. The ways we accomplished this was through setting up a structure and creating systems that helped define board and committee members roles, and set up expectation on how we can engage youth, young adults, and local organizations in a variety of spaces. Because of this, you will see the AMAZING progress displayed in our outcomes throughout the annual report.

We also want to give a HUGE THANK YOU to our 23-24 board and committee members (below), who worked dillegently to make our goals and growth come to life.

Board Members

Kelly Boucher
Xinyi Liu
Jordan
Stonecypher
Emily La Placa
Sydney Lenz
Mia Rosenthal
Sarah Miller

Committee members

Emily Haywood
Divya Puthanveetil
Izzy Reyes
Vikki Hoyland
Vanessa Miller

23-24 BOARD YEAR **OUTCOMES**



VOTED YOUTH MOVE CHAPTER OF THE YEAR OUT OF 50+ CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY!!!!

ACTIVITY NUMBERS

19 Events

7 Presentations

14 Groups

10 Meet Ups

6 Classes

3 Tabling Events

59 total

ENGAGEMENT NUMBERS

1.005 New Interactions

1,234 Total Interactions

BOARD MEMBER NUMBERS

4 in JUNE 2023

10 MAY 2024

ORGANIZATIONS AND PROGRAMS WE COLLABORATED WITH

Family Safety Alliance Coalition

Wraparound Learning Collaborative

OTS Foundation for Neolithic Studies

ALSO Youth

SEE Space Sarasota

Let's Grow

Healthy Teens

Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast Florida, Inc. Sarasota County School District

SRQ Strong

Safe Children's Coalition

NAMI Palm Beach

NAMI Florida

Suncoast Institute for

Chemical Dependency

New College

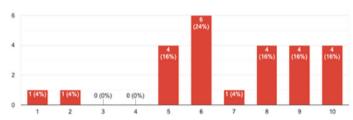
23-24 BOARD YEAR OUTCOMES



WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT OUR GROUPS

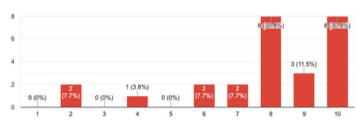
On a scale from 1-10, 1 being horrible and 10 being fantastic, how do you feel right now? (before the group)

25 responses

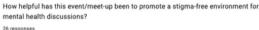


On a scale from 1-10, 1 being horrible and 10 being fantastic, how do you feel right now? (after the group)

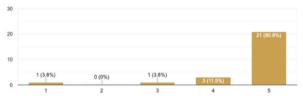
26 responses



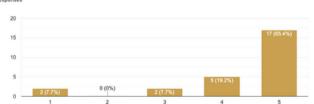
WHAT PARTICIPANTS HAD TO SAY ABOUT OUR EVENTS



26 response

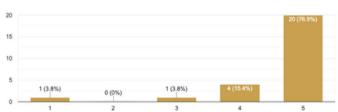


How much has attending this event/meet-up helped to foster a positive mindset?



How supported, either mentally, emotionally or socially, do you feel during this event/meet-up?

26 responses



24-25 BOARD YEAR LOOKING AHEAD



After Youth MOVE Suncoast partnered with Dr. Margaret McGladrey and the USF lab for the Photovoice Project to better understand how community stakeholders can better serve youth and young adults post-pandemic, and the release of the <u>2023 Surgeon General's Advisory on the Healing Effects of Social Connection and Community</u>, this led Nathan Scott of the Florida Health Department to think, since many local organizations have youth advisory or leadership committees that allow them to provide youth-driven input and direction- is there a way to link these efforts together across organizations and systems to support youth and young adults right now?

That is when Nathan approached Youth MOVE Suncoast with the idea of bringing together youth across organizations and systems to partner, organize, and curate supportive relationships with one another and devise a plan that approaches this problem from their perspective.

From there, Youth MOVE Suncoast created the Elevating Youth Voice Workgroup. The purpose of this workgroup was to provide an opportunity for youth and young adults to create the change they wish to see in their community with the goal of hosting a monthly collaborative community space for youth and young adults to create a plan that community stakeholders could work side by side with them throughout the process.

This created three main areas of focuses that is now 24-25 Youth MOVE Suncoast Strategic Plan:

- 1.Increasing youth and young adults Mental Health Support and Education
- 2.Encourage Work-Life Balance in the school and work setting for youth and young adults
- 3.Increase youth and young adult Engagement in their community interests and passions

These goals will be worked on by the Youth MOVE board with the support of other community stakeholders.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS



Youth MOVE Suncoast would like to take this time to than so many intrumental people, foundations, and organizations that help to get us to where we are today.

Youth MOVE Suncoast recognizes, that without funding, it would make it would be near impossible to make our events and initiatives come to life. Therefore, we would like to thank Amy Weinberger and Bob Cohn for their generous donations to NAMI's Youth and Young Adult Programs that help to sustain and grow Youth MOVE Suncoast.

We would also like to thank Gulf Coast Community Foundation for their generous contribution to the Photovoice Project that helped to kick start much of the headway Youth MOVE Suncoast has made and is still making today to support youth and young adult mental health.

A thank you to Nathan Scott who helped inspire and guide us to create Elevating Youth Voices that connected us to other organizations we can collaborate with going forward for our 24-25 strategic plan goals.

Thank you to Youth MOVE National for guiding us and recognizing us at Youth MOVE Chapter of the Year.

A final thank youth to NAMI Sarasota Manatee for hosting the Youth Suncoast chapter, allowing us to opporate and thrive as a program.







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