



**Orange County Continuum of Care (CoC)
Transitional Aged Youth (TAY)
Collaborative Committee
March 8, 2024**

Welcome and Introductions

Ami Rowland, Chair

Public Comments

Meeting Agenda

1. California Coalition for Youth (CCY) Briefing – Ami Rowland, Chair
2. Youth Community Integration – Dee Balliet, Human Services Associate, Abt Associates
 - a. Discussion related to the importance of collaboration among community.
 - i. Youth Action Boards (YABs) need to be made up of young people from multiple systems, agencies, contact points to enhance the feedback, loops, and vibrancy of youth voice.
3. Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) Update – Becks Heyhoe, Executive Director, United to End Homelessness, Orange County United Way

Next Meeting: Friday, May 10, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Orangewood Foundation located at 1575 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705

Business Calendar

California Coalition for Youth (CCY)
Briefing
Ami Rowland, Chair

WE KNOW...

...effective intervention with young people experiencing homelessness will change the trajectory of their lives, reduce suffering, and reduce the number of **FUTURE** chronically homeless adults.

50% of chronically homeless adults had their first homeless experience during ages 16-24

WE KNOW...

...services and supports designed for adults
DO NOT work in the same way for youth
experiencing homelessness

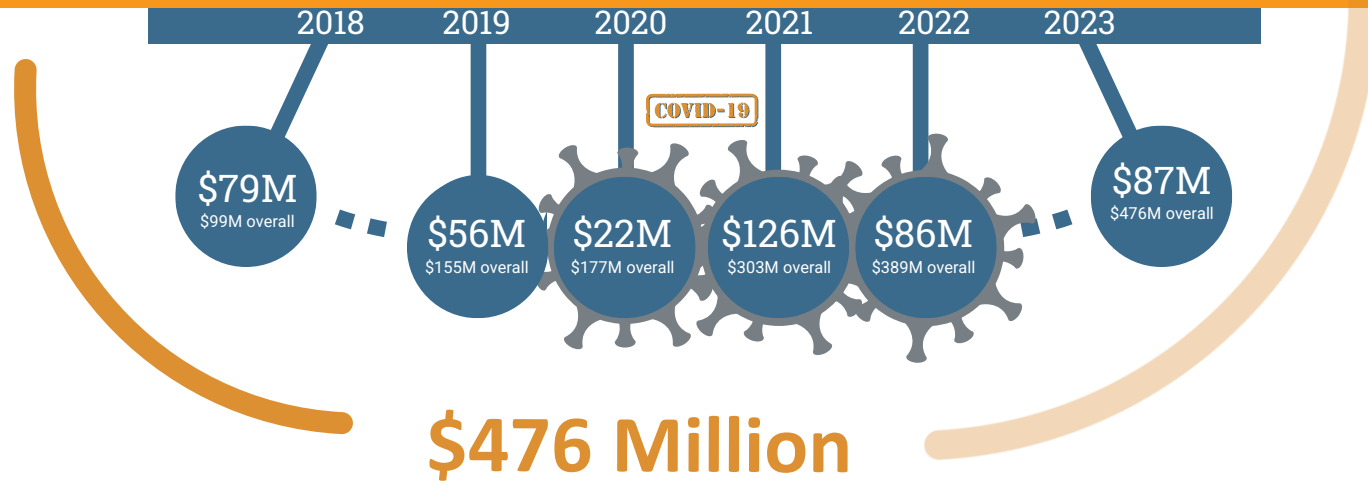


WE KNOW...

