The background features a light gray background with several decorative elements. In the top left, there is a large teal circle with a white center, a smaller solid teal circle, and a dashed teal circle. In the top right, there is a large lime green circle, a smaller solid lime green circle, and a dashed lime green circle. In the bottom left, there is a large green circle with a white center, a smaller solid green circle, and a dashed green circle. In the bottom right, there is a large yellow circle, a smaller solid yellow circle, and a dashed yellow circle. A large, faint dashed gray circle is centered behind the text.

Michigan Youth Racial Equity Council(MYREC)

MYREC Leadership Introduction



Natasha Thomas

LEAD FACILITATOR

She/Her



Kayla Shannon

YOUTH CO-FACILITATOR

She/Her

A decorative border surrounds the central text, consisting of various colored circles (blue, green, yellow, orange, pink) and dashed lines in light blue and orange.

What is MOASH?



Michigan Organization on Adolescent Health

OUR MISSION:

MOASH mobilizes youth voices, engages community partners, and informs decision-makers to advance sexual health, identities, and rights.

OUR VISION:

MOASH envisions a society that respects and celebrates youth identities, advocacy, and informed choices.


A decorative border surrounds the central text, consisting of various colored circles (blue, green, yellow, orange, pink) and dashed lines in light blue and orange.

What is MYREC?

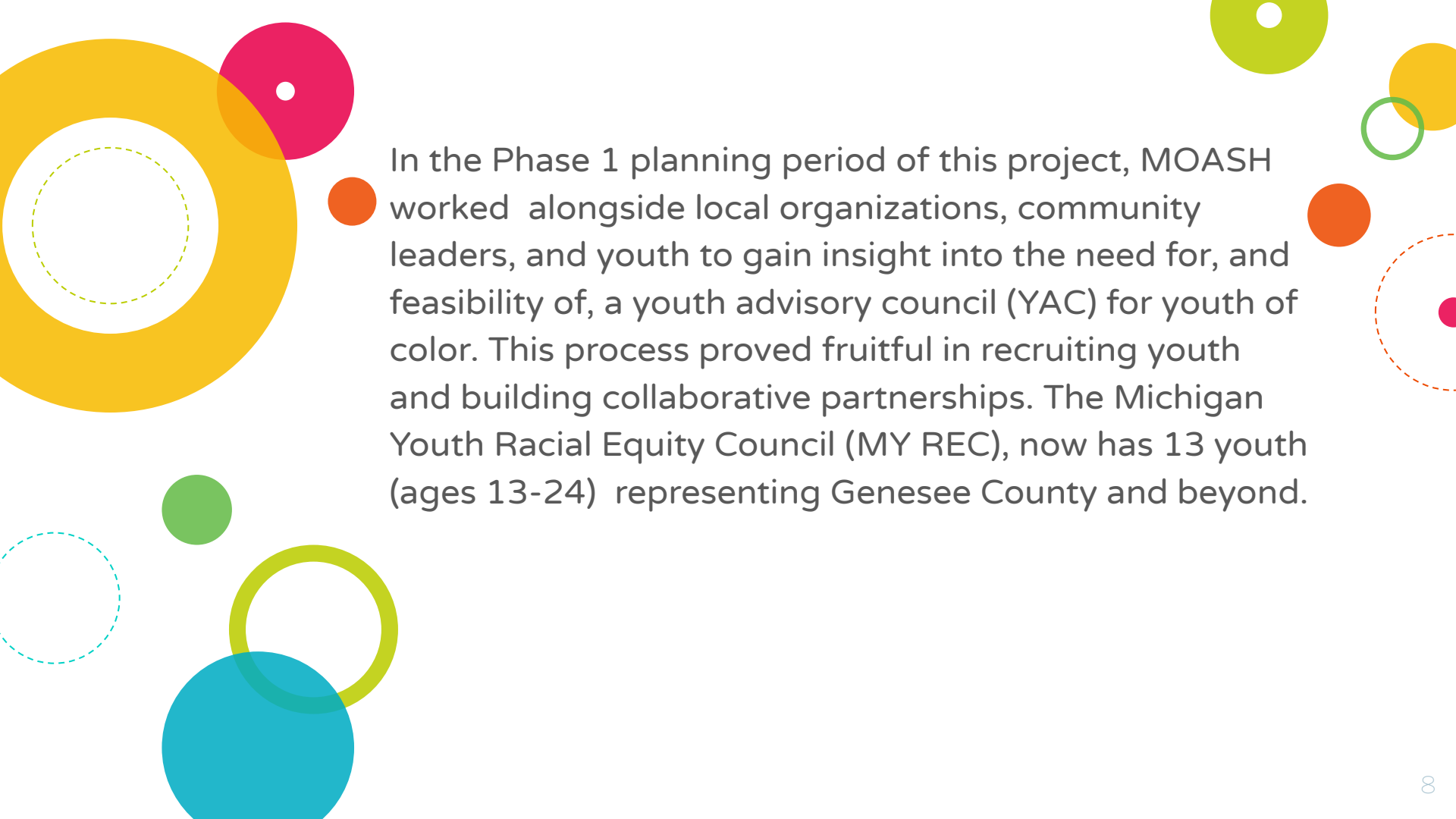
A decorative graphic featuring various colored circles and rings. On the left, there is a large yellow ring with a white center and a dashed green inner circle. Above it is a pink circle with a white center. To the right of the pink circle is a small orange circle. Below the yellow ring is a green circle. At the bottom left is a blue circle with a green ring around it. On the right side, there is a green circle with a white center, a yellow circle, a green ring, an orange circle, a dashed orange circle with a pink center, and a small pink circle.

