



YOUTH HOMELESSNESS SUBCOMMITTEE of the Carroll County Continuum of Care



NOTES – September 14, 2022 – Virtual

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

- Jessica Cunningham - Carroll County Youth Service Bureau (CCYSB)
- Meghan Edwards - Potomac Case Management Services (PCMS)
- Zeno Fisher - Department of Juvenile Services (DJS)
- Dona Foster - Carroll County Public Schools (CCPS)
- Corey Hardinger - Carroll County Grants Office
- Angel Hill - Together We Own It (TWOI)
- Susan Leibman - Carroll Community College Adult Education
- Tiffany Masimore - CCYSB
- Lydia Naper - Division of Rehabilitation Services (DORS)
- Mary Naugle - CCPS
- Christina Ogle - Carroll County Public Libraries (CCPL)
- Thoko Shumba - Department of Social Services (DSS)
- Katie Speert - TWOI
- Courte Van Voorhees - Local Care Team (LCT)
- Gabby Zelaya - Carroll County Local Management Board (CCLMB)

SUBCOMMITTEE GOALS & OBJECTIVES

1. **PLATFORM: Establish a committee or platform for efforts surrounding youth homelessness.**
 - a. [Youth Homelessness Subcommittee website](#)
 - b. Membership updates
 - i. Added Safe Families for Children.
 - ii. Added the HMIS Analyst for the Department of Citizen Services.
 - iii. The Pregnancy Support Center will be a partner of the YHS (not a formal member).
 - iv. Youth involvement - planning to invite youth(s) with lived experience of homelessness to sit on YHS.
 - c. Strengths & Highlights
 - i. TWOI: Three youth clients moved into new apartments and others obtained housing, as well. Some youth are in Safe Families for Children and have re-enrolled in school.
 - ii. CCYSB: Acknowledged that there are housing resources for youth (vouchers) which they have been able to utilize.
 - iii. The HMIS Analyst and the Housing Stability Coordinators are going into the community to engage individuals experiencing homelessness (shelters and Rapid Re-Housing). They are tentatively planning to engage youth specifically in October.
 - d. Challenges & Calls for Help
 - i. TWOI: Challenging to identify landlords to house youth clients. Obtaining transportation for youth clients is also a struggle.
 - ii. CCYSB: Have been struggling to find housing/landlords to rent to youth clients. Had many recent referrals for CY and are prioritizing homeless clients and clients with

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children). Lots of referrals received from HSP, CCYSB, and self-referrals. Schools starting back up may increase referrals.

- iii. DJS: A youth client and their family are in need; reach out to Zeno for more information.
- iv. The Continuum of Care (CoC) is hoping to create an Affordable Housing Subcommittee in the future. Gabby and Corey will keep the Youth Homelessness Subcommittee updated on its development.

2. DATA: Analyze and synthesize data related to local youth homelessness; use this data to secure funding for additional programs and services.

- a. Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)/Community ServicePoint (CSP) Data
 - i. As discussed during the Youth Homelessness Summit in June, we know there are more youth experiencing housing instability than those who are captured/identified in HMIS/CSP data. We are having internal discussions to clarify this before bringing updates to the Subcommittee.
- b. Program-Specific Data
 - i. TWOI: As soon as youth clients are housed, it seems like there are just as many youth clients coming to us with a need for housing. Youth may be receiving vouchers and other housing resources but then it's a struggle to physically house them.
 - ii. CCYSB: There seem to be more youths in the shelters than last year, and more young moms who have been referred to our program.

3. RESOURCE & GAP MAPPING: Identify services, partnerships, and areas for improvement related to youth homelessness. Identify remaining gaps.