...dedicating and aligning resources and supports specifically for youth reduces homelessness among youth, reduces suffering, and shifts trajectories away from chronic homelessness



California's Impact and Investments to Address Youth Homelessness



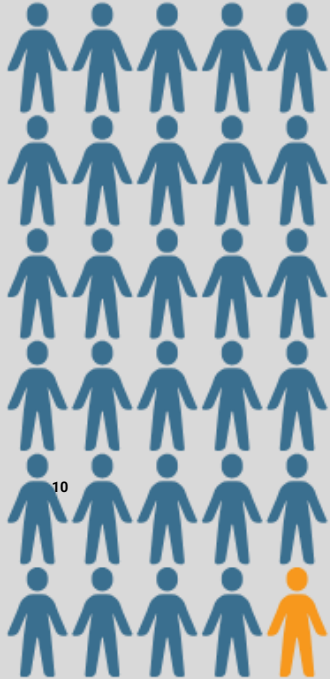
- Homeless Youth and Exploitation Program (HYEP)
- Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)
- California Emergency Solutions and Housing
- Homeless Youth Innovation Program
- SB 918
- Homeless, Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAP)

THE RESEARCH

1 in 10
18-25 year olds



1 in 30
13-17 year olds



The most comprehensive research on youth experiencing homelessness comes from Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago

experienced a form of homelessness over a 12-month period

THE RESEARCH

PIT COUNT SURVEY

- 10,173 UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH
- +2,219 PARENTING + PREGNANT YOUTH

- 34% - Without HS Diploma/GED
- 20% - Parenting Youth
- 12% - LGBTQ+ Youth
- 83% - Black & African American Youth

Who is
most likely
to experience
homelessness?

Wait times

- 4.5 months average wait time for any type of housing
- Every day of waiting reduces a youth's chance of staying stably housed by 2%
- Wait Time reduces odds of stability by 270%

NEW DATA

McKinney-Vento Act Definition

Location	Number
Temporarily Doubled-Up	6,976
Temporary Shelters	778
Hotels/Motels	175
Temporarily Unsheltered	606
Missing/Unknown	2
Total Unaccompanied Homeless Students	8,537



JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION

Our 5 Year Goal Youth of color, LGBTQ+, and members of other historically marginalized communities are no longer disproportionately represented in the homelessness response system, and systematic barriers are dismantled*.

* youth voice, choice, and input in decision-making as well as positive youth development, trauma-informed care, harm reduction, and practices that are rooted in cultural humility and cultural competency and are LGBTQ-affirming are critical



HEALTH, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, AND SUBSTANCE USE

Our 5 Year Goal

- All eligible youth are enrolled in Medi-Cal
- All youth have the support and ability to access services in a timely manner



PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION

Our 5 Year Goal

- Every County has robust family support & reunification services
- Access to emergency funding to support eviction prevention, housing stabilization, street and community outreach, and drop-in centers
- All services are connected to school districts and child welfare offices to facilitate early intervention



DIVERSE HOUSING OPTIONS

Our 5 Year Goal

- Immediate access to a youth-specific housing solution
- Every county has a robust array of emergency housing, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing options
- Each CoC has a robust, youth-specific Coordinated Entry System (YCES) with trauma-informed assessment and prioritization based on vulnerability vs. length of homelessness



ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY, CAPACITY BUILDING, SUSTAINABLE WAGES, & PARTNERSHIPS

Our 5 Year Goal

- Nonprofits supporting youth experiencing homelessness are treated as essential partners and compensated at fair and just levels, with staff earning a living wage



EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, & ECONOMIC STABILITY

Our 5 Year Goal

- All youth are connected to meaningful career pathways with opportunities for upward mobility and to gain strong financial literacy skills



AFTERCARE & FOLLOW UP SUPPORTS

Our 5 Year Goal

- All youth are supported to successfully exit program with step down supports knowing that youth need developmentally appropriate experiences and supports that allow for trial and error

