

Grand Valley State University Student Senate

0008 Kirkhof Center

1 Campus Drive

Allendale, Michigan 49401



STATEMENT REGARDING THE ONGOING SITUATION AT THE CHILDREN'S ENRICHMENT CENTER

With the rest of the Grand Valley State University community, GVSU Student Senate is heartbroken and horrified to learn about the abuse that took place around West Michigan, including at the Children's Enrichment Center on the Valley Campus.

Though an understatement, this is an incredibly difficult time for the children, staff, faculty, and families impacted by these crimes. Out of respect for these families, as well as the integrity of the investigation, public information is being kept to a minimum. As the investigation continues, we know that university leadership and law enforcement will continue to share relevant information.

As this situation extends beyond local conversation, we encourage students to refrain from engaging in speculation, and instead focus energy on supporting our community. Directly involved or not, traumatic events impact us all. If you or someone you know is struggling, know that the University Counseling Center remains a free resource available to all students, and can be reached by phone at (616) 331-3266 or via the [UCC website](#).

We thank university leadership for their invaluable work in supporting victims, families, and the broader community, as well as the external partners committed to support from all angles of this situation. We are advocates for the student body, and we remain committed to leading with care and intentionality. As your elected representatives, we have been informed on this developing situation, and we will continue to act with the student body at the forefront of our minds.

Every day, but today in particular, we encourage you to be kind to your neighbors, and to be kind to yourself.

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Sincerely,

The Grand Valley State University Student Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lukas Hartley".

Lukas Hartley

Student Body President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sophie Gemmen".

Sophie Gemmen

Student Body Vice President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tyler Fedototszkin".

Tyler Fedototszkin

Student Senate Chief of Staff

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joshua Smith".

Joshua Smith

Student Senate Allocations Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bella Frikken".

Bella Frikken

Student Senate Public Relations Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kayla Finley".

Kayla Finley

Student Senate Advocacy Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Grayson Rodgers".

Grayson Rodgers

Student Senate Policy Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samuel J. Schwallier".

Samuel Schwallier

Student Senate Events Chair