



Working Group Report to the Board October 2021

Working Group: Youth Working Group (YWG)

Champion: Arash Ghafoori & Melissa Jacobowitz (NPHY)

Meeting date, time, and location: (4th Tuesdays); October 26, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. via Google Hangouts

Attendees: NPHY: Melissa Jacobowitz, Allison Steinzor; CCSS: Brenda Herbstman, Mary Cannizzaro, Catherine Huang Hara, Danita Osborne, Chaqula Kallo; BitFocus: Gabriel Di Chiara, Nora Saldivar; SJR: Ketra Johnson; YAC: Taisacan Hall; The Center: AJ Huth; StepUP: Joe Taylor; CCSD: Meg Pike; City of LV: Najea Rodgers

Accomplishments - Action Items Completed:

- Funding Opportunities
 - American Rescue Plan Act funds are still pending. The CoC scoring and ranking process has been completed with funding for two projects reallocated to support other programs.
 - Next steps: Providers who receive CoC awards will receive an email with more information and at the upcoming CoC Board Meeting projects will be approved to finalize the process.
- Young Adults in Charge Update
 - Youth Action Board members are working on finalizing their membership handbook, creating a new logo, and preparing with youth from the NPHY Ambassadors leadership program to present at the 2021 Southern Nevada Youth Homelessness Summit. YAC members are working with the County to receive appreciation stipends for activities they participated in over the prior six months and submitted their documentation to Clark County. It was stated that Clark County's financial team is currently reviewing the documentation.
- Data
 - 2022 Data Standards: BitFocus presented on changes to the HMIS data standards (version 1.2). Changes were made to categories including race, ethnicity, and gender. Notably, gender includes multiple new categories that can be selected simultaneously (female, male, agenda, transgender, questioning). These data standards are effective as of October 1, 2021.
 - Sexual Orientation Data: In the past, YWG members (NPHY and The Center) attended the HMIS Working Group meeting to present on the need for collecting sexual orientation data. Modeled on RHY data, this data is now collected at enrollment for all programs. The YWG members reviewed the current sexual orientation options in HMIS; missing options can be included under "other" as a write-in. BitFocus expressed they can pull data to see how often "other" is used for further consideration.
- Youth Coordinated Entry: Youth Housing Assessment
 - The YWG reviewed the supplemental (non-scoring) questions of the Youth Housing Assessment. Taisacan noted that some questions could be intimidating for youth to answer (citizenship questions, etc.). Generally, additional questions may be used to collect client information to help youth get referred to programs that meet their needs.
 - Next steps: The YWG will review the Youth Housing Assessment at the next YWG meeting for discussion.
- The 2021 Southern Nevada Youth Homelessness Summit
 - The Summit will be taking place on November 4th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the UNLV Greenspun Hall Auditorium and virtually. The theme of the Summit "The Movement Evolves" is to adopt innovative solutions to address youth homelessness and review the progress of implementing the Southern Nevada Plan to End Youth Homelessness. This event is free to the public; more information, including registration, is available at www.nphy.org/summit21.
- (COVID-19) Provider Updates
 - Meg shared that as of October 2021, Title I HOPE has identified more homeless students than all of last year in response to more youth attending school in-person. It was announced that the S. NV Homelessness Census will be conducted this year via mobile canvassing. HelpHopeHome will send out more information about the Census soon.
- Training Opportunities
 - OJJDP Virtual Symposium – Understanding and Preventing Youth Hate Crimes and Identity-Based Bullying (10/27-28 from 10am to 2pm PDT); BitFocus – Longitudinal Systems Analysis Training (11/20 at 11:30 a.m.)

Next Meeting: TBA at 9:00 a.m. via Google Hangouts; Doodle sent out to choose meeting time for early December