

Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board

Youth Working Group (YWG)

Thursday, March 21, 2019

*Attendees (*call-ins):*

Arash Ghafoori, NPHY; Melissa Jacobowitz, NPHY; Allison Steinzor, NPHY; Catherine Huang Hara, CCSS; Meg Pike, CCSD Title I HOPE; Lou Hixson, HELP; Kim Moore, HELP SWHYC; Joe Taylor, CCSS Step UP; Denise Charles, SJRC; Amy Licht, Olive Crest; Brenda Herbstman, CCSS; Danita Osborne-Morris, CCSS; Jed Blake, SJRC; Ted Smith, CCSS; AJ Huth, The Center; Peaches Grant, Innovative Health & Wellness; *Kelly Robson, HELP; *Cheryl Wright, DJJS; *Najea Rodgers, City of LV

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Youth Coordinated Entry System (from 8:15 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.)

The YWG members discussed how care coordination meetings have been implemented since onboarding the Community Matchers (CM), and compared current procedure to the CoC's *Standard Operating Procedure for Coordinated Entry Matching*. It was agreed that moving forward, the Youth Access Site (YAS) representatives will email the CMs about whether there is availability in their housing programs by end of business day. The following morning, the Community Matchers will email a list of unique IDs of the most vulnerable youth on the community queue to the YAS representatives, and during the daily care coordination meeting, the YAS representatives and CMs will jointly determine housing referrals. All YAS representatives are strongly encouraged to attend each daily care coordination meeting to provide their recommendations and any important updates.

III. Funding Opportunities

a. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project

HUD recently announced the NOFA for the third cycle of YHDP. This round has a higher funding award and will select a total of 25 communities to participate. The YWG members nominated CCSS to act as the lead for YHDP. It was shared that the YWGs participation is encouraged for drafting the YHDP narrative; Brenda will send out more information to the YWG members to collect and incorporate their feedback. As a reminder, community forms are due on April 4th and Letters of Commitment are due on April 8th. The CoC will vote on approval of the final draft during the May CoC meeting.

IV. 100 Day Challenge Update

Meg explained that the 100 Day Challenge (100 DC) ended on March 6th. She shared that the community was very close to accomplishing our 100 DC goals with 46 systems-involved youth prevented from experiencing homelessness (goal of 50 youth) and 91 homeless youth housed, with 10% of those youth exited to new and innovative housing solutions (goal of 100 youth and 20% exited to new/innovative housing). On March 26th, the 100 DC Team will present at the 100 Day Challenge Sustainability meeting in Chicago. The 100 DC Team will also present to the CoC Board at the April CoC Board meeting.

V. Continuum of Care

a. April Meeting: Youth Homelessness

The CoC Board Meeting in April will focus on youth homelessness specifically with presentations on the 100 Day Challenge, Title I HOPE, YHDP and The Movement to End Youth Homelessness in Southern Nevada (update the Movement will be discussed at the May CoC Board Meeting).

b. Non-Discrimination/Diversity/Equity/Inclusion Policy

This agenda item was stayed until the next meeting; however, the YWG members discussed the importance of establishing a CoC-wide Non-Discrimination Policy, especially to ensure that homelessness services are equitable for vulnerable populations and that service providers and housing assessors receive cultural sensitivity training (e.g. LGBTQ, etc.).

c. Written Discharge Planning Policy

This agenda item was stayed until the next meeting; it was briefly mentioned that there are projects underway to better integrate youth-serving systems (i.e. child welfare and juvenile justice) in exit planning and resource allocation for clients.

VI. Youth Action Board Update

It was shared that the Youth Action Board (YAB) members were informed about YHDP and voiced support for participating in the project. It was also mentioned that a member of the YAB will be participating in the NHA sponsored *Housing and Homelessness Awareness Day* at the state capital on March 26th advocating for promoting accessibility for homeless youth to obtain original and duplicate copies of their vital records (i.e. birth certificates and state identification).

VII. Agency Updates

The Center shared that they will be hosting an HIV awareness fashion event in late April, and they are hosting a donation drive for hygiene products. The next YWG meeting will take place on April 22nd from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at CCSS.