



## Working Group Report to the Board August 2021

**Working Group:** Youth Working Group (YWG)

**Champion:** Arash Ghafoori & Melissa Jacobowitz (NPHY)

**Meeting date, time, and location:** (4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays); August 24, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. via Google Hangouts

**Attendees:** NPHY: Arash Ghafoori, Melissa Jacobowitz, Allison Steinzor; CCSS: Brenda Herbstman, Mary Cannizzaro, Catherine Huang Hara; HELP of S.NV: Kim Moore; NV95: Andrea Martinez, Felipe Martinez; BitFocus: Nora Saldivar; DFS-IL: Shuaandry Alvarez, Isabel Iraheta; SJRC: Denise Charles, Ketra Johnson; TechImpact: Marcus Sherfield; CCSD: Meg Pike; The Center: AJ Huth; StepUp: Joe Taylor

### Accomplishments - Action Items Completed:

- Funding Opportunities - YHDP
  - Brenda shared a draft of the Lead Agency Scope of Work with the YWG members. The Scope of Work outlines the responsibilities of the lead agency that will be selected to coordinate YHDP on behalf of the Southern Nevada community. The YWG members asked questions and shared concerns regarding the Scope of Work. Brenda clarified that the lead agency will be allowed to apply for planning dollars and/or supportive services for coordination activities but is ineligible for housing project funding. The YWG members discussed the next steps for selecting the YHDP lead such as an application process and interview.
    - Next Steps: a definition of the YWG, the Movement, and the Southern NV Plan to End Youth Homelessness will be added to the Scope of Work; the Scope of Work will be finalized this week for County legal review; a list of potential application questions will be shared with the YWG members; applications from agencies interested in becoming the YHDP lead will be shared with the YWG members; a small group of volunteers (ex: 2 YWG members, 2 YAC members, and the County) will participate in the review/selection committee to help choose the YHDP lead agency; YAC will provide feedback to Brenda regarding the YHDP process and questions they believe should be included in the selection process.
- Young Adults in Charge Update
  - Youth Action Board members are working on finalizing their membership handbook, procedures for engaging with community members and building a library of trainings. YAC members are putting together spreadsheets of the activities they participated in to submit to the County for appreciation stipends by September 7, 2021.
- Youth Coordinated Entry: Youth Housing Assessment
  - The YWG reviewed the (27) responses collected from youth and assessors regarding the Youth Housing Assessment. The feedback was largely positive; however, respondents stated that the questions in the Tool were repetitive (re: healthcare and times homeless). The YWG members discussed options for the Youth Tool, including keeping the TAY VI-SPDAT, changing optional non-scoring questions, or creating a new assessment tool. It was decided that more responses are needed from young people who have recently taken the assessment to evaluate how to best move forward.
  - Next steps: The Youth Housing Assessment Feedback Survey will remain open for another month to collect more responses from young people. A QR code will be created to connect youth directly to the survey. The YWG members will review responses to the Youth Housing Assessment Feedback Survey at the next YWG meeting in September.
- COVID-19 Provider Updates
  - Next steps: the YWG members will share updates about their agencies at the next YWG meeting.
- Training Opportunities
  - The YWG members shared information about training opportunities (BitFocus: Emergency Shelters – Night by Night vs. Entry/Exit on Weds. 9/8 at 10:30 a.m.; True Colors United: Storyteller Series/Media Training – Part One: Telling Personal Stories on Weds. 9/15 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. for service providers and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for youth).
- Open Discussion
  - NV95 is hosting a photo voice project with the opportunity for youth to earn a \$500 stipend; Meg will be limiting her support of YAC to prepping youth action board members for the CoC Board Meetings due to other obligations.
  - Next Steps: Andrea will send Allison more information about the NV95 Photo Voice Project to share with the YWG.

**Next Meeting: September 28, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. via Google Hangouts**