MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE

Youth & Young Adults Subcommittee

December 8, 2023 Minutes

PARTICIPANTS

Calvin Smith, Church @ the Park
Roy Rincon, Church @ the Park
Winter Shute, Church @ the Park
Laurie Shaw-Casarez, City of Salem
Christopher Lopez, Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Megan Perez, Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Kira Hand, Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Shanta Frisbee, HOST Program
Patrick McDermott, HOST Program
Alivia Morris, HOST Program
Amanda Foster, HOST Program
Kat Fox, PacificSource
Marianne Bradshaw, Polk County
Claire Vogelsaug, Safety Compass
Heather Pascoe, Willamette Health Council
Sean Aker, Willamette ESD
RJ Pollard, YouthERA
Tabitha Thompson, YouthERA
Jan Calvin, Homeless Alliance/CoC, Consultant

INTRODUCTIONS & WIN WALL

Shanta Frisbee opened the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves and shared their wins.

CHARTER REVISIONS

Shanta introduced the recommended revisions to the YYA Subcommittee Charter:

1. MEMBERSHIP. The membership of the YYA Subcommittee is comprised of representatives of the region's youth and young adult services organizations, people with lived experience facing homelessness, youth-focused champions, and other stakeholders.
2. TERMS. YYA Subcommittee membership is open, without fixed terms. ~~shall have unfixed terms of membership.~~
3. CHAIR. The YYA Subcommittee shall designate a chair or co-chairs annually, responsible, at a minimum, for ~~facilitating meetings,~~ establishing meeting locations and times, preparing agendas, and facilitating meetings. ~~notifying the membership and CoC staff of meetings at least one week in advance, and providing minutes to CoC staff within one week following the meeting~~.
4. ~~RESIGNATION. Resignations by YYA Subcommittee members shall be submitted in writing to the group's chair(s) and CoC staff.~~

Christopher motioned and RJ seconded approval of charter revisions, as recommended; approved by consensus.

CO-CHAIR

Shanta noted that since Alisa Nelson has left HOME Youth Services, the YYA Subcommittee needs to select another co-chair. She suggested Christopher Lopez. Marianne motioned and RJ seconded designating Christopher as a co-chair. Approved by consensus.
[Shanta turned the meeting over to Christopher to facilitate.]

LAST MEETING – FOLLOW-UP

Minutes. Christopher moved and Marianne seconded to approve 11/17/23 minutes; approved by consensus.

Voices of Youth Count Follow-Up. The final tally of surveys is 27.
Amanda noted that she and Alivia are working on the follow-up with young adults over age 18 who asked for more information.
Megan reported on follow-up with four youth under age 18 who asked for more information. Three of those are using the HOME Day Center, and the fourth one said they marked "more information" in error and didn't need anything.

Youth-Focused Coordinated Entry System Follow-Up. Jan thanked everyone who sent feedback and suggestions for the self-referral form. David is using the feedback to create a draft which will be shared with the YYA Subcommittee participants via email (rather than waiting for the next meeting).

David and Jan are planning a Youth-Focused CE System Design Meeting for some time in January (tba). The purpose is to look at all four components of Coordinated Entry and determine what features, resources, and protocols should be included in each – and how everyone fits into the system. Jan provided a brief description of each of the four components (Access, Assessment, Prioritization, and Referral). *See attachment.*

Host Homes Follow-Up. Jan reminded the group that Jenny Hale from Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon suggested participation in the Statewide Host Homes Network and to also see what the local Safe Families program is doing for young people. She and Jan have a meeting on 12/13 with Safe Families and will send the Zoom link to anyone else interested in attending. (Patrick, Laurie, and Kat expressed interest.)

