

## WELCOME TO BENZIE COUNTY CENTRAL SCHOOLS FEATURED FRIDAY ALUMNI.

Today we would like to recognize Benzie Central Alumni class of 2009, Hannah Rodriguez. Hannah is a fourth generation Benzie County resident and the third generation of her family to graduate from Benzie Central High School. While in high school Hannah participated in band, dance team, the musicals, Youth Advisory Council, and was President of Key Club. Hannah graduated from Benzie in 2009 and started at the University of Michigan the following fall. She graduated from U of M in 2013 with a Bachelor of Arts in Social Theory and Practice and received "Highest Honors" for her original thesis that highlighted the importance of youth engagement in rural communities. As a part of this thesis, Hannah interviewed several students at Benzie Central and used their feedback to help with her research.

In 2013, Hannah began attending Michigan State University to pursue her Master's in Social Work. She graduated in 2015 with a Master's in Social Work with an emphasis in Organizational and Community Leadership. While living in Lansing, Hannah interned with the Community Economic Development Association of Michigan and began to fall in love with that area of work. In 2014 she was able to move back to her home community and take on the role of Prevention Coordinator with the Traverse Bay Children's Advocacy Center (TBCAC). While at the TBCAC Hannah led an effort to educate over 7,500 adults throughout the region about what it takes to protect children from sexual abuse.

In August of 2017, Hannah joined the Manistee County Community Foundation and Launch Manistee as the Manistee Commitment Scholarship Coordinator and YAC Advisor where she is privileged to work with many Manistee County youth and encourage them to become leaders in school and community. She also serves as Volunteer Services Coordinator with the Manistee County Juvenile Court. Hannah began serving as a member of the Benzie Central Education Foundation in 2016 and loves being able to serve the school district in that capacity. She lives in Honor and is so happy to be close to family and friends and to be serving the community she loves most!

Hannah...we are so [#OneBENZIE](#) proud!!

<https://seelio.com/hannahrodriguez>

