

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); August 22, 2023, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am via Google Hangouts

Attendees: NPHY: Arash Ghafoori, Melissa Jacobowitz, Allison Steinzor; SJR: Denise Charles; DWSS: Samantha D'Ambrosio; LVMPD: Sara Middlebrandt; CCSS: Mary Cannizzaro, Catherine Huang Hara, Tashondra Hicks, Brenda Herbstman, Danita Osborne, Vanessa Monroe; Lived X Consultant: Davion Taylor, Martin Castro, Amy Jones; HELP: Kim Moore, Jhave Mata; Just One Project: Kirsten Carl; BitFocus: Kelly Robson; Step UP: Joe Taylor; DFS: Isabella Irahetta; Nevada Partners: Lizette Guillen; Title I HOPE: Julie Hutchinson; The Center: Percy Neavez

Accomplishments - Action Items Completed:

- Funding Opportunities
 - The CoC competition is underway, and applications are being reviewed for scoring and ranking. The FYSB forecast for SOP, BCP, MGH, and TLP will be released in spring 2024. NV Energy is accepting applications for grants (\$2.5-10k); the cycle 2 deadline is on October 31, and awardees will be notified of their status on the week of December 4.
- YWG Coordinated Entry Recommendations Update
 - At the last YWG meeting, members discussed feedback from the HUD TAs and Lived X Consultants and developed a memorandum of recommendations for coordinated entry. These recommendations were submitted to the co-chairs of the CoC Board, Coordinated Entry Working Group, and HUD TAs. The HUD TA shared that access to the top 20 youth on the community queue may be available upon request, as the Adults Without Children and Families coordinated entry subgroups are currently reviewing these lists during their newly formed care coordination meetings. The YWG discussed this idea and expressed favorability, highlighting that the Street Outreach Program team and care coordination meetings would be helpful for tracking down hard-to-reach youth. The YWG also discussed the idea of restructuring the youth care coordination meetings from daily calls to weekly meetings to review the top 20 list and including youth outreach workers and additional youth providers in these meetings; referrals would continue on an ongoing basis. Melissa Jacobowitz will respond to the HUD TA's email regarding accessing the top 20 list of youth on the community queue and propose a time for arranging weekly care coordination meetings.
- Youth Action Board Update
 - Earlier this month, Nevada Partners hosted a youth listening session for youth interested in joining the youth action board to discuss their needs. On August 25, Nevada Partners will host a youth action board meeting. The youth action board currently has 15 youth who have expressed interest. At the next meeting, youth action board members will review handbooks and determine which rules they would like to adopt. Nevada Partners shared that the youth action board will be a two-year program. Youth action board meetings will take place on the last Friday of the month at 3:00 p.m. Nevada Partners will share more information with the YWG members later to help with recruitment efforts.
- Training Opportunities
 - [2023 Nevada Youth Homelessness Summit](#), registration opens August 24th, November 8th at The Smith Center for the Performing Arts
- Open Discussion
 - The LVMPD started a youth anti-violence program for victims and suspects. This program provides youth and their families with wraparound services and meets once per month. Please contact S15779M@lvmpd.com for more information.
 - St. Jude's Ranch for Children is currently seeking to hire a Peer Support Specialist for their Operation Home Program; apply at stjudesranch.org.
- Adjournment
 - The next meeting is on Tuesday, September 26th, from 9:00 am – 11:00 am