

Tree Street Youth ED Report to the Board of Directors
February 2022

- Staff have been very busy jumping back into 2022. We have had a few staff transitions as Anna, Taha and Kevin (all part time mentors) moved on to go back to school. We have been busy hiring and have rehired Zach Knight (used to work as a Cedar Intern and PT staff in the past), we will have Aliyah (Jordan's younger sister) joining us, as well as Tree Alumni Abshir aka Jama will both begin this week to finally bring the staff to full capacity. It has been an exhausting month covering for people out and keeping up with COVID etc but we are hanging in there and excited to have new teammates join!
- CEDAR (Community Engagement for Developing Abilities and Readiness) is starting to rebuild after being shut down during COVID shutdown times. We currently have 3 new CEDAR interns all alumni of the center and all being paid through the career center work experience program. Current CEDARs Are:
 - Dylon-former sequoia from early years! 2016-17 working on the big kids side and sequoia
 - J'Quita-Next STEP graduate 2021 will be switch hitting on littles/biggs
 - Anthony-former Sequoia who will be a CEDAR intern as part of his re-entry after spending most of his teen years in Long Creek. He has graduated high school. And this is a new pilot to see how CEDAR might be able to support reentry experiences for others in Lewiston
- Sequoia/Adriana (Diversion/family support) have been managing a number of very complex cases the past few months. Winter is hard on kids and families who are trapped inside a lot with their restrictions and families having housing instability. We currently have 4 current and 2 pending sequoia referrals. With the potential of 4 more after recent incidents at the high school.
- Kid/community drama-there has been multiple fights lately across the community in schools and at Tree. It wears on the staff a lot bc it's hard to keep up with all the drama and we tend to inherit situations that haven't been fully resolved elsewhere. We have restorative processes in place for a number of those involved. Majority are teen boys, but we have headed off a few potential fights with girls in the community recently also.
- Next STEP has added a handful of new students at the LMS trimester and LHS semester shifts. The middle school now serves 20 youth and high school serves 50. We also have brought on a few new teachers on including former Tree/BRANCHES staff members
- Basement Update-Step 1 of Clearing out the basement is complete! It was an unbelievable effort by Obrien's Property Services! Here is a summary of their work. The job took three 8-10 hour days with a 3-4 person crew. From the job we carried and hauled 29,180 pounds of junk. That's 14.6 tons of junk! From the 29,180 pounds; 21,800 pounds of wood, metal and other material was sent for reuse, recycling and donation. We only sent 26% of the total

haul to a landfill. Still in process of electrical work and TC Hafford is set to begin their work next week if all continues to go to plan!

- Tree Street staff completed their "word of the year" exercise. Staff's word this year is "unfurl" with the visual being a fern unfolding as it grows. The MAPLE leaders also did the exercise and struggled a bit narrowing but all agreed to land on "conscience bond to trust." It had multiple meanings first of staying bonded to ones conscience, while also bonding until trust is created, while also staying connected to leaning into trust regardless of what is happening. Both were incredibly rich discussions. Next STEP staff landed on Adaptability as their word!
- Staff has begun to do some strategic visioning exercises that will parallel processes we will have in the board spaces and with the MAPLE leaders. The goal will be to weave these visions together to help inform our strategic plan work this first part of the year.
- COVID remains a challenge. We had one staff test positive who is back at work now. Multiple exposures but everyone is remaining vigilant and healthy to the best of our abilities.