Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance

Youth and Young Adult Subcommittee Meeting

Friday, April 16, 2021 I 9:30am - 11am

ZOOM: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88380935385

AGENDA

A. Welcome

Tricia welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 9:36am.

Attendees include: Tricia Frizzell; Matt Rasmussen; Hailey Hulsey; Debbie Aguilar; Jill Sorenson; Alisa Tobin; Alberto Maldonado; Jesse Lippold Peone; Jack Elliott; Donna; Mary Heite; Treven Upkes; Julie Conn-Johnson

B. Introductions: Win Wall! Share a "win" (or two) of successes, kudos, and/or partner spotlights

- **Tricia:** basement of the Drop-In is getting remodeled! This will allow for serving more youth and those with higher vulnerabilities
- **Debbie:** a therapy dog is being trained for the police station to provide comfort – 8-month-old black lab puppy
- **Alisa:** youth empowerment program has experienced difficulties engaging with youth, and now 80% are engaging consistently—consistency and engagement with youth outside of programming was helpful, as well as offering on-site and online engagement, not just online!
- **Alberto:** five youth got jobs last month and they still have them this month! One youth is inspiring to quit smoking to be a better employee.
- **Jesse:** Salem-Keizer School District approved investigation for dropout rates for youth homelessness; in Salem-Keizer 10% of kids are dropping out.
- **Jack:** HRAP is hiring three new outreach navigators; SHA starting reconstruction/remodel to accommodate safer conditions due to COVID, implementing kiosks to improve accessibility and better serve those with disabilities
- **Jill**: FHI will be hiring a traditional health worker for the Woodburn area
- **Donna**: just finished for the CASA program to be a volunteer!
- **Mary**: increase in Drop-In clients; more are ready to onboard into TLP program
- **Hailey**: three HOME kids reunified with their families and went home!
- **Julie**: excited to have in-person school again and have the ability to connect better with youth and their families
- **Treven**: finished a press release before the meeting- not public yet but a surprise is coming!
- Kudos to Salem Mayor and Marion County Commissioners supporting HB 2544 and providing letters of support
- Tricia gave kudos to Alisa and her team for dropping off porch packages to youth

C. Committee Administration

⇒ Jack made a motion to approve March Meeting Minutes. Mary seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously.

D. Collective Goal Focus

GOAL 1: Youth-Focused Coordinated Entry System

⇒ Implementation updates of TAY VI-SPDAT from HOST
⇒ HOST is going through training to become a Coordinated Entry access point
⇒ CoC offering to train additional sites wishing to become a CE access point
⇒ HOST worked through initial list of 54 youth and young adults, made contact with every single person
⇒ Developing a second Universal ROI for partners to streamline referrals and communication but not necessarily in the HMIS system (Sheltering Silverton is example)

GOAL 4: Improve Local Youth Data

⇒ Statewide Youth Assessment
- Tricia shared that youth engagement was strong from Marion and Polk region, the kick-off meeting was a success and individuals were really engaged.
- Official kick-off of assessment began last week. 90% of youth on kick-off call were from Marion/Polk. Youth asked each adult leader what their purpose and buy-in was before they committed to helping.
- Matt shared a map of the regions of the assessment and noted variations within regions and throughout Oregon. Estimated completion of the assessment is in the summer, but common themes may be shared earlier.
- Internal conversations surround data consistency across the assessment and how to consistently use data across systems (state, CoCs, etc.) and over time. Teasing out how to use data, and which data, to make assumptions and conclusions.
- All CoCs were present on the call for full representation.

GOAL 3: Establish Host Homes

⇒ HB 2544 update
- Bill moved into Ways and Means, not as much opportunity to educate but advocacy can include short verbal and written testimonies. The schedule is posted on Basecamp.
- April 24th from 1-3pm is the local "road show" to provide testimony (approx. 1 minute) or provide written testimony
- Kudos to Salem Mayor and Marion County Commissioners supporting HB 2544 and providing letters of support
- $4.4million total: $2.2m for establishing Host Home program and $2.2m for current grantees to expand programming. Bill also includes funding for adding a staff person (now will have 2 FTE people whereas two years ago it was only 0.5 FTE)

⇒ HB 2163- OHCS
- Provide 3-4 long term rental assistance programs for young people up to age 25, or aged out of programs such as foster care, juvenile justice, self-sufficiency, etc.
- Requires communication with Homeless Youth Advisory Council

GOAL 2: Expand Youth Outreach

⇒ ESG CV-2 Collaborative Application
- Intended to be awarded in full—PLUS an additional $400k
- Totals nearly $6million for Marion/Polk region
- Creates 80 new positions for the region
- Increases HMIS participation from 75% to 82% (started at 25% one year ago)

⇒ Street outreach training funding and support
- CAA posted new job for youth navigator that provides street outreach and case management

⇒ **Combined street outreach** between partners
- Hailey shared the HOME youth outreach team has been out in the community and successful in engaging with youth. Numbers have tripled with youth engagement, pop-ups in state parks have been success.
- HOME and HOST are looking to partner but haven't yet
- Salem Police signed a MOU for the Gladiator Program
- How can police continue to collaborate with partners and engage youth
- Long-term hope for full FTE for outreach and engagement, hoping to increase youth engagement now, but capacity with limited staff is the barrier.
- HOME is creating a small zip-pencil pouch filled with outreach supplies to distribute to each high school and middle school teacher in the region—Tricia offered to provide SPD for their patrol cars—Debbie said yes! SPD has 54 police cars but they will take what they can.
- HOME is partnering with SPD for regular training opportunities with officers. YYA attendees can join the training too! Training includes program information and YYA population info and tips. Scheduled to begin January 2022.

GOAL 5: Advocate Funding Decisions for Youth Homelessness

⇒ Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP) NOFA Update
- HUD confirmed at least two rounds of funding to be dropped soon
- CoC conversations led to the decision to not apply this year
- Matt chimed in stating the CoC may be more developed than they realize; having 14 youth attend a state

⇒ Integrating youth into this subcommittee (Discussion ~20 min)

⇒ Discussed having a separate youth meeting to get a group of youth engaged and develop into a youth advisory board. They could look through the five goals of the committee and get their feedback, thoughts, experience, etc. Goal is to let youth drive the board. Hailey offered to be the mentor for this group, Jesse also offered to team up and help Hailey. Discussed having the meeting in between YYA meetings so they are meeting every two weeks but have enough time to determine how to communicate their messaging to the large committee. Funding is available to pay those youth who attend. First meeting scheduled for around April 30th. Money for raffle prizes are available too.

E. Partner and Agency Updates

- Matt: First annual Rural Conference on Youth Homeless Summit event coming up—use registration code ODHS100 if you are interested in attending—Matt paid for many slots so please use them. Please have youth attend but do not have them use code since they get registration free. Formal press release will be issued soon. Link on Basecamp.

F. Follow Up Tasks

Contacts

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Zoom Meeting Info