2024 YYA SUBCOMMITTEE FOCUS

CoC/Homeless Alliance Mission and How the YYA Subcommittee Fits In. Christopher attended the YYA Subcommittee agenda-planning meeting with Shanta and Jan where they talked about having the group prioritize and plan its work for the coming year. Jan reviewed the Alliance mission and the YYA Subcommittee's goals and objectives that were in the agenda packet, then asked for input on a draft survey to collect information prior to the next meeting. The group revised the survey and agreed that they could complete in within two weeks if they received it by 12/13. They also talked about using the results to develop agreed upon milestones that they are working toward (measurements).

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT: WILLAMETTE ESD

Sean Aker, WESD Student Success Coordinator provided information about the Willamette Education Services District. The largest part of the ESD's budget (41%) is dedicated to Special Education Services, which might fall more in line with support districts to meet compliance. WESD offers a variety of services beyond SPED to address district needs with forward planning, just in time, or critical response in areas such as communications, legal, administrative, business services, and school improvement. He noted that WESD is one of 19 education service districts in Oregon. The service area is Marion, Polk, Yamhill – 84,000 students.

Salem/Keizer is a "withdrawn" district and meets their own needs but do access WESD for some things. Lots of smaller districts can't do that, so WESD has an ala cart menu of services.

Sean overseas the School Improvement Services section, which includes professional development. Essentially, the section coordinates the supports that build the capacity for districts to meet their students' needs.

Examples:

1. Accessible platforms to access trainings 24/7, such as trauma-informed care.
2. Most districts don't have comprehensive language access. Using "Linguava" to do the translation work. It is (Oregon-based) and creates consistency in the dialogues.

Three areas Sean oversees:

1. Student Success Network (focused on chronic absenteeism and learning on track).

   Using "Everyday Matters" (to reduce chronic absenteeism) and developing new/more strategies for specific populations, such as students experiencing homelessness and tribal members.

2. Native American Education (Siletz and Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde) – have a staff person and an oversight committee.

3. School Safety – Have a mental health and behavior manager.

What are the strategies now? Plans for the future? When we applied for a recent grant, we looked internally and recognized WESD isn't really doing anything for homeless students. One strategy WESD is pursuing is home visiting for families experiencing homelessness – learning how to do this collaboratively in each community.

How partnering with the McKinney-Vento Liaisons? Sean noted that, often, MVLs are also the special education directors, so that is how they have been interacting with WESD. But these connections have not been intentional. Room to grow!

How are you working with students who engage online? It was noted that this would be one of the quickest was to engage with youth experiencing homelessness. *What about engaging with youth who are not attending school?* Since this work is done at the school level, WESD is learning more about ways to lean into this.

How can we help? Who should we contact? Sean will put some thought into that. Feel free to contact him at Sean.aker@wesd.org Also, there is an upcoming School Safety Summit (will talk about chronic absenteeism) – Open to attend.

