

HearMeWA Advisory Committee Antiracist, Youth-Centered and Trauma-Informed Program Lens

The AGO's vision for the HearMeWA is to build a holistic program that meets youth safety and well-being needs by linking youth to existing systems of support. It will respond to a wide range of tips related to youth safety and well-being. This program must use, at all times, an antiracist, youth-centered and trauma-informed program lens.

Antiracism

Antiracism is a commitment to the learning and unlearning required to locate the problems, concerns, and policies that promote racism and doing one's best to eradicate and/or change them. The HearMeWA is committed to recognizing, addressing, and eradicating all forms of racism within the scope of their work. The HearMeWA acknowledges that racism and discrimination are embedded into organizational structures, policies, and systems, and that we must, at all times, utilize an antiracist lens to identify practices that perpetuate white supremacy and discrimination.

Youth-Centered

Having youth actively participate in program planning, implementation, evaluation and focusing on what is important to youth now and acting upon this in alliance with their family, friends, stakeholders and other experts.

Trauma-Informed

Trauma can be experienced on an individual and collective level both consciously and unconsciously. Trauma has no boundaries in regards to age, gender, socio-economic status, race, ethnicity, geography, or sexual orientation. The HearMeWA strives to be trauma informed by acknowledging that every individual may have experienced trauma in their lives and being mindful to avoid re-traumatizing youth.

Refer to <u>SAMHSA's</u> definition of trauma.