Michigan Youth Racial Equity Council

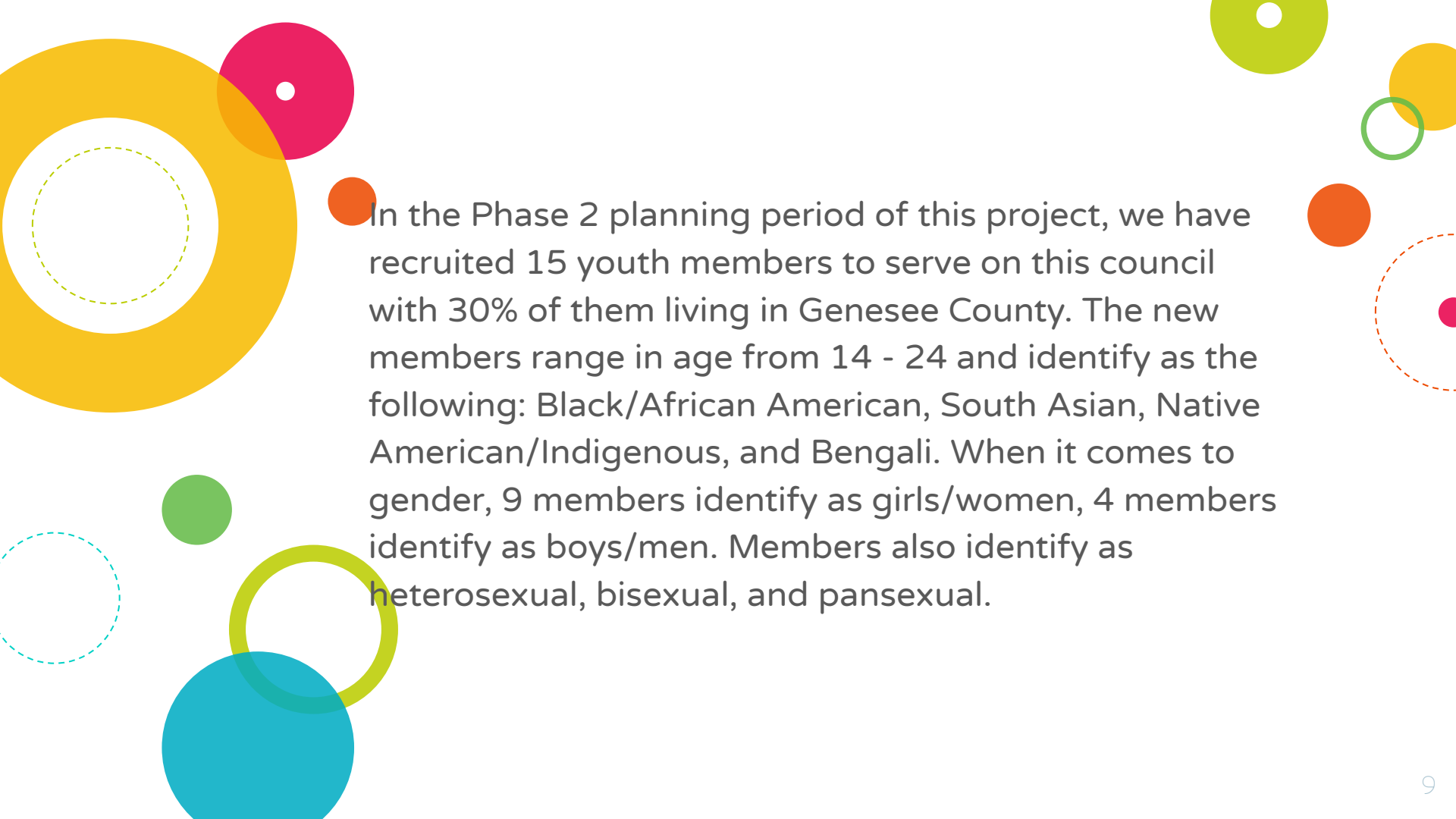
The Michigan Youth Racial Equity Council (MY REC) is a youth-led project where people between the ages of 13-24 are paid to receive the education, support, opportunities, and resources necessary to become leaders and advocates addressing important issues related to racial justice, sexual health education and services, and reproductive justice.

