

**Lansing Youth Services**  
**Town Board Report**  
**February 2023**

**Outdoor Adventure:** Outdoor Adventure participants finally got some snow to have fun in! Sledding was the number one priority following the arrival of some snow, and as the group was having so much fun sledding, they were willing to forgo hot chocolate for taking some more runs on the hill. Fire making was also very popular, with lots of roasted treats like S'mores, hot dogs, and apples! 12 youth served.

**Foodies and Fun:** This brand-new program takes a new spin on food challenges. Participants have made “veggie villages”, using hummus and ranch dressing as mortar, snow, skin care products, and face detailing. One particularly amazing piece was the “pepper spa”, a hollowed out green pepper, complete with patrons (cherry tomatoes) receiving a skin care treatment of ranch and hummus. The group is now focused on spaghetti bridges and the test/meal day, with color changing tea and a smoothie bar right around the corner! 16 youth served.

**Mini Olympics:** Mini Olympics, another new program, focuses on friendly competition in a variety of disciplines. Participants started the program with “track and field” events like the toothpick javelin, ping pong ball shot put, paper plate discus, and a book balancing 10m race! As a special event day, participants were introduced to cross country skiing via brand new skis that RYS has acquired through a sports funding grant. The entire group learned about the skis, binding operation, ski anatomy, and safety during winter sports. Students are ready to get back indoors for the upcoming modified events of curling, ice hockey, ski jumping and snowboarding, all of which are adapted to be miniature and indoor based. 13 youth served.

**Dungeons and Dragons:** Dungeons and Dragons returned, and students are very excited! So much so, that there will be a second round of D&D to get everyone involved. This role-playing game is led by our teen assistant who serves as the Dungeon Master and guides the group on the quest. The character development process is a large part of the team building aspect of this program. Students work with the Dungeon Master and their peers to develop their character’s skills, behavior tendencies, and special abilities. Once the game begins, imaginations are at their prime as they progress through the storyline and fictitious scenarios. 15 youth served.

**Youth Employment:** Youth Employees have been fulfilling their roles at the library, with Lansing Youth Services as assistants, at the high school, and the Recreation Department’s ice-skating program, and a new position at the middle school as a tutor. New teens are being recruited for the new year, with the goal of adding some additional experiences at the high school. 18 youth served.