

*Youth Advisory Board Meeting  
December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
Family and Children's Center*

In attendance: (Adults) Kristina Bechtel, Amber Kaio, Jim Bagniewski, (Youth) Quin D, Domani B, Belle H, Autumn R, Jewel G, Jazmin P, Brittany S

- Meeting begins with introductions – First name and something that happened in 2019 that you're proud of
- Kristi introduced herself and discussed what the Youth Advisory Board was and what we were trying to create in the Coulee area
- Kristi asks youth for feedback on gaps and needs of youth homeless community in Coulee area
  - One youth mentioned that if she leaves home because it's a toxic environment and dangerous for her to live in, then she has to face the consequences of being homeless. She doesn't want the consequences but is too scared to be at home. Wishes there was a safe place for teens to stay while they are waiting to turn 18 or find their own housing.
  - No Emergency Shelter for Youth in La Crosse Area – gave the example of the Western Regional Adolescent Center because it's a safe place but only for youth in legal trouble
  - Suggestion for a localized hotline for youth wanting to leave unsafe home environment but don't know where to go and needing resources
- Youth who attended first YAB meeting provided an update on how they have done since last September – both housed and doing well 😊
- Enjoyed Food and Snacks!