A decorative graphic featuring various colored circles and rings. On the left, a large yellow ring with a dashed green inner circle is prominent. Other elements include a pink circle with a white dot, an orange circle, a green circle, a blue circle, and a yellow circle. On the right, there are more circles in green, orange, and yellow, along with a dashed red circle and a dashed green circle. The overall design is modern and vibrant.

We currently facilitate several Youth Advisory Councils (YACs) comprised of Michigan youth between the ages of 13-24 who serve as young leaders, activists, and educators addressing issues of public health and disparity, reproductive & social justice, sex education, disability access, and more.

The background is white and decorated with various colorful geometric shapes. On the left, there is a large yellow circle with a white center and a dashed yellow border. Above it is a smaller pink circle with a white center. To the right of the yellow circle is a small orange circle. Below the yellow circle is a green circle and a larger blue circle. To the right of the blue circle is a yellow ring. In the top right corner, there is a green circle with a white center, a yellow circle, and a green ring. Below the yellow circle in the top right is an orange circle. In the bottom right corner, there is a dashed orange circle with a pink center. The text is positioned in the center-right of the slide, starting with a small orange circle as a bullet point.

● In the Phase 1 planning period of this project, MOASH worked alongside local organizations, community leaders, and youth to gain insight into the need for, and feasibility of, a youth advisory council (YAC) for youth of color. This process proved fruitful in recruiting youth and building collaborative partnerships. The Michigan Youth Racial Equity Council (MY REC), now has 13 youth (ages 13-24) representing Genesee County and beyond.

A decorative graphic featuring several overlapping circles and rings in various colors including yellow, pink, orange, green, blue, and teal. Some circles are solid, while others are dashed or have a white center. The graphic is positioned on the left side of the slide, partially overlapping the text area.

In the Phase 2 planning period of this project, we have recruited 15 youth members to serve on this council with 30% of them living in Genesee County. The new members range in age from 14 - 24 and identify as the following: Black/African American, South Asian, Native American/Indigenous, and Bengali. When it comes to gender, 9 members identify as girls/women, 4 members identify as boys/men. Members also identify as heterosexual, bisexual, and pansexual.



SURVIVE & THRIVE EVENT

MY REC and our community partner, The Power Initiative, will host our upcoming virtual event "*Survive & Thrive: A Youth Racial Justice and Sexual Violence Prevention Event*." This free youth-led event will feature 5 unique workshops and performances centered on sexual violence prevention and the impact of sexual violence on communities of color. We invite participants to join us for one, some, or all of the workshops as you are able. This virtual event will be hosted on Zoom.

* Date and Time: September 24th, 10am - 3:00pm

* Audience: youth and adults

Hosted by the Michigan Youth Racial Equity Council (MY REC) & The Power Initiative
Sponsored by The Michigan Organization on Adolescent Sexual Health (MOASH) and
The Safe States Alliance

SURVIVE & THRIVE

A one day digital event led by youth featuring workshops and performances centered on sexual violence prevention and understanding the impact of sexual violence on communities of color. Join us for one or all of the sessions below!

SATURDAY, 9/24

EVENT LINK : bit.ly/surviveandthrive2022



Welcome - 10:00am - 10:45am

Join us for music, introductions, and community-building as we kick off the day's events!

Race, Racism, & Sexual Violence
10:50am - 11:35am

In this session, youth educators from MY REC share data and testimony exploring how racism intersects with sexual violence to disproportionately impact communities of color.

Racial Justice & Sex Education Creative Arts Space
11:40am - 12:25pm

Led by youth artists from MY REC, this session gives participants opportunities to creatively express themselves and learn how art can be a powerful tool for healing and advocacy.

Racial Fetishization - 12:30pm - 1:15pm

MY REC's youth activists help participants understand what racial fetishization is, how it is perpetuated, and ways we might respond when we encounter it within ourselves or from others.

Thriving Together: Turning Pain into Power
hosted by The Power Initiative
1:20pm - 2:05pm

Join us for a transparent discussion about sexual violence, its impact on communities of color, and how we can all contribute to collective healing.

Performance Art Showcase - 2:10pm - 2:55pm

Youth poets, writers, illustrators, and musicians grace our virtual stage to share their voices and stories of healing, identity, community, and more!

MOASH

michigan organization on
adolescent sexual health

For more info: 810-620-2637 or natasha.thomas@moash.org



SUSTAINABILITY

MOASH has tentatively received funding to continue MYREC, which has already begun to be an instrumental component of MOASH's larger YAC collective and MOASH as an organization.

MOASH will continue to look for opportunities to ensure sustainability (e.g., funding and partnerships) of this important program.

As of now, MY REC project will move forward beyond October 1.