- a. Mapping Resources -
 - i. *Suggestion: Shared Google document for resources related to youth homelessness - could provide updates on program waiting lists and caseload openings*
 - 1. Challenges: Who at these programs will update this? Who will host this list?
 - ii. *Suggestion: Utilize an existing database*
 - 1. Challenges: These databases may not be accurate/up to date, and organizations may have little to no control updating their information. These databases are also not exclusive to the organizations on the Subcommittee
 - iii. *Suggestion: create a map of youths' experiences through service system to identify gaps and what works*
 - 1. Challenges: engaging with youth; potential retraumatization of youth.
 - 2. Current efforts: Staff at TWOI are working on a "map" of youths' journeys through the service system. Will share progress in future meetings.
 - iv. Who else is serving youth experiencing homelessness? If you don't know, finding out could help your agency enhance service provision to youth/connect those youth to relevant services!

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b. Identifying Gaps & Barriers -

i. Transportation

1. During Fall Fest, TWOI is launching a scholarship program for driver's education for youth aged 15.5-24. Stay tuned for more details!
2. The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) "advocates for and assists with the implementation of the Carroll County Transportation Development Plan (TDP)." The next TDP is due in 2024/2025 so planning will soon start. They meet quarterly on the second Monday of the month at 3:00 pm. Email Gabby for more information.
3. Partner with driving schools for drive time, vehicles, and adult drivers?
 - a. DORS can provide some transportation assistance for those who qualify for adult vocational services.
 - b. CCPS tried to build funding for driver's education and a driver into their American Rescue Plan (ARP) grant but it was not approved.
 - c. DSS pays associated expenses for obtaining a driver's license for youth in Foster Care. If your agency is serving a youth in Foster Care and they are worrying about those expenses, please refer them back to DSS' Foster Care unit.
 - d. DJS: Road Ready is an app that tracks the time driven and allows you to print those logs: <https://www.roadreadyapp.com/>

ii. Communication - phone/internet service

1. Youth with Medical Assistance can get a state phone through [Assurance Wireless](#) or [SafeLink](#), However, these companies may not send multiple phones to the same address.
2. TWOI has a Drop-In Center from 12-5, but it's operating mostly by appointment.

iii. Supportive services like those provided to Foster Care youth

1. Foster Care provides useful services to their youth. Can these services be replicated or expanded to youth in abusive situations or to kids who are homeless but get screened out of Foster Care?
2. Consider youth peer support groups

4. **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT: Intentionally engage youth in our work and in partnership with them create a Youth Action Board/Network.**

a. Involving youth in the Subcommittee

b. Youth Action Board/Network

- i. It's critical to have youth guidance on planning services for youth!
- ii. Planning for [Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program](#)
- iii. Per the [FY2021 Youth Homeless Demonstration program \(YHDP\) NOFO](#): *Youth Action Board (YAB)- A group of at least 3 youth with voting power on policy decisions of the CoC, particularly on policies that relate to preventing and ending youth homelessness. At*

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least two-thirds of the YAB members must be age 24 or younger and have lived experience of homelessness and should be representative of the youth population experiencing homelessness in the community. The YAB must be a formal committee within the CoC. Youth who are members of the YAB may also be members of a Youth Tribal Council, if one exists. Additionally, a tribe may create a subset of its youth tribal council that specifically addresses the needs of youth experiencing and at-risk of homelessness to serve as the YAB or part of the YAB.

iv. If we apply for a future YHDP grant, youth of the YAB will participate in the application process and submit a Letter of Support.

c. Can each youth-serving agency think of one youth who would be able and willing to participate in a local YAB?

5. BEST PRACTICES: Ensure best practices are used in agencies' individual work and in the Subcommittee's collective work.

Parking Lot/For Future Discussion

- Rename the Subcommittee
- Annual Summits for Continuum, youth, etc.

Open Discussion & Partner Updates

Next Meeting - October 12, 2022 from 10-11 am

*****USE ZOOM LINK IN CY COORDINATING COUNCIL CALENDAR EVENT*****

- Focus on Connecting Youth Coordinating Council
- Recap of the Youth & Family Roundtable hosted by TWOI

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