



Working Group Report to the Board

Working Group: Youth Working Group (YWG)

Champion: Arash Ghafoori & Melissa Jacobowitz (NPHY)

Meeting date, time, and location: (4th Tuesdays); July 26, 2022, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am via Google Hangouts

Attendees: NPHY: Melissa Jacobowitz, Allison Steinzor; CCSS: Brenda Herbstman, Catherine Huang Hara; HELP of S. NV: Kim Moore; YAC: Taisacan Hall; The Center: AJ Huth; CCSD: Meg Pike, Julie Hutchinson; Living Grace Homes: Cheyenne Hashida, Pamela Hashida; St. Jude's Ranch for Children: Denise Charles; Step UP: Joe Taylor; Nevada Partners: Ela Garcia; Foresight Housing: Hassan Chaudhry; BitFocus: Nora Saldivar

Accomplishments - Action Items Completed:

- Funding Opportunities
 - CoC Supplemental Unsheltered NOFO: This opportunity, offered through HUD, allows CoCs to apply for additional CoC project funding to address unsheltered homelessness. Our CoC (NV-500) is anticipated to apply for \$14.9M to fund housing and supportive services-only projects for 36 months. The CoC will launch the local application process on August 8; agency applications are due on August 22, and project applications/match applications, are due to the CoC by August 31 to undergo scoring and ranking. A project timeline is available on the HelpHopeHome website. The CoC will host a series of listening sessions on August 1st and 2nd to discuss community needs. Clark County is exploring opportunities to assist qualified organizations with obtaining the matching funds required for the application.
 - NV95 Funding: The NV95 project will be transferred from the Guinn Center to Clark County. Clark County is filing a no-cost extension to use the remaining project funds to work with ed.Xtraordinary powered by Teach for America and for youth engagement costs and part-time and full-time positions to continue the work and further the CoC's youth action board efforts. Nevada Partners has applied to become the YAC Counterpart (an adult advocate who supports the youth action board) if needed. The NV95 project continuation contract is anticipated to be released in September.
- 2023 Unsheltered Homelessness Census
 - The 2023 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is reserved for the last Wednesday and Thursday of January, pending confirmation from the Nevada Balance of State CoC. Census Working Group meetings take place on the third Monday of the month (the next meeting is August 15th from 8:30 am to 10:00 am.) to discuss methodology, data tools, and ideas for engagement. The YWG expressed concerns about past youth homelessness counts, as the number of homeless youth has dropped significantly. The YWG discussed ideas about how to help strengthen this year's homeless census (e.g. keeping the survey short and noninvasive, hiring youth navigators to help, evaluating the timing of canvassing - including conducting a separate youth count as was done prior to 2020, recruiting youth-serving agencies and community volunteers, and exploring the chosen areas of deployment).
- Community Needs Assessment/YHDP
 - Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) meetings, led by Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC), are taking place every other week to help inform the community needs assessment. Data from different systems (HMIS, CCSD, JJS, child welfare, etc.) is being collected to review the scope of youth homelessness in Southern Nevada from a cross-sectional lens. TAC will be in town on September 7th and 8th for meetings. TAC will present at the September YWG meeting to share the progress of the community needs assessment and is anticipated to present at the October CoC Board Meeting before the report's debut at the 2022 Southern Nevada Youth Homelessness Summit in November.
- Youth Action Board: Young Adults in Charge
 - The CoC's youth action board, Young Adults in Charge (YAC), is still accepting interest forms for the YAC Counterpart position. YAC meets virtually on the last Wednesday of the month from 5:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Please contact youngadultsincharge@gmail.com for meeting information, to apply for a YAC counterpart role, or inquiries.
- Training Opportunities
 - SchoolHouse Connection, NPHY, and Legal Aid Center: Intro to AB 197 - Health Services for Youth, Without Parental Consent [webinar](#) on August 4 from 12-1:15 pm PST.
 - FYSB/RHY Facilitation Training, How to Create Engaging and Meaningful Experiences (August 25 from 8 am to 10 am). Space is limited. A video recording will be available. Contact Brenda Herbstman for more details.
- Open Discussion
 - The Center is hosting a community resource fair event on August 2 from 5 pm to 7:30 pm for youth to receive immediate needs resources (e.g. food, school supplies, hormone treatment kits, etc.).
 - Title I HOPE is available to assist with online registration for the upcoming school year, beginning August 9th. CCSD is providing school supplies and hygiene kits to youth experiencing homelessness.
 - NPHY will be distributing back-to-school supplies at the Whitney Community Center and Siegel Suites on July 28 and 29; resources are also available for youth to pick-up at the NPHY Drop-In Center.
 - Project Homeless Connect will be taking place on November 22, set up day is scheduled for November 21 at the Silver Nugget Event Center.
- The next YWG Meeting will be from 9 am to 11 am on Tuesday, September 27, 2022.