

Sacramento YHDP Planning Team Notes

February, 01st 2023 3-4:30

[Zoom Recording](#): F?n1N1+9

General:

Piper started the meeting at 3:03 pm with an overview of the agenda

Caleb walked the team through our Brave Space agreements

Jesse started off our introductions with name, pronouns, and check-in question "If you could be a winter piece of clothing what would it be and why?"

Agenda Item – Vision Statement:

Piper shared our draft vision statement and how we got to this first draft of the vision statement, which included a word cloud of keywords to use in the vision statement. YAB has already reviewed and approved the vision statement.

Shelly shared that we may want to include the word affirming to the statement

Bridget shared to add something about how youth have the ability to shape programs and including YHDP

The updates will be taken back to YAB for final review.

Agenda Item – Goals and Strategies:

Piper shared that we will likely have four goals and as many action steps for each goal as needed.

Piper reviewed four example goals from a previous community. Please see the PowerPoint for additional details.

Piper shared a summary of the different breakout rooms from the Jan meetings. Please see previously sent-out notes or PowerPoint slides for a full list of summary notes from breakout rooms.

Shelly shared notes from prevention and diversion. Please see previously sent-out notes or PowerPoint slides for a full list of summary notes from breakout rooms.

Make sure to add TAY/DV specific programs to this list

Caleb mentioned website/internet access as well for diversion

Megan shared the summary of notes for education and employment. Please see previously sent-out notes or PowerPoint slides for a full list of summary notes from breakout rooms.

Nora shared the summary of notes for housing programs. Please see previously sent-out notes or PowerPoint slides for a full list of summary notes from breakout rooms.

Caleb shared needing more details for building an app: contacting case managers

Agenda Item – Breakouts:

The team was broken out into four different zoom rooms (Housing, Services, Education/Employment, and Prevention/Diversion) to discuss the following questions:

- What are some goals and strategies to fill those needs?
- What are program ideas to fill those gaps?

Housing:

Goal:

To have enough housing with supportive services for all youth/young adults that need it. Every population will have its needs met. Tired of apologizing to youth for system and its lack of housing resources. Want to be able to say “yes” more when youth and young adults need housing

Action Steps:

- Create more housing options for pregnant and parenting youth
- Create more housing options for youth under 18 (host homes/family reunification)
- Do more of what already exists (Waking the Village; WIN; vouchers; supportive services)
- Explore other partnerships for housing – with colleges/universities; with businesses (mixed income properties)
- Streamline access to housing resources (recognize that answering questions for getting to housing can be confusing/scary)
- Recognizing turnover/burnout in the field, offer support/collaboration across programs and systems

Rough notes:

Youth pregnant/parenting

Under 18 youth – shelter for youth under 18 (barrier of parental consent). Another big barrier to seeking services at WIN is geographical – need different sites in Sacramento (want to be in area recognizable to them; be in area that is already established and live life of young person when have to be in Rancho Codova). More locations for under 18 – take advantage of housing programs. Keep supports in place.

[sidebar – licensing issues with under 18 population]

Youth under 18 – family reunification and host home models (but there are situations where that doesn't work and there aren't good options there)

What is missing/perpetually full

Flow-chart for youth to navigate housing system – don't understand process for getting to housing. Method for navigating housing is complicated

Youth have to go through so many gatekeepers to access services. Intake is scary. Hard to talk to a stranger about very personal things. Perfect world – app with web-based portal where youth could click through to access housing.

Housing programs that exist are full. Need more shelter. Availability is a big challenge.

Need more of what have – Waking Village; Win; vouchers; case workers connecting youth to services needed. Need ability to say “yes” more.

Need existing infrastructure to be bigger. There has been progress, but there's also been more crisis.

Staffing and turnover in the field is a challenge in the field. Hard to keep people in the field. Retention is a huge issue across all aspects. Part of any solution – cross-agency training to better support teams so not frying teams. Employee morale is better when you get to give good news.

Better relationship with landlords

Mixed use for housing options – partner with businesses.

Sacramento County Office of Education – zero-five children. Get a lot of calls for at-risk youth. Have recently heard abundance of calls for youth under 18 with an infant and have nowhere to send them.

