

Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board

Youth Working Group

Monday, April 22, 2019

Attendees:

Arash Ghafoori, NPHY; Melissa Jacobowitz, NPHY; Allison Steinzor, NPHY; Catherine Huang-Hara (CCSS); Amy Licht (Olive Crest); Denise Charles (SJRC); Meg Pike (CCSD Title I HOPE); Joe Taylor (CCSS Step UP); Brenda Herbstman (CCSS); Ariel Racine (CC DFS); Krystal Griffin (Community Counseling Center of S. NV); Taisacan Hall (S. NV Youth Action Board, *Young Adults in Charge*)

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Youth Coordinated Entry System

Catherine shared that the Coordinated Entry Working Group will begin holding four-hour “power meetings” on the third Tuesdays of the month. Home Base recently provided recommendations of how to improve our CE System after holding CE focus groups and interviews with community members, which will be presented at the CoC Board Meeting in May.

III. Funding Opportunities

a. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project

Brenda, coordinator of this year’s YHDP application, explained that she is currently reviewing feedback provided by YWG members. Stakeholder capacity forms are still needed from particular jurisdictions, medical and health, youth service, and TA providers by April 26th. A semi-final draft will be released soon. Final revisions are needed by 4/30.

IV. 100 Day Challenge Sustainability

Meg shared details about last month’s 100 DC Sustainability Conference in Chicago, when our community presented on our accomplishments along with other 100 DC communities. There will be a 100 DC Team meeting on May 1st. On May 8th there will be a “What’s Next Workshop” between system leaders, CoC Board members, and 100 DC Team members.

V. Continuum of Care

a. The Movement to End Youth Homelessness

NPHY announced that the Movement to End Youth Homelessness will be presented at the June CoC Board Meeting.

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

YWG reviewed examples of equity statements from corporate and nonprofit entities. It was agreed that the YWG will create their own statement and present it to the CoC Board to assist in the creation of a CoC-wide policy. The YWG encouraged YAC to get involved with other youth groups to join the YWG in creating the equity statement.

c. Written Discharge Planning Policy

During the 100 DC, there was a focus on enhancing discharge policies for systems-involved youth as a method of prevention. The YWG will work on creating a uniform youth discharge planning policy over the next few months to help ensure that no youth are discharged from child welfare, medical, or corrections institutions into homelessness.

VI. Youth Action Board Update

Taisacan, member of *Young Adults in Charge*, spoke on YAC’s behalf. Over the past month, YAC informed sections of the YHDP application draft and discussed how they can contribute to YHDP. YAC is working on creating policies and procedures. In March, Taisacan advocated on behalf of homeless youth at the Housing and Homelessness Awareness Day at the State Capitol, and testified to the Nevada Assembly in support of AB 363, a bill that if passed would waive fees for homeless youth to obtain their original or duplicate ID’s, driver’s licenses, and birth certificates. YAC members assisted in drafting the language of AB 363.

VII. YWG Policies & Procedures

a. Membership Structure

b. Attendance Policy

c. Decision-Making Structure

This agenda item was stayed until the next meeting; it was mentioned that since being restructured as a CoC primary working group, the YWG must formalize its membership structure and create its own policies and procedures.

VIII. Agency Updates

NPHY shared they have two upcoming events next month: the Homeless Youth in the Alley Bowling Tournament on Saturday, May 11th, and the Sands Cares INSPIRE Charity Concert featuring Kelly Clarkson on Friday, May 24th.