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Liz McGregor	Youth Assistance Caseworker	Andrea Smith	Chair
Carrie Reichley	Office Administrator	Sandy Fisher	Treasurer
Nikki Keller	OCYA Supervisor	Priya Gurumurthy	Secretary
Liz Csizmadia	OCYA Chief		

MEMBERS			
Andrea Smith	Sandy Fisher	John O'Brien	Priya Gurumurthy
Kayley Dahring	Travis Reeds	Julie Warren	Beverly Valente

Many Thanks to Our Generous Donors!

Much of Novi Youth Assistance programming relies on contributions from local businesses, organizations, and community members. The ongoing support from the local community helps our programs thrive. A special thank you to VIBE Credit Union and add Meadowbrook Congregational Church for your generous donations.

A Final Thank You to our Sponsors!

Oakland County Youth Assistance is dedicated to the prevention of juvenile delinquency and child neglect in the 26 communities within Oakland County. Novi Youth Assistance operates with the sponsorship of the City of Novi, Oakland County Circuit Court- Family Division, and the Novi Community School District. Principal Funding is provided through the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. We appreciate their sponsorship and the leadership of the following people:

Victor Cardenes	City Manager, City of Novi
Justin Fischer	Mayor, City of Novi
Liz Csizmadia	OCYA Chief
Danielle Ruskin	Board of Education President, Novi Community School District
Ben Mainka	Superintendent, Novi Community School District





NOVI YOUTH ASSISTANCE

24062 Taft Road
Novi, Mi 48375
248-675-3089

Novi Youth Assistance



Annual Report 2022-2023

Contact NYA :

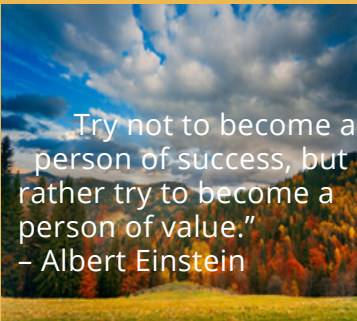
24062 Taft Road
Novi, Mi 48375
248-675-3089

Sponsors:

City of Novi
Novi Community School
District
Oakland County Circuit
Court- Family Division

Principle Funding by:

Oakland County Board of
Commissioners



CHAIRPERSON'S MESSAGE

I would like to thank our staff:
Caseworker Liz McGregor and
Administrative Assistant Carrie Reichley.



A special thank you to the Volunteers,
Our Board Members, Committee Chairs, and Task Members.

Because of their efforts we continue to expand our
commitment to the youth and families in the Novi Community
through our programs and scholarships.

Thank you to the Sponsors and Partners:

City of Novi
Novi Community Schools
Oakland County Circuit Court Family Division
Novi Police & Fire Department

This was a year of transition. We identified new Committee Chairs
to lead and set direction for our standing committees.

And we look forward to strong school year in 2023/2024.

Greg Cocke
Chairperson

SHOP WITH A HERO



The Novi Police Department and the Novi Fire Department joined forces for a special mission on Saturday, December 10, 2022. JC Penney in Novi hosted Novi Youth Assistance's Shop with a Hero event, which pairs community heroes with children in Novi to participate in a Christmas shopping spree. 12 lucky students were sponsored by the Novi Police and Fire Benevolent Association. There was an overwhelming presence of police officers and firefighters who volunteered their time for the event.

Shop with a Hero Committee

CDBG BUILDING SCHOLARSHIPS

Novi Youth Assistance provides scholarships to a targeted group of youth for activities that would enable them to develop a skill, talent, or interest. These skill building scholarships are aimed at expanding the child's horizon, increasing the child's skills, building self-confidence, and enhancing self-esteem. This program is funded by the Community Development Block Grant through the City of Novi.

Twenty-four scholarships were awarded by the Novi Youth Assistance Scholarship Committee, totaling \$4,511. Scholarships were for a myriad of activities, including tennis and karate lessons, field hockey, driver's training, tutoring, and attendance at Novi Meadows 5th grade camp and the Novi Middle School's 8th grade Washington D.C. trip.

Looking for Volunteers

Volunteers are our most important resource! Novi Youth Assistance is actively recruiting new volunteers to help on our various committees. The tasks performed by these committees are critical to the total operation and performance of Novi Youth Assistance.

