

BUILD DETROIT YOUTH MISSION

WHY

Children and young people in Highland Park and Detroit, Michigan are under-performing in schools and are faced with challenges, which contribute to their lack of wellbeing. Build Detroit Youth Mission will incorporate academic and faith-based enrichment activities that provide a path for children and young people to chart their own course, so that they might own their present and imagine their wildest future. The Build Detroit Youth Mission will also engage parents in a side-by-side curriculum and activities with their youth so that parents are also equipped with the tools and practices to enrich their child's lives.

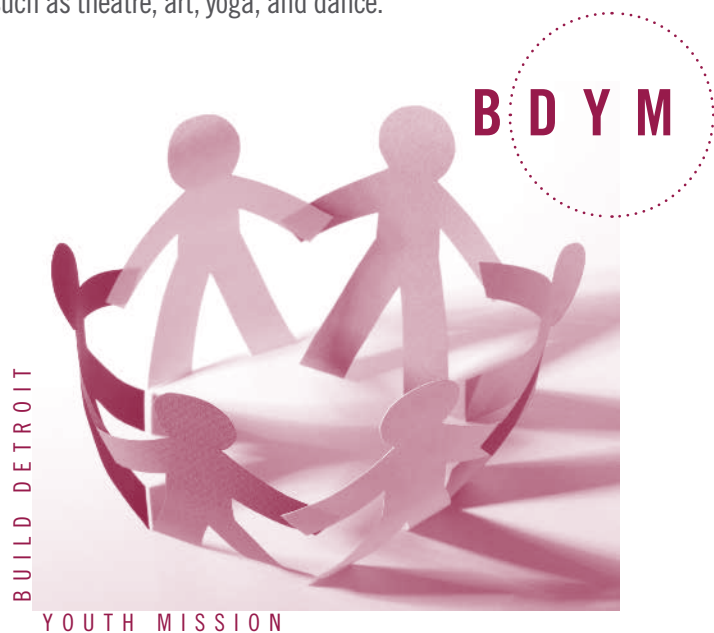
THE PRINCIPLES

- **Self-Determination & Resiliency:** When people are able to own their change, they see and activate pathways to their change. Struggles are a signpost of grit; our light shines brightest through our cracks.
- **Whole Approach:** Providing spiritual, academic, and social tenets of growth creates a supported space for children and young people to set their course. Participants will envision their own spiritual, academic, and social goals and develop an action plan to achieve them with the help of an on site volunteer, who will equip the young people with the tools, support and options as well as operate as a sounding board.
 - **Spiritual growth** includes faith based service opportunities such as volunteering at a soup kitchen or shelter, attending church, deepening church participation (perhaps through choir, youth group, or ushering).
 - **Academic growth** focuses on improved learning as marked by increased success in school.
 - **Social capital** includes building one's soft skills such as improving behaviors at home or school, possessing successful interview skills (being present and focused), or committing to participate in after school activities. Social capital commitments will also include aspects of body health, such as committing to improving nutrition, getting more sleep, or incorporating daily physical activity.

- **Personalized Relationships:** Establishing a 1:1 connection between child/young person and an engaged volunteer will foster a healthy and nurturing environment, critical for successful positive youth development.
- **Engaged Families:** Assisting families and young people in deepening their support and connection with and to each other creates the opportunity for sustained change so that young people are able to thrive.

WHAT WE ARE DOING

- **Developing** an academic and enrichment curriculum.
- **Engaging** young people (0-12th grade) in a collaborative setting to foster spiritual, academic, and social growth.
- **Training** volunteers in curricula so that they will be able to coach young people to set goals and create an action plan for their success. Young people and the volunteers meet twice a week for two-three hours and receive academic support (general and/or literacy/mathematic tutoring) as well as enrichment activities such as theatre, art, yoga, and dance.



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OUR PLAN

- **We will engage young people** (0-12th grade) who are receiving services at DRMM locations to begin an iterative process for determining the variable components (e.g. types of enrichment activities, ways in which programming can be delivered: space, etc.) of the youth programming.
- **We will begin to develop an outreach plan** to recruit volunteers, including a volunteer friendly process and evaluative component (for both young person and volunteer). We will begin to informally host sessions with young people in December 2015 and softly roll volunteers into this process. In January 2016, will we continue to monitor and develop the model, both through improvements with current participants as well as expansion into sites outside of DRMM.

We offer three different tracks to engage youth (0-12th grade) that meets them where they are spiritually, academically, and socially.

Offerings will include:

- Reading Village/Mommy & Me (0-5 years old)
- Reading & Math Enhancement (K-3rd grade)
- General homework help (K-12th grade)
- Enrichment activities (K-12th grade)
- Leadership Academy (9th-12th grade)

Track One (0-5 years old)

- Reading Village/Take 20, including caregiver/parent engagement (Mommy & Me Family Literacy)

Track Two K-8th Grade

- General homework help
- Reading & Math Enhancement
- Enrichment activities

Track Three 9th-12th Grade

- General homework help
- Leadership Academy
- Enrichment activities including faith-based service

Parent Engagement Components for all Tracks

- Family Fellowship (family share dinners, invitation to participate in enrichment opportunities, presentations/showcases of young people's work)
- Take-home tips to support the young person's plan for success



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