MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE

Youth & Young Adults Subcommittee

October 11, 2024 Minutes

PARTICIPANTS

Christopher Lopez - Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Patrick McDermott - Northwest Human Services HOST Program
Jacob Oyer - Church at The Park
Tony Frazier – Salvation Army/KROC Center
Megan Perez – Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Claire Vogelsang – Safety Compass
Mel Keller – ODHS YEHP
Kandy Keith – YYA CE Program Coordinator
Marianne Bradshaw – Consultant
Kira – Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Jocelyn – Community Action, HOME Youth Services
Bri & Ann – Young Adult site, Church at the Park
Kat Fox – Pacific Source

INTRODUCTIONS & WIN WALL

Patrick – Youth from HOST secured employment this week
Mel – Being present at the meeting is a win to represent YEHP
Claire – Hired a labor trafficking director @ Safety Compass
Bri – A youth couple she's working with acquired an apartment
Kat – PS is partnering with Church at the Park for a film project called "No Place to Grow Old"; Screening of the film on Nov. 12th and 13th
Tony – Assisted in keeping a youth enrolled in high school and moved over to EDGE online learning
Megan – Receiving and providing suicide prevention training
Jacob – Two clients able to secure shelter in Portland; a new client from outreach showed up for services today
Marianne – Completed a project with WHC and PacSource regarding youth and young adult health and wellness
Christopher – Improving access and expanding a new youth CE program

CONSENT CALENDAR

Christopher Lopez started consent calendar to approve the meeting, Megan motioned to approve, and Kat seconded

Pulling agenda calendar from the consent calendar. An amendment to move guest presenter to Item 3 and the PIT Count Item to Item 6; motioned by Christopher, seconded by Marianne.

PRESENTER – Tony Frazier, KROC Center

Coming into Salem several years ago with a passion and focus on supporting youth in the area, with employment, education, and housing. Currently working with the KROC Center in program development for youth.
KROC Center currently has internal workforce development programing for youth. Currently YDD funded; youth participants able to receive meal cards and regular KROC membership as incentive and engagement tool for youth in programs.
GED program started in 2023; seeing a need for students unwilling or unable to complete school in traditional setting, created partnership with Chemeketa CC to incentivize and create GED program at KROC. Chemeketa delivers instruction, but classes can be taken at KROC Center.
Youth workforce development program walks youth through all aspects of their business and places an emphasis on building the soft skills necessary to be successful in a work environment.

I-Build – construction skills training program; first began this past summer for youth out from school during the summer. Includes employment skill building and 'Wisemind' socio-emotional learning program. Launched in July and ran for 8 weeks; students built twelve 8x16 shed units that were donated to Church at the Park. 24 high school youth took the summer course – 100% attendance the entire term!
Tony put a focus during the summer on bringing in persons to view the program as a means of continuing funding following the summer term, and on bringing in presenters in the professional field. Additional funding secured, and I-Build funded for another year! Funder interested in expanding program curriculum to out-of-school youth.

Big dream – CTE program for 16-24 out-of-school youth.

Next orientation for I-Build on Wednesday, Oct 16th. Cohort begins Monday Oct 21st. 10 week program

Information session available Monday, Oct 14th at HOST Resource Center at 11am.

TOPIC 1 – YYA Subcommittee Feedback and Discussion

Jacob leading off the discussion, having an opportunity to reflect and give feedback on "what do you want to see from YYA meeting". Options for anonymous survey, or round table discussion.
Megan – Likes having presenters as it helps generate purpose to the meetings; learning about other programs and other resources. Even without a guest presenter, information about other participating programs, especially information about how to access, is valuable information.
Jocelyn – YYA meetings are important for information that benefits youth back in each of our own programs.
Mel – Youth services are often an 'afterthought' when providing homeless services, so these meetings help move them to the forefront.
Patrick – Ensuring that we always circle back to the 6 goals of the YYA Subcommittee

Christopher – Asking for feedback more often, Keep/Start/Stop reflection with each agenda going forward; purpose is to provide broader input to the meeting and increase the flow of ideas.
Kat – I would love to continue to see events upcoming, I like the updates from each agency, win wall, and then I would love to see more data! I am happy to bring data as I am able to as well.
Suggested Idea – '2024 Year in Review' of data to share with the group at the end of the year.

TOPIC 2 – Voices of Youth Count

On review of current VOY data, only have ~30 responses to VOY survey.
Recommendation to extend through end of October.
Megan – Concerns about the window of time being too large, understanding of purpose behind survey.
Christopher – Reviewed conversation from previous YYA meeting about duration of survey window; counterpoint about volume of data. Brought up concern of missed opportunity at Punx in the Park to collect youth data.
Conversation about fidelity of data and specificity available in VoY survey vs general outreach survey.
Feedback on survey + data to be reviewed at later YYA meeting.

Vote to extend or close survey – 7 in favor of extension; 2 in favor of close – Survey to be extended through end of October, effective 11:59PM on 10/31

TOPIC 3 – PIT Count Presentation

PIT count to be conducted in 2025. Marianne hired by CoC to review and create methodology. CoC has identified priority populations for this year. YYA historically underrepresented in PIT count; Marianne pushing initiative to highlight YYA as a priority population for this PIT count. Subcommittee generally approves 'Yes' to be moved to the forefront of the initiative. January 22nd PIT Count start date, to last for 7 days afterwards. Look for opportunities to host events to generate responses.

Question to group – To highlight YYA as a priority population, and agreement to support the initiative within individual agencies. Recommendation to have a tighter, more focused YYA consultant group outside of the Subcommittee that supports the PIT Count.

Vote called to support YYA as a priority subpopulation in PIT Count – Unanimous approval
Vote called to form workgroup of YYA subcommittee in support of the PIT Count – Unanimous approval

Volunteers interested in workgroup for PIT Count to stay after and connect with Marianne.

TOPIC 4 – Light the Night, Candlelight Vigil for Youth HOPE Month

a. November 12th – Proclamation at City Council Meeting, 6:00-8:00pm
b. November 14th – Light the Night vigil @ Capitol 6:30pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MWVCAA Harvest Party – October 30th information available on MWVCAA website. $40 entrance.

NWHS Trunk or Treat – October 26th 3-5PM at West Salem Clinic
MWVCAA & Punx Trunk or Treat – Information TBA

Meeting adjourned @ 11:38pm