This spring and summer, of 2018, Youth VIP will officially launch the programming components of this exciting project. The four programming components are described below. All programming activities that involve youth will require written parental permission for youth to participate.

Component ONE – In PARTNERSHIP WITH YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES’ Stronger Family Program (YFS-SFP), 2-Day, Healthy Teen Relationship Education and Sexual Violence Prevention Training, for Adults:
The training will be held on June 5th and 6th and hopes to draw educators, professionals in the social service field, and others that work with youth in Rapid City. The focus is on evidence-based relationship education practices and primary prevention (i.e., how to prevent violence from happening in the first place). Participants will learn effective relationship skills and understand the key role that adults play in primary prevention and thus reducing relationship and sexual violence, among youth. The training is for adults interested in learning the latest evidenced-based information on promoting healthy youth relationships and how to be an affective support for youth.

Where: Terra Sancta Retreat Center
When: June 5th and 6th; 730am-430pm
Cost: $5 (Lunch, snacks and drinks included)

TO REGISTER CONTACT:
YFS Strong Family Program @ 605.791.5025 or email clauinger@youthandfamilyservices.org
Space is limited to the first 75 people to register
**Gift Card incentives available up to $150**

Component TWO- YOUTH VIP LEADERSHIP AWARD CEREMONY:
An evening of celebration of Rapid Cities Youth Leaders’ accomplishments and meet other nominated youth and their families. YLS were nominated by their classmates, through the Youth VIP surveys taken in school. Youth did not have to take the survey to be nominated. Please keep in mind that survey answers are not tied to students’ names. Youth Leaders are trusted people that peers feel are honest and safe to go to when they need someone to talk to, need advice, or help. Nominated YL and their families, are invited to attend a Youth Leadership Award Ceremony, June 7th.

Date and Time: Thursday, June 7th, 2018 @ 530pm
Location: Central HS Cafeteria
RSVP: Youth.VIP@unh.edu or Call/Text 605.381.2568.

YLs and their families are encouraged to attend even if they are unable to RSVP!
**Light Dinner and Drinks will be served**
Component THREE- YOUTH VIP Summer Retreat (YVSR):
The YVSR is a 3-day, 2-night camp for young people in grades 7th to 10th, during the 2017-2018 school year, to learn with other Youth Leaders (YLs) from all over Rapid. Together, the YLs attending the retreat will practice new leadership techniques, focused on messaging and overcoming barriers to supporting and advocating for their peers. YLs will learn skills to promote healthy relationships and prevent dating violence and sexual assault among their peers and make Rapid City a safer place. YLs will learn more about communication techniques, confidence building, coping and social skills, and creative solutions to promote positive healthy choices that can keep dating violence and sexual assault from happening. These techniques include things like:

- social media campaigns (these can be images that teach on posters, plasma screens, bookmarks, buttons, etc.),
- image design (how to make an image that is popular and has a learning message),
- social-emotional skills (dealing with stress and anxiety in healthy ways),
- social action theatre (mini plays or scenarios that are acted out for teaching and learning),

Through creative visioning activities, youth will learn how to diffuse and tailor messaging that is successful in teaching other youth skills and strategies for healthy development. Youth will be a part of a peer-led initiative that empowers youth to make their community a healthier place to live.

Who is Invited to attend the YVSR?
Approximately 150 YLs, from the Rapid City area, that have been nominated by their peers will be invited to attend the YVSR. Youth from all middle and high schools in Rapid City will be invited to the YVSR.

How are YL nominated?
Youth are nominated through the Youth VIP in-school survey’s that have been conducted during the 2017-2018 school year with 7th-10th graders. Youth did not have to take the survey in order to be nominated. Students could nominate any youth in 7th to 10th grade in the district.

Where and when will the YVSR be located?
Storm Mountain Retreat Center, Monday July, 30th to Wednesday August, 1st

How many adults will provide supervision and how are they nominated or chosen?
Approximately 30+ adult supporters/volunteers will provide the training and 24-hour support and supervision during the YVSR. Adults are nominated through the Youth VIP in-school survey’s that have been conducted during the 2017-2018 school year with 7th-10th graders. Other Adult supporters/volunteers will be recruited from the Component ONE training, such as local social service agencies. Adult mentors will be required to attend a pre-YVSR orientation and will have the appropriate training and security and screening measures to ensure youth safety.

Component FOUR - Creative Visioning Showcase and Post YVSR
The creative visioning showcase is a culmination of the YVSR and everything the YLs have learned. Four to five visioning prevention projects will be showcased for families of YVSR participants. The visioning projects are the beginning phase of the amazing prevention approaches that youth will continue to grow and perfect in visioning project groups that will meet weekly after the YVSR. Any youth in the Rapid City area will be able to be a member of the visioning project groups, even if youth did not come to the YVSR, they can join the visioning project groups. Each group will have an adult mentor to continue youth’s skill building. Visioning project groups will meet outside of school hours. If youth create products they would like to implement within the schools (e.g., social marketing poster campaigns), the adult mentors of the group will work with the student to obtain necessary district and school approvals.