



**Minutes**  
**Youth Housing Continuum Committee**  
**4:00 – 5:30 pm**  
**October 28th, 2020**

**Committee Purpose** – To recommend proposed solutions to address the housing needs of young people ages 18-25 in Bernalillo County.

**Meeting Purposes:**

1. To bring all meeting participants up to speed with current information with updates
2. To address system gaps and unmet needs with high impact strategies within the first 60 days of meeting

<b>Attendees:</b>
<p><i>Co-chairs: Dr. Assata Zerai (UNM), Quinn Donnay (FCS), Jennifer Scacco (BernCo Dept. Beh. Health), Nasha Torrez (UNM Dean of Students)</i></p>
<p><i>Members: Brooke Tafoya (New Day), Gilbert Ramirez (FCS-Behavioral Health Dep. Dir), Hilary Stim (CYFD BHS), Yvette Ramirez Ammerman (CABQ consultant), Bill Wagner (Centro Savila), Diana Lopez (YDI), Kashif Muhammed (BernCo), Brittany Karnezis (Hands Across Time), Cathleen (Cathy) Willging and Samuel Fields (PIRE), Dennis Plummer (