



**AYP Board Member Bio
Kathi Houston**

Kathi has lived in Northern Michigan since 1977 and served with the early community group in 2016 who helped describe and define the vision and operation of the AYP. She brings board experience from having served with the boards of the Girl Scouts of Crooked Tree (Now Michigan Shore to Shore), the Women's History Project of NW Michigan, Benzie Area Women's History Project and The Arts and Culture Alliance of Manistee County. As the "events coordinator" at her church, Frankfort United Methodist, she works with a variety of people and programs that utilize the facility and activities..

Kathi has faith in an individual's ability to develop and grow. Before moving to Michigan, she taught fourth graders and middle schoolers in Montgomery County, Maryland for six years. After starting her work as a teacher for students with diverse learning styles at Brethren High School in 1979, it led her to become the work study coordinator and transition coordinator for the Manistee ISD until 2005 when she retired. For the next ten years, she worked with youth at CASMAN Academy, then spent the following several years working with volunteers who acted as mentors to youth who had been adjudicated in Juvenile Court of Benzie or Manistee Counties. She holds a bachelor of education from Bethany College (WVA) and a master's degree in Special Education from Trinity College (Washington, D.C.).

Kathi worked with her husband Dave Reid, owning and operating Crystallaire Camp and Camp Lookout in Frankfort from 1977 until 2023. They both believe that youth learn and grow in this type of safe setting that can offer challenges as they develop interests, abilities, talents and knowledge about themselves.