[sidebar discussion about youth emancipation process]

Services:

Training for all staff of all programs Ensure that all services are Whole person – youth centered – training by the YAB

1. Centralized access to all services information and/or a connection to all different resources – and it shouldn't always be on the youth to figure out what they need, the app could have questions about what the youth might need and the app or the agency should then know what the youth might need. When you check a box the app can ping the agency that the youth may need xx services. For all prevention services. Have the questions before the intake so it can be more of a conversation. And have one intake for all agencies so the intake doesn't have to be duplicative.

2. Peer supports and systems navigators
 - a. Two ideas:

- i. that each program have a staff person that focuses on system navigation and that each program have peer navigators;
 - ii. have a program that has navigators for everyone – peer support approached like the PNI structure. This would also allow an intersection with child welfare or mental health or other systems that our “outside” our system.
- 3. Provide wrap-around services for all housing for as long as the youth needs it
- 4. Trauma support: All programs to be certified as trauma informed and youth centered by the YAB
 - a. support youth in creating a training on this, and in creating a “report card” for agencies, and a system to roll this out and evaluate it – every 6 months or so? the need is someone to help the YAB create this.
- 5. Substance treatment services are needed

Education/Employment:

ECE

- Law enforcement providing Reading and tutoring programs in elementary schools and more support when connecting with families who are disconnected from education
- **Awareness and transportation are connected**
 - Transportation and lack of mobility lose access
 - Strategies for transportation
 - Schools providing bus passes for public transportation
 - Collaborative connection with Regional Transit to provide free transportation - there is a partnership between RT and K12 for all students to ride free
 - What about transportation for the 0-5 student? Can YHDP funds pay for a project like this?
 - Maybe partnership w/ Boys and Girls Clubs or United Way? (Everett Public Schools in WA has done this)

K12

- Possible cross-system convenings - how to host these where all liaisons could participate (a ? for Tara - maybe invite housing providers and other community service providers to regular MV liaison meetings to share their services, referral guidelines, and eligibility.
- System navigators
 - Prevention and intervention for TAY
 - Need case management
 - Schools do not have time

Postsecondary

- RRH program for community college students
- flexible funds to address crises that come up or to help students exit toxic home environments is an area that I think has been hard to address through other funding sources

- emergency assistance for homelessness prevention for college students

Prevention/Diversion:

Goal:

- To have the ability to prevent homelessness whenever possible by either supporting persons in staying where they are at, or diverting to adequate supportive services without having to first experience literal homelessness. Being able to identify possible challenges early in order to educate and intervene before situations are so severe that they become long-term and traumatic.

Strategies:

- User friendly ways of accessing existing services that speak TAY language (app, phone, etc.) -- diversity of options so that folks can meet needs (in person, over the phone, etc).
- The app could be a way of addressing equity since things could be in specific languages that direct to language specific services. Allows for continuity since you could have a way of logging in.
- Services need to be able to have a rapid response in order to actually respond to things such as 3 day notices and deposit needs.
- Define "rapid" and define "at risk" -- right now waits until it's occurring at a point where it is visible to others, how could we have a larger definition to act sooner.
- Expand services (such as respite, spaces for social support, connecting to resources) to more spaces than downtown -- larger Sacramento area
- Outreach and education to schools in order to help schools identify various issues (mental health, housing insecurity, addiction, emancipation etc) and best ways of supporting and connecting to needed things -- there is currently an initiative within SCOE to hire mental health professionals (Student Mental Health and Wellness Collaborative). Possibly collaborate, and learn what is happening at the school.
- Engaging more with liaisons within the school districts.
- Exploring creative housing options for minors who are experiencing homelessness or instability before they turn 18 -- in particular 16-18 years old. Possibly having transportation within the school districts to safe respite spaces where they can connect to resources and safe spaces. (New Morning Shelter: emergency shelter that does not require CPS being involved so that family dynamics can be worked on). Creating more services/supports for emancipation.
- A RRH-style program for folks currently in apartments -- basic case management, rental assistance for a year minimum, ability to re-access in the future if needed. Not needing current literal homelessness to access it.

Other Notes:

- The past year, housing resources have shifted the way you can apply to get into them (CAS) -- this feels like a barrier b/c it's hard to meet all needs from one line and have adequate training, and a lot of people don't specifically know what they need and learn as they navigate resources and systems. Potential stopping point b/c of bottle-necking if everyone is going there.
- Services that exist are SLOW -- they need to move FAST

Unfortunately, the chat was not saved for this meeting.