

# Youth Voice Charter

## MCM - Youth Foyers

Supporting your journey from dependence to independence

### Core Principles

**Inclusion and Participation:** We believe that all young people living in the Youth Foyers have the right to be included in decisions that affect their lives. We commit to actively involving young people in discussions, planning, and actions related to the Foyer community.

**Respect and Dignity:** We value the dignity and worth of every individual. We pledge to treat each other with respect, kindness, and empathy, recognising the diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives of all young people.

**Safety and Well-being:** We prioritise the safety, well-being, and security of all young people in the Foyer. We strive to create a supportive environment where young people feel physically, emotionally, and mentally safe at all times.

**Opportunities for Growth:** We advocate for opportunities empowering personal growth, skill development, and educational advancement for all young people. We believe in providing resources, mentoring, and support to help individuals reach their full potential.

**Health and Wellness:** We promote physical, mental, and emotional health and wellness among all young people. We encourage open dialogue about health-related topics, access to medical services, and activities that promote well-being.

**Equity and Social Justice:** We stand against discrimination, inequality, and injustice. We strive to create a community that is inclusive, equitable, and supportive of diversity in all its forms.

**Empowerment and Agency:** We empower young people to have a voice in shaping their living environment and advocating for their needs and interests. We believe in fostering a sense of agency and self-determination among all young people.

**Communication and Transparency:** We commit to open communication, transparency, and accountability in all aspects of Foyer life. We encourage feedback, suggestions, and constructive dialogue to continuously improve the Foyer community.

*This Youth Voice Charter is a living document, subject to review and revision based on the evolving needs and aspirations of the Youth Foyer residents.*

### Focused Initiatives

**Advantaged Thinking:** As the practical core of MCM's Youth Foyer program, Advantaged Thinking focuses on the Key Practice Areas: Coaching, Physical environment, Community Connections, and The Deal. The sum of these parts provides the foundation to work with young people so that they can access all the resources, opportunities and domains that enable them to build sustainable and independent lives.

**Increased Emphasis on Mental Health:** We prioritise the mental, emotional, and psychological well-being of all young people. We advocate for access to mental health resources, support services, and initiatives promoting mental wellness and resilience.

**Integration of Healing-Oriented Framework:** We integrate trauma-informed care principles and healing-oriented approaches into our practices. Our aim is to create a supportive environment that acknowledges and responds to the impact of trauma, fostering healing and resilience among young people.

**Community Connections Environment:** We promote a community connections environment that encourages meaningful relationships, collaboration, and mutual support among residents, neighbours, other service providers and Youth development coaches. We support activities that enhance community spirit and contribute positively to our shared living space.