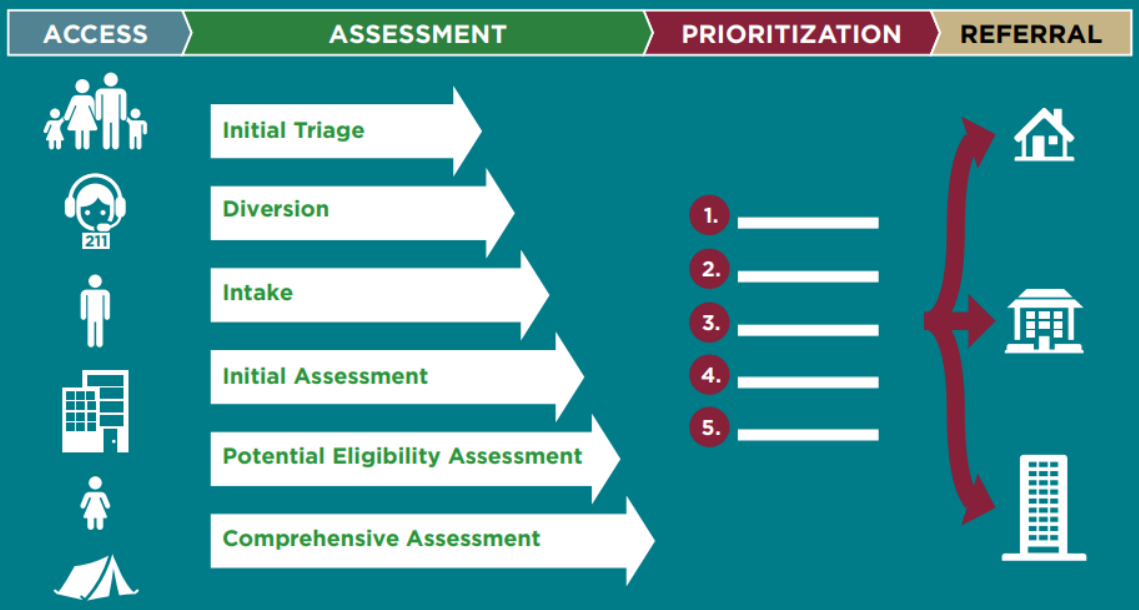
ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Kat announced that the ***Comprehensive Behavioral Health Plan*** was submitted to Oregon Health Authority, and she looks forward to sharing it with the group when it comes back from OHA.
- Jan announced that the CoC is looking to apply to HUD in February for a ***Youth Homeless System Improvement grant***, and she looks forward to sharing more information after some upcoming webinars. Anyone interested in working on the grant should contact Jan.
- Amanda announced that the ***12/11 Backbone meeting*** will be at David's House in Monmouth – to tour the facility and have a group holiday party.
- ***Street outreach at Monmouth Skate Park***, Wednesdays, 1:00-5:00 p.m. [Flyer is attached.] Usually have hot cocoa, coffee, and sometimes pizza. Post it on the Skate Park Facebook page!
- The new ***Polk County Resource Center*** is on the verge of opening! Located on the "S" curve by the Monmouth Skate Park. Designed to be a collaborative space. Community rooms. Salem Free Clinics will have services, starting weekly. Youth-focused CE Assessments every Wednesday.
- ***HOST Holiday Party*** – 12/19 at Noon for young adults, 18-24. Giving out goodies!

NEXT MEETING:

January 12, 10:00-11:30 a.m. Hybrid – In person and on Zoom
C@TP Resource Center - 2640 Portland Rd NE in Salem
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81574442978?pwd=a1dacnU3SFZ0QUZTUTMwQWpPRzhjUT09
Meeting ID: 815 7444 2978 Passcode: 164243
One tap mobile +16699006833,,81574442978#,,,,*164243#

Coordinated Entry Core Elements



The figure above shows how coordinated entry's core elements might relate to one another.

- **Access**, the engagement point for persons experiencing a housing crisis, could look and function differently depending on the specific community. Persons (families, single adults, youth) might initially access the crisis response system by calling a crisis hotline or other information and referral resource, walking into an access point facility, or being engaged through outreach efforts.

- Upon initial access, CoC providers associated with coordinated entry likely will begin assessing the person's housing needs, preferences, and vulnerability. This coordinated entry element is referred to as **Assessment**. It is progressive; that is, potentially multiple layers of sequential information gathering occurring at various phases in the coordinated entry process, for different purposes, by one or more staff.

- During assessment, the person's needs and level of vulnerability may be documented for purposes of determining **Prioritization**. Prioritization helps the CoC manage its inventory of community housing resources and services, ensuring that those persons with the greatest need and vulnerability receive the supports they need to resolve their housing crisis.

- The final element is **Referral**. Persons are referred to available CoC housing resources and services in accordance with the CoC's documented prioritization guidelines.

HOME Youth Services POP-UP

Every Wednesday

From 1-5PM

Please bring your own supplies (table, chairs, etc). The goal is to spread the word about our services!

401 Hogan Rd. Monmouth, OR, 97631
Across the street from Roth's!

For any questions, text or call Kira at (503)551-0696 or email Kira.hand@MWVCAA.org