MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE

Youth & Young Adults Subcommittee

12/16/22 Minutes

PARTICIPANTS

Alisa (Tobin) Nelson, HOME
Amanda Foster, HOST
Ana Lopez, Church @ the Park
Bianca M, Church @ the Park
Calvin Smith, Church @ the Park
Deb Aguilar, Salem Police Department
Elene Bunge, Church @ the Park
Jan Calvin, CoC Consultant
Kat Fox, PacificSource
Laurie Shaw Casarez, City of Salem
Patrick McDermott, HOST
Marianne Bradshaw, Polk County FCO

INTRODUCTIONS & WIN WALL

Alisa (Tobin) Nelson opened the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves, shared their wins for the day, and offered kudos.

COMMITTEE ADMINISTRATION

Laurie Shaw Casarez moved to approve the 11/18/22 meeting minutes; seconded by Deb Aguilar; approved unanimously.

WEST COAST CONVENING

Alisa asked Marianne to recap information from the event, focused on youth PIT Count. Marianne noted there were participants from Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California, and the session was facilitated by Tricia Frizzell. She mentioned that LA County talked about covering their large geography through extrapolation methods. There were seven questions discussed.

- Lots of information about partnering with health care, McKinney Vento, and others to reach youth – including partnering with young people in the planning and conducting of the count. Some places have young people introduce the survey-taker, but not administer the survey themselves.
- Time of day considerations – late afternoon and evenings are the “sweet spot” time of day.
- College students – recommended reaching out
- Jail and hospitals – inclusion
- Couch surfing population – depends on the objectives of your PIT Count. There is interest in Marion/Polk to gather broadest information.
- Goals – need to have a conversation early in your community, so people aren’t disappointed.

PIT COUNT – YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

Alisa posed the question, “what are our goals for youth data through PIT Count?”

PIT YYA Workgroup met to talk about doing the Google Form again that could be distributed through a link. Last year 18 people completed it, and Hailey did the data entry into the app. Do we want to do this again this year?

Polk County will not be using the Counting Us app in the field, but will collect information on a Jot Form, then Amber Kramer (working with OHSU nursing students) will enter data into the app. They will work through the McKinney Vento liaisons and school-based mental health staff to reach out to youth and conduct phone interviews. Not set up to do this in Marion County.

Discussed using Survey Monkey. Get the two forms (ours from last year and Polk's Jot Form) and current Counting Us app questions. One additional question last year was to ask, "would you like information on resources?" If so, they added their contact information. The CoC's PIT Count Workgroup is meeting 12/21 to finalize if there will be any additional questions added in the app. Then Polk County will finalize its Jot Form, and **Marianne will share that form**.

Amanda will ask Backbone to review last year's survey on 12/19 and provide input on how to ask questions and what questions might be added. Marianne will also send Amanda some suggested wording from Chapin Hall.

There was consensus that it would be good to include the question again this year about wanting information on resources. Alisa suggested that an Excel spreadsheet could be shared with all providers, noting the request and who the person was who conducted the survey with the young person. That way the person who follows up can say, "I'm following up on the survey you did with (person) where you said you were interested in resource information." Alisa suggested keeping track of the data of contact, so we know that the young person received information.

Marianne asked Deb's views about law enforcement being involved in the youth outreach. Deb noted that Salem Police Department has several officers working with outreach and with youth. They are willing to help in anyway, but also recognize that officer involvement can be a barrier for some youth.

Alisa suggested asking Backbone about the ways that officers might support or partner with PIT Count volunteers. What would that look like? Favorable or not? Deb encouraged that approach. She also mentioned other possibilities working with Gladiators.

Deb stated that SPD is starting to use GPS to identify where camps are and are sharing that with service providers. She will ask if they can also identify if there are YYA in any camps.

Alisa said that HOME will be having a stationary event for PIT Count again this year. It might be another chili feed; still deciding. Amanda said HOST is also planning to do something similar. Marianne noted that The Gate is interested in figuring out how to identify YYA who attend a larger gathering and ask them to complete the survey. Alisa suggested an announcement about the survey and explanation about what "housing insecurity" – "does this sound like you?" Helpful to have computers there, so people can jump on for the introductory questions (not about housing insecurity), then stay on the computers to finish the other questions if it applies to them.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shoe Cleaning Event – 12/19 at Ike Box. Participants need to complete a form in advance. Averaging about 100 pairs of shoes per month going out.

Backbone meets Monday, 12/19, 5:00-7:00 p.m. at HOST Resource Center to decorate ornaments.

December 22 – Cookie with a Cop, 10:00 a.m. at Salem Police Department, sponsored by Crumbl Cookies.

SPD Toy Drive wrapping up. Usually have some left over, so if there are families that need something, let Deb know.

Room at the Inn – 12/23 at 4:00 p.m. at the CATP Resource Center on Portland Rd. NE. Food and gifts (usually a warm coat and other items) to everyone!

HOME Christmas Party on 12/23 with a meal at First Christian Church, across from the Drop-In.

January 4, 2023 – Safety Compass Training at NWHS West Salem Clinic, 12:30-2:30 p.m.
One announcement has been sent, and another one will go out soon. Will it be hybrid? That was suggested to increase the likelihood of McKinney Vento liaisons participating.

iLead Summit – for high school aged youth living in Marion or Polk counties. February 25, 2023, 10:00 am-3:30 p.m. at the new Boys and Girls Club at Homestead Center. (The YMCA has asked to host next year.) Free event to support leaders and "reluctant leaders," with topics such as personal growth, life skills, health and wellbeing, and other topics that youth have identified. Have raffle prizes, t-shirts, a rock-paper-scissors tournament, live DJ, and lots of fun!

Polk County is hosting a youth conference for all high school juniors in the county at Western Oregon University on 3/22.

MEETING SCHEDULE

Considering moving the YYA Subcommittee meetings to the 2nd Friday of the month to coordinate with West Salem SIT. Got to meet a lot of other people when this happened in November. Will talk about this at the January meeting.

NEXT YYA SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING:

January 20, 9:30-11:00 a.m. in person – looking for a place. Might be at Ike Box. Elene will see if the CATP Resource Center is open, and Kat will check on space at PacificSource.