- General Citizen's Committee
- Family Education
- Finance
- Fundraising
- Public Relations
- Silver Lining Mentoring Program

For a volunteer application or for more information, please contact our office:

24062 Taft Road.
Novi, Mi 48375
248-675-3089

MAYOR'S REPORT



There are four seasons in a year, but many seasons in one's life. Some seasons are great, fun and exhilarating; others are full of frustration and challenges. It is during those times of challenges it is great to have someone on our side to lift us up, walk with us, talk with us and motivate us to become what we are capable of. To many in our community, that someone is the Novi Youth Assistance.

Showing each individual their potential, helping them believe in themselves, encouraging their development, these are just a few examples of how the Novi Youth Assistance works to develop young leaders and teach them skills—skills that allow them to manage time, work as a team, set goals, and solve problems. In other words, assist in developing effective life skills, thus strengthening the community through all seasons of one's life.

On behalf of the Novi community and my colleagues on City Council, thank you, Novi Youth Assistance, for helping develop our youth leaders. Thank you for being there through all seasons. Your passion and commitment to the community is something we do not take for granted and know the services you provide are appreciated by all you serve.

Congratulations on another successful year; we look forward to our continued partnership and seeing what the future holds.

*Justin Fischer
Mayor*

MENTORS PLUS *Be a friend. Show the way*



The Mentors Plus program allows caring adult volunteers to share their lives with youth who could benefit from a little extra attention and support. By

contributing a few hours each month, mentors may help guide a young person with minor court involvement back onto the right track or may help stabilize someone who is suffering from other difficulties. Mentors meet with students outside of the school day to enjoy various activities.

This program is coordinated by Oakland County Youth Assistance. Adults interested in becoming a Mentors Plus volunteer can learn more by contacting the Oakland County Youth Assistance Mentors Plus office at 248-858-0041
Mentors Plus Committee

CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

The City of Novi is extremely proud of its partnerships – partnerships with community members, businesses, and other government agencies. It is this commitment to a variety of partnerships which sets Novi apart and makes our community truly remarkable. One such partnership is with the Novi Community School District and the Oakland County Circuit Courts in support of Novi Youth Assistance.

Through activities such as sports offerings, the summer teen center, individual and family counseling sessions, and several self-improvement programs Novi Youth Assistance has deeply impacted the character of numerous teens and made a lasting impression on the shape of their future.

On behalf of the Novi community and our City team, I commend the staff and volunteers of the Novi Youth Assistance for their dedication to this program. Congratulations to all on another successful year. The City of Novi greatly appreciates your efforts and looks forward to our continued partnership for the betterment of Novi families.



*Victor Cardenas
City Manager*

CASEWORK REPORT

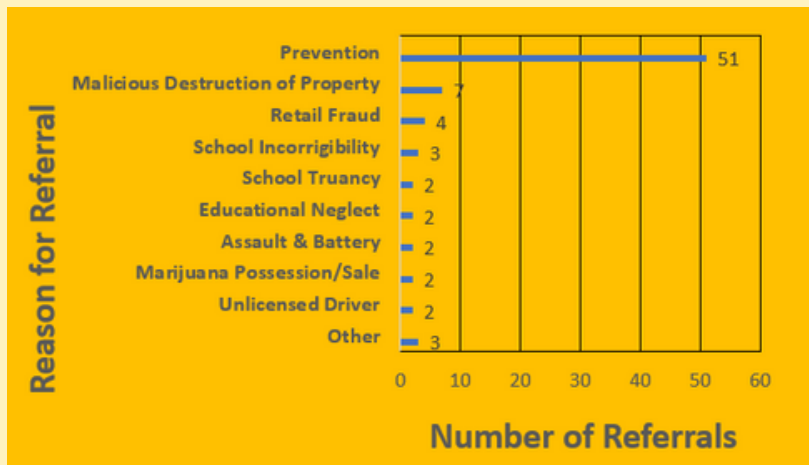
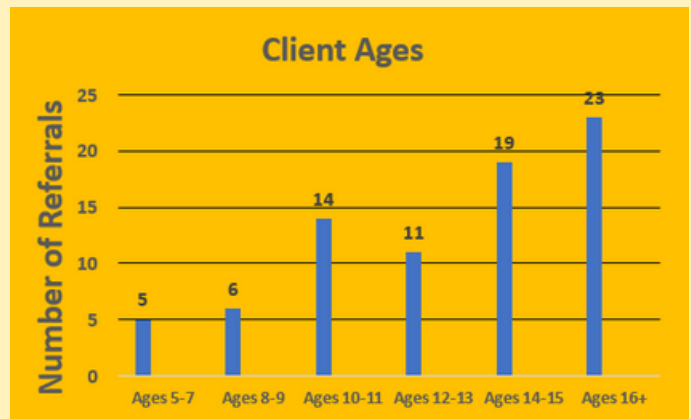
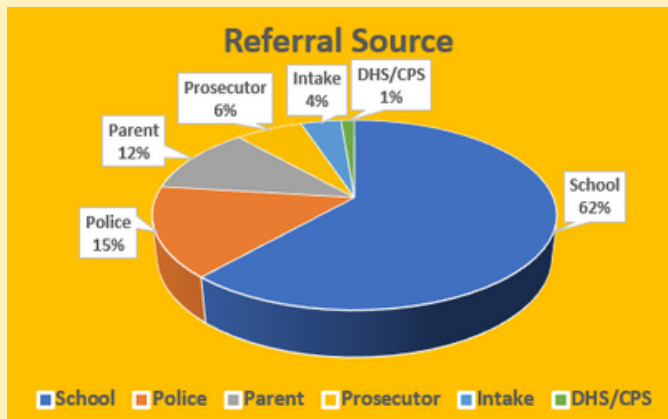


