

# Reduce Stigma & Concerns Associated with Receiving Services (Youth)



NORTHWEST MICHIGAN  
**Behavioral Health Initiative**



This is the work of the **Reduce Stigma Related to Youth Mental Health Action Team**, one of the 12 Northwest CHIR's Behavioral Health Initiative Action Teams. Action Teams consist of cross sector partners willing and able to take action collectively and supported by the CHIR BBO staff. Learn more about the [CHIR](#) and the [Behavioral Health Initiative](#), and stay connected by subscribing [here](#).

# Meet Our Action Team

Team  
Member

**Paige Pemble**  
Charlevoix County

Team  
Member

**Camden Carey**  
Charlevoix County

Team  
Member

**Jürgen Griswold**  
Antrim County

Team  
Member

**Lindsey Jibson**  
Charlevoix County

Team  
Member

**Elena Pizana**  
Manistee County

Adult  
Advisor

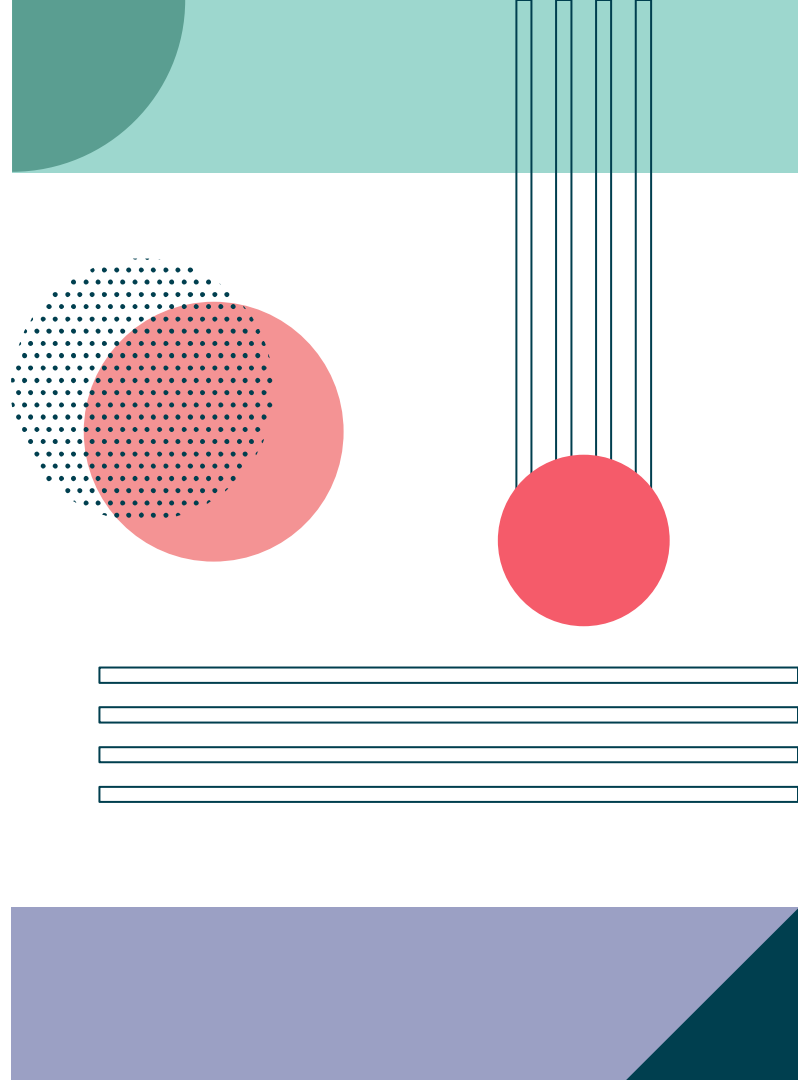
**Hannah  
Rodriguez**  
Manistee County  
Community Foundation

Adult  
Advisor

**Mishelle Shooks**  
Charlevoix County  
Community Foundation

# Our Team's Challenge

Students and teachers do not have access to reliable information about mental health and the resources available to treat it. The disconnect between students and teachers does not help this situation. The generational divide about how to approach mental health paired with teachers' lack of awareness on students' personal situations often leads to dismissal of the students' issues.





# Actions



## Created the Through Our Eyes Photovoice Project

Facilitated a Photovoice project to gather youth perspective on issues and recommendations related to the stigma surrounding youth mental health



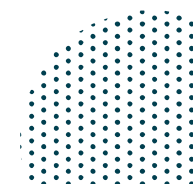
## Explored Evidence-Based Trainings for School Staff

Compiled a list of evidence-based trainings related to reducing stigma around youth mental health to offer to schools



## Compiled a list of all schools across the region

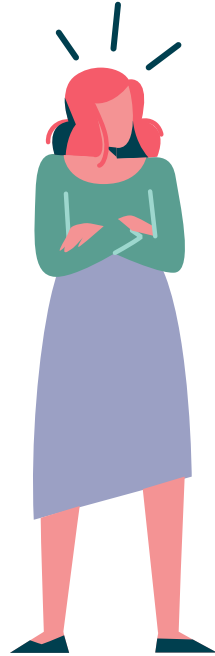
Created a list of all of the schools districts across the region to bring the Photovoice exhibit and list of potential trainings to



# Research, Findings, & Implications

Youth mental health needs  
not well understood by  
adults

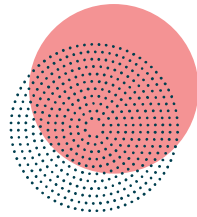
Youth need additional  
mental health supports  
within schools and  
communities



School staff could benefit  
from additional trainings  
and insights to youth  
perspective on mental  
health struggles and needs

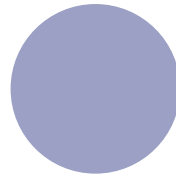
Although many youth appear to  
be coping, these youth are often  
experiencing mental health  
struggles and are often  
overlooked or are assumed to be  
okay

# Recommended Next Steps



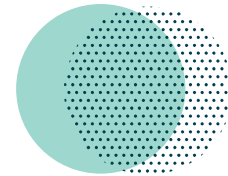
## Develop Physical Photovoice Exhibit

Design a physical exhibit to showcase the photos and stories



## Photovoice Presentations

Create a schedule to present the Photovoice exhibit at organizations and events across the region



## Connect with Schools

Connect with schools to present the Photovoice project and start a conversation around offering an evidence-based training on youth mental health for staff

The background is a light teal color. It features several abstract geometric elements: a red square in the top-left corner; a large teal circle in the top-right corner, partially overlapping a dark teal circle; a dotted teal circle in the top-center; a purple circle in the bottom-right corner, partially overlapping a dotted teal circle; a purple rectangle in the bottom-center with three horizontal lines extending from its right side to a red semi-circle; and a dark teal triangle in the bottom-left corner. On the right side, there are five vertical teal lines of varying lengths.

# Thank you!

Are there any questions?