YHDP THE BASICS
COHORT SESSION #3
Driving the CCP with YHDP Values

Teo Ortega - TAC
Jen Best - ICF
Rhie Azzam Morris - Rhie Azzam Morris Consulting & ICF
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>PRONOUNS</th>
<th>RACIAL IDENTITY</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>WHAT IS YOUR GO-TO EVENING SNACK?</td>
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<td>COMMUNITY YOU REPRESENT</td>
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TODAY’S PLAN

- Introductions
- Overview of YHDP Values & Principals
- Self-evaluation of knowledge/operating the values and principles
- Share strategies
- What do you need to do better?
VALUES & PRINCIPLES

• Special Populations
• Equity
• Positive Youth Development & Trauma Informed Care
• Unsheltered Homelessness
• Family Engagement
• Housing First
• Youth Choice
• Individualized & Client-Driven Supports
• Social & Community Integration
• Coordinated Entry
USICH, in partnership with its member agencies, has identified several special populations of youth experiencing homelessness that are particularly vulnerable in how they experience homelessness, as well as their pathways in and out of homelessness, in ways that are distinct from the general population of youth. For these particularly vulnerable and often overrepresented young people, there is a need for identification and engagement strategies, infrastructure considerations, and housing and service-delivery approaches that are responsive to their specific needs. The coordinated community plan must identify and address the local impact of homelessness on these special populations and address how the community will meet the needs of youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ); youth who are gender-non-conforming; minors (under the age of 18); youth involved with juvenile justice and child welfare systems; victims of sexual trafficking and exploitation; and youth with co-occurring diagnosis, including mental health, substance abuse, HIV-AIDS and other communicable diseases.
Research has found significant racial and ethnic disparities in rates of homelessness. Specifically, Black, Indigenous, Hispanic (non-white), and LGBTQ youth experience homelessness at disproportionately higher rates. Community efforts to prevent and end homelessness should consider and address racial inequities to successfully achieve positive outcomes for all persons experiencing homelessness. The coordinated community plan must address how the community is measuring and considering racial inequities and other disparities in the risks for, and experiences of homelessness in the community, consistent with fair housing and civil rights requirements. This includes identifying barriers that led to any disparities in subpopulations being served and taking steps to eliminate these barriers in the community’s youth homeless response system.
Both PYD and TIC are accepted best practices in housing and service delivery for youth and include principles and service frameworks. The coordinated community plan must address how PYD and TIC will be incorporated into all aspects of the youth crisis response system, including at the system and project levels.
HUD estimates that 50% of youth experiencing homelessness are unsheltered. The coordinated community plan must address how the projects will address and decrease unsheltered youth homelessness in the community.
HUD believes that the best diversion and intervention strategy is to engage families, whenever appropriate, through community partnerships with organizations such as child welfare agencies, schools, youth providers, and other community human services and homeless services providers. The coordinated community plan must address family engagement strategies and services designed to strengthen, stabilize, and reunify families. Potential services include family counseling, conflict resolution, parenting support, relative or kinship caregiver resources, targeted substance abuse and mental health treatment, etc.
Housing is a cornerstone for meeting a multitude of basic needs necessary for success. Young people should be provided with rapid access to safe, secure, and stable housing that meets their needs as quickly as possible, without the condition that they are ‘ready’ for housing. The coordinated community plan must address how all youth will be offered immediate access to safe, secure, and stable housing with no preconditions.
The capacity for self-determination may be a critical factor in obtaining many positive outcomes for Transition Age Youth, and is closely related to the principles of PYD. Consistent with federal youth policy, allowing youth to exercise self-determination is a youth centered approach that values youths’ expressed needs, self-awareness, and community knowledge. This youth centered approach emphasizes youth choice in terms of the kind of housing youth need and the extent and nature of supports and services they access and presents alternative options for youth who avoid programs with barriers like sobriety or abstinence. The coordinated community plan must address how youth choice will be integrated into all aspects of the youth crisis response system.
The coordinated community plan must acknowledge that the needs of the young people to be served will be unique. Housing and support packages that help prevent and end homelessness among youth must recognize and respond to individual differences across individuals to serve them appropriately and efficiently. Communities must design the system flexibly to accommodate individuals with both high and low service needs, as well as the need for short-term or long-term supports. The coordinated community plan must address how the youth crisis response system will provide individualized and client-driven supports.
The goal of youth homelessness services should be a successful transition to adulthood, including the successful integration into a community as a positive contributing community member. To accomplish this requires the community to provide socially supportive engagement and the opportunity for youth to participate in meaningful community activities.
Coordinated entry processes are necessary components of a high functioning crisis response system and must be developed intentionally to incorporate youth. The coordinated community plan must address how the Continuum of Care will ensure that the coordinated entry process is youth-appropriate.