Novi Youth Assistance continues to serve families by bringing support and prevention programming to the community. As the Caseworker, I offer free, confidential counseling and referral services – in-person and virtually – to those families seeking extra support.

Over the time period of 2022-2023, NYA provided casework services to 78 young people and referral services to an additional 41 families. Thank you to our volunteers, who have begun to rebuild and strengthen our existing programs and plan for the future.

And thank you to our sponsors – the Oakland County Circuit Court/Family Division, the City of Novi, and the Novi Community School District who make all of this possible.

OAKLAND COUNTY YOUTH ASSISTANCE STATISTICAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR END TOTALS FROM JULY 2022 THROUGH JUNE 2023



Casework Staff
Liz McGregor

Novi Community School District



The Novi Youth Assistance (NYA) Program was first established in 1957, with the local sponsorship of the Novi Community School District. Since that time, this partnership has grown and flourished into so much more and continues to be an excellent school partnership. NYA has been a wonderful resource that has supported our families through the years with their intervention programs and services, their holiday “adopt a family” programs, their scholarship program, financial support for families, and so much more. They have sponsored such programs as the Jeanne Clarke Summer Teen Center, Love and Logic, Bullying Prevention, and the OK2SAY initiative within our district. Most recently, connecting students from all Novi elementary schools and Novi Meadows to positive adult mentors, the Silver Lining Mentor Program and so much more!

We are excited to have Rosa Leigh Johnson, the Director of Mental Health & Wellness, serving as the district liaison as we work with intentionality to strengthen our partnership with NYA. Working together, we support our students, staff, families, and community to provide the services they need.

Our District is so very fortunate to have such a great partnership for the past 67 years and we look forward to continuing the work together for many years to come. I have personally been so appreciative of the way that NYA has truly worked to make a difference in the lives of our students and their families!

Ben Mainka, Superintendent
Novi Community School District

TEFAP



Working together, City of Novi Older Adult Services and Novi Youth Assistance has facilitated TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) since 2013. Many low-income families have experienced uncertain access to adequate food. By offering programs like TEFAP, we play a role in helping to alleviate food insecurities in the Novi community.

TEFAP is a federal program that helps supplement the diets of low-income Americans by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. For more than 30 years, the City of Novi through the Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency (OLHSA) has facilitated a distribution site. The quarterly food commodity distributions take place on the second Tuesday in the months of March, June, September and December from 12:30-3:00pm at the Novi Civic Center using a drive-up, low contact process. Each income eligible household receives a food supplement consisting of dry cereal, pasta, canned goods, milk, fruit juice, dried fruit and a meat product. The food commodities are pre-packed in bags or boxes by volunteers.

Approximately 30-48 households participate in the program each quarter. Since December 2013, 1,158 food commodity supplement boxes have been distributed.

