

Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care Board

Youth Working Group

Monday, June 24th, 2019

*Attendees (*call-ins):*

Arash Ghafoori (NPHY); Allison Steinzor (NPHY); Mariah Bailey (NPHY); Catherine Huang Hara (CCSS); Danita Osborne-Morris (CCSS); Tameca Ulmer (Clark County); Meg Pike (CCSD Title I HOPE); Ariel Racine (DFS ICWA); Shuuannidy Alvarez (DFS); Taisacan Hall (YAC); *Julee King (BitFocus); *Kim Moore (HELP SWHYC); *Amy Licht (Olive Crest); *Denise Charles (St. Jude's Ranch); *Najea Rodgers (City of LV)

I. Welcome & Introductions

II. Funding Opportunities

a. Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project

Ms. Huang Hara shared that she and Mr. Ghafoori recently met with Katy Miller from USICH to discuss the Southern Nevada Plan to End Youth Homelessness. Currently, the CoC is still waiting to hear the funding recommendations for YHDP, with an estimated release date of August 2019. Mr. Ghafoori shared that the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services recently released two RHY program announcements for the Basic Center Program and Maternity Group Homes. YWG members were reminded to email the snvywgboard@gmail.com account if they have funding opportunity announcements that they would like to see added to the next meeting agenda.

III. 100 Day Challenge Sustainability Plan

Ms. Pike shared a brief overview concerning the SNH CoC's involvement in 100-Day Challenge, when our CoC was provided with TA from the U.S. Dept. of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) to create a goal to diminish youth homelessness within a 100-day period. For this challenge, the SNH CoC implemented two goals from the S NV Plan to End Youth Homelessness: (1) coordinate discharge planning between youth-systems (2) create innovative housing solutions. As part of the latter goal, a committee was created to identify sources of funding as well as new opportunities for partnerships. While the challenge has ended, Olive Crest is continuing to work on the resource allocation list to share with the YWG members.

IV. Youth Action Board Update

Ms. Hall, member of *Young Adults in Charge*, spoke on YAC's behalf, sharing that over the past couple of months YAC has been working to create a policies & procedures manual for onboarding new members. Ms. Huang Hara suggested the idea of creating satellite YAC groups wherein each youth homeless provider agency could host their own YAC meetings and arrange for a monthly "come-together" meeting between all providers. Mr. Ghafoori expressed concern, stating that each youth provider already has their own youth councils. Ms. Steinzor acknowledged the concern, sharing that YAC has a history of membership outside of NPHY clients, including clients from HELP and St. Jude's Ranch and suggested incentives be considered for sustaining membership. Ms. Hall expressed concern with implementing satellite YAC groups as this could make communication more difficult, suggesting that instead YAC could rotate the meeting location to accommodate more youth who may be interested in joining; she also reminded YWG members that YAC has electronic options available (including a call-in number and Google Hangouts group) so that youth could remotely attend weekly YAC meetings. Ms. Steinzor reminded the YWG to email the youngadultsincharge@gmail.com if they have any inquiries or requests for more information.

V. Continuum of Care

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

HUD has recently proposed eliminating the Equal Access Rule. Accordingly, the YWG members expressed their desire to work on an internal YWG equity statement and will delay a presentation to the CoC Board until further notice.

b. Written Discharge Planning Policy

Mr. Ghafoori proposed that a member of the 100-Day Challenge team present to the YWG about the written discharge planning committee's progress so that the YWG can continue to work and monitor the goals of the 100-Day Challenge. Ms. Pike and Ms. Huang Hara acknowledged this request and will work together to update the YWG members.

VI. YWG Policies & Procedures

a. Membership Structure

b. Attendance Policy

c. Decision-Making Structure

This agenda item was pended until the next YWG meeting. Ms. Huang Hara stated that the YWG has until October 2019 to finish this project to be in alignment with HUD's requirements.

VII. Agency Updates

With respect to agency updates, Ms. Moore shared that HELP of Southern Nevada was recently awarded funding from the County marijuana business license fees, allowing the Shannon West Homeless Youth Center to expand their emergency shelter to 166 beds. Currently IKEA is hosting a bedding donation drive on HELP's behalf to furnish the additional beds. HELP recently decided they will no longer offer a residential substance abuse program.

Ms. Racine shared that DFS is currently working to bring a Youth Villages chapter to Las Vegas. Ms. Charles shared that St. Jude's Ranch recently took over Southern Nevada Children First's rapid re-housing program; as of July 1, 2019, St. Jude's will launch their joint transitional housing rapid re-housing (TH-RRH) project. Ms. Huang Hara suggested that the YWG create an agenda item for training opportunities and shared that True Colors United is hosting a Pride Challenge for the month of June, so far 11 CoC agencies have participated.