**Contact our Legislative
Advocate to follow-up:
Kim Lewis
kim@lewisadvocacy.com**

Sources

1. Building the Core Skills Youth Need for Life: A Guide for Education and Social Service Practitioners. Center for the Developing Child, Harvard University. <https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/building-core-skills-youth/> Accessed: November 10, 2023.
2. The Science of Adult Capabilities. Center for the Developing Child, Harvard University. <https://developingchild.harvard.edu/science/deep-dives/adult-capabilities/> Accessed: November 10, 2023.
3. Johnson, R. (2013). Working together to end youth homelessness. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Greater LA Homeless Count. Retrieved from: <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/cms/docs/WorkingTogetherHomeless.pdf>
4. Pathways into adult homelessness. Chamberlain, Chris, Johnson, Guy. 2011. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/1440783311422458> Accessed: November 10, 2023
5. US Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Community Housing and Development. (2023). The 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report (AHAR) to Congress by de Sousa, Tanya et al. Retrieved from: <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/2023-AHAR-Part-1.pdf>
6. California Department of Education. DataQuest. <https://dq.cde.ca.gov/dataquest/DQCensus/HmlsEnrByDT.aspx?cde=00&agglevel=State&year=2022-23&ListReportRows=Eth&charter=All&UY=Y&Display=Num&ro=1> Accessed: January 4, 2024.
7. Kushel, M., Moore, T., et al. (2023). Toward a New Understanding: The California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness. UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative
8. Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A., & Samuels, G.M. (2017). Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. National estimates. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.
9. Morton, M.H, Rice, E., Blondin, M., Hsu, H., & Kull, M. (2018). Toward a system response to ending youth homelessness: New evidence to help communities strengthen coordinated entry, assessment, and support for youth. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.
10. Ibid.
11. Morton, M.H., Dworsky, A., & Samuels, G.M. (2017). Missed opportunities: Youth homelessness in America. National estimates. Chicago, IL: Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago.
12. Should Proposition 1 - the modernization of the Mental Health Services Act - be approved by voters at the March 2024 primary, then the MHSOAC will be renamed the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.
13. Similar to AB 82, trailer bill language enacted as a part of the 2013-14 budget.
14. Any government-sponsored direct cash transfer programs or compensation programs should also include unaccompanied youth as well as pre-documented youth. With any form of cash or payment method, gift cards should be avoided to compensate youth as they cannot be used to pay rent or bills.
15. San Jose Conservation Corp Charter School (SJCC+CS) recognized that 30% of their Corps members were housing insecure and being priced out of Santa Clara county. Corps members gain valuable job skills as they build Portable Dwelling Units (PDUs) from the ground up. SJCC+CC provides wraparound support services.



The California Coalition for Youth is a 501(c)3 and we welcome donations to continue doing our work to improve and empower the lives of youth, with a focus on youth experiencing homelessness, disconnection, and instability.



Scan QR Code with your phone to make a donation today. We, also, accept checks made out to "California Coalition for Youth" mailed to PO BOX 161448, Sacramento, CA 95816

Youth Community Integration

**Dee Balliet, Human Services Associate,
Abt Associates**

**Youth Homelessness System
Improvement (YHSI) Update**

Becks Heyhoe, Executive Director, United to End
Homelessness, Orange County United Way



**UNITED TO END
HOMELESSNESS**

Youth Homelessness System Improvement - application

YHSI Goal and Objectives

Goal:

Increase the state and local capacity to better serve youth and create projects that are responsive to the needs of youth at-risk or experiencing homelessness in the community.

Objectives:

- Improve the capacity of youth in the community.
- Establish partnerships.
- Improve the centralized or coordinated assessment system also known as Coordinated Entry Systems (CES).
- Improve data collection and use between systems that work with youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness.
- Assess, address, and improve equity in youth homeless response systems.

Funds may not be used to provide housing or services and HUD will reject applications that list housing and/or housing services as proposed activities.

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YHSI Eligible Activities

Eligible Activities:

1. Planning and Partnerships
2. Data
3. Coordinated Entry
4. Racial and Gender Equity



Due Date for Application: February 15, 2024



Available funding amount \$50,000,000



Expected to make approximately 35 awards



Grant term: 30 months (funding estimated to be awarded in April 2024)

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YHSI Process

Youth Survey

- 264 young adults completed a survey
- 80 of whom had experienced homelessness in the last 90 days

Youth Feedback Sessions

- 33 young adults participated in 2 in person feedback sessions

Community Listening Sessions

- 50 attendees from 28 agencies participated in 3 listening sessions

One on One Meetings

- 7 Meetings with agencies, including those who work with the most vulnerable populations

Letters of Support

- 48 letters of support

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YHSI: Themes from Listening Sessions

Overall themes from youth feedback and community listening sessions:

- Youth need to guide systems change
- We need better communication between agencies that are doing the work
- We need better communication about what resources are available and how to access them
- We need better data
- Smaller grass-roots agencies have the fewest resources but are often also the best positioned to reach vulnerable subpopulations, we need to make sure they have a seat at the table
- The Coordinated Entry System (CES) and the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) are not currently accessible or being used to their full potential

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YSHI: Youth Feedback

Challenges:

- Not knowing where to go, who to ask
- Silos – nothing is connected, no communication between service providers
- It takes too long to actually get help, everywhere is full, no resources available
- Programs that feel unsafe – homophobia, transphobia, judgement, non-youth specific shelters feel more dangerous
- Eligibility restrictions create barriers – sobriety, income, job, diagnoses, etc.
- Most are either unfamiliar with CES or have heard of it but never been connected

What would help?

- Opportunities to learn life skills, professional development, practical skills like taxes
- Centralized system so you only have to make one connection point for all resources
- Transparency – around eligibility, available resources, whether services are youth-specific or general public, where you are in the process, who you should be reaching out to, etc.
- More easily accessible information about where to go and how to find help

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YSHI: Youth Feedback

What is the right role for young people?

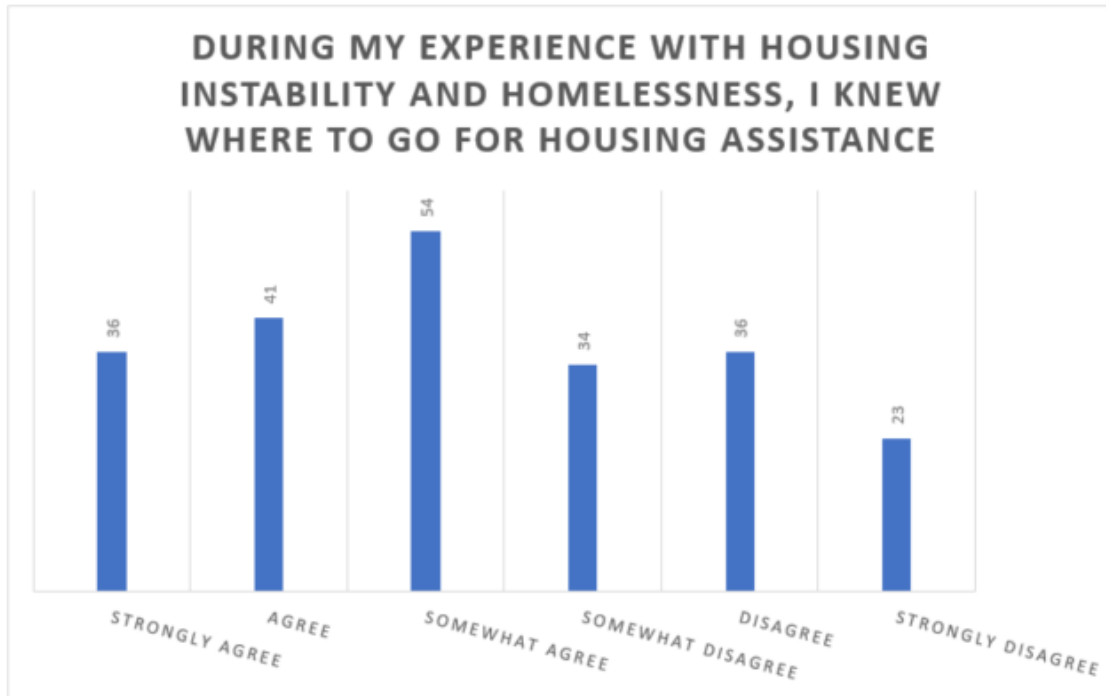
- Young adults understand their experiences better than anyone and they need to be involved
- Local leaders need to take the Youth Action Board (YAB) seriously or it's not worth their time (we need to make sure the YAB is built up in a way to actually affect change)
- Help each other – want to build community, help youth who are going through it for the first time have an easier time than they did

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YSHI: Youth Survey Feedback



Other Key Findings

- 49% are enrolled in college
- 42% were involved in the foster care system
- 27% involved with behavioral health services
- 16% connected to job corp
- 16% on probation

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YSHI: Youth Survey Feedback

What is needed to resolve your housing instability?