Thank you to Novi Youth Assistance for continuing to make this much needed program possible.

Sandra A. Fisher
TEFAP Site Supervisor and
Food Program Chairperson

BACK TO SCHOOL SHOPPING



Novi Youth Assistance's Back to School Shopping program intends to help students get excited and prepared for the upcoming school year. This annual event took place at JC Penney, 12 Oaks location, on August 23, 2022. Eight selected youth from the Novi community enjoyed shopping with volunteers from the Novi Police and Fire Departments as well as other committee member volunteers. Novi Youth Assistance provided each child with \$250 to spend and JCPenney provided a generous 20% discount to each of our shoppers. All of the shoppers left JCPenney with a shopping bag full of new apparel. Everyone involved came together in a great team spirit to benefit the children and a great time was had by all.

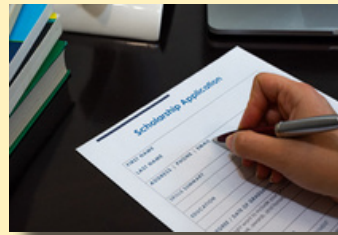
Back to School Shopping Committee

BACKPACK PROGRAM

The Novi Youth Assistance office collaborates with St. James Catholic church of Novi who provided 34 custom backpacks stuffed with age appropriate school supplies. A special thank you to the patrons of St. James Catholic church for their generous donations and to Beth Bush who coordinates with Novi Youth Assistance to ensure each child had a backpack to take with them to school.

Backpack Committee

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS



This year's educational scholarship awards were as follows:

Okray Scholarship Award 2022

Taylor Irving

Emma Johnson

Congratulations to the scholarship recipients!

John O'Brien

ADOPT-A-FAMILY



This holiday program matches families with businesses and individuals from the community to help provide gifts for a happier holiday. Once again, Novi Youth Assistance's Adopt a Family Program was another great success. Forty-one families were adopted by thirty-one adopters and 100 children received their donated gifts. A big thank you goes to the Novi Chamber of Commerce who provided a car load of toys from their annual holiday luncheon which were also used to enhance the children's holiday season. And to all the Novi local clubs, businesses and families who donated gifts as adopters this holiday season, we owe a debt of gratitude. Without your generous support this program would not be possible. Many thanks to everyone who participated!

Silver Lining

An Intergenerational Approach



Imagine just 30-45 minutes on a school day when a thoughtful and caring adult spends time with a small child who will greatly benefit from the attention given to them over conversations, toys, drawing or reading. In the simplest and easiest way possible the adult builds a nurturing relationship with a child. That adult could be you!

Join the growing numbers of Silver Lining mentors and support the children of our community. Please contact the Novi Youth Assistance office at 248-675-3089 for information on how to become a Silver Lining Mentor. - Silver Lining Committee

The Novi Police Department is immensely proud of our partnership with Oakland County Youth Assistance and the Novi Youth Assistance branch. Our mutual mission is to empower youth and families, aiming to diminish delinquency, neglect, and abuse through active community engagement. These objectives align seamlessly with our commitment to community policing, which is centered around strengthening relationships with the public and taking a proactive stance in addressing community concerns.

The significance of Youth Assistance, especially in providing direction and a secure environment during challenging times, cannot be overstated. It's crucial to create opportunities for the Police and the young individuals of our community to unite and forge a path towards a brighter future, facilitated by open communication and mutual respect.

Now in its fifth year, the Novi Public Safety Team Mentoring program, a collaborative effort with Youth Assistance, has seen considerable success. We have facilitated 20 pairings between students from the Novi Community School District and members of the Novi Public Safety Team. The program is designed to cultivate positive relationships with public safety officials through one-on-one interactions between a team member and an at-risk youth. Our aim is to bolster the students' self-esteem and leadership capabilities, guiding them towards becoming constructive members of society. This initiative also serves to foster positive interactions between youth and public safety personnel.

The Novi Police Department is dedicated to strengthening our partnership with Novi Youth Assistance. We are committed to ensuring a safe space for our youth to engage in transparent and meaningful dialogue. Our goal is to support at-risk youth in shaping a better future for themselves and the community. Recognizing that our youth are the most valuable asset of our community, the Novi Police Department is devoted to treating every interaction as an opportunity to build and reinforce public trust.



Erick W. Zinser
Director of Public Safety
Chief of Police