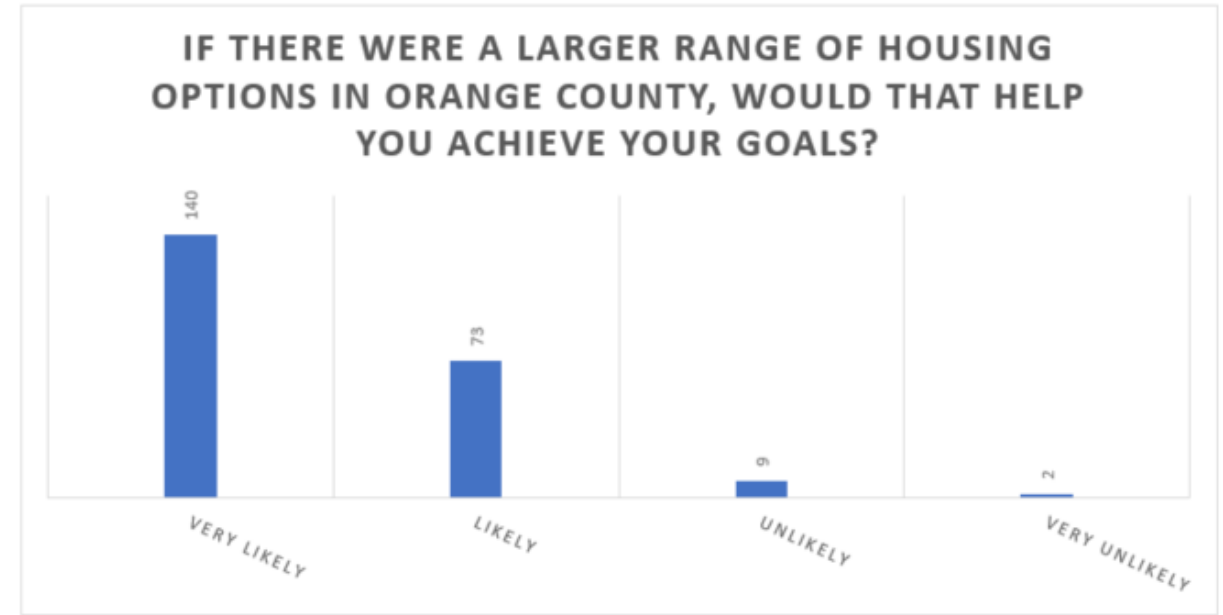
Top Two Responses:

1. Affordable Housing/Rent
2. Job

Interest in Different Housing Options:

Top Three Responses:

1. Apartment with rent-voucher program
2. Shared Housing or Sober Living Homes
3. Apartments with temporary rent support and case management (Rapid rehousing)



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YSHI: Application

Amount Requested: \$1,100,000

- Proposed a 2.5 year project
- OC United Way matching with minimum of 12% - \$135,000

Proposed Project Categories included:

1. Planning and Partnerships
2. Data
3. Coordinated Entry
4. Racial and Gender Equity

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YSHI: Application

Planning and Partnerships:

- Youth Action Board – expansion, compensation and infrastructure support
- Build upon the Orange County CoC Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Collaborative Committee

Data:

- Increasing usage of HMIS by providing technical support and compensation to youth-serving organizations to participate
- Outreach to non CoC members who work with TAY

Coordinated Entry System:

- Staff – youth specific CES staff position
- Increase number and availability of youth CES access points
- Develop and implement youth-focused diversion and problem solving strategy

Racial and Gender Equity:

- Conduct a comprehensive youth census and needs assessment
- Evaluation of racial and gender equity needs of youth in Orange County

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Next Meeting:

Friday, May 10, 2024

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Location: Orangewood Foundation

Address: 1575 17th St, Santa Ana, CA 92705

CoC Board and CoC Committee Materials can be found
on the CoC webpage located at:

<https://ceo.ocgov.com/continuum-care>

For other inquiries, please contact the Office of Care
Coordination at CareCoordination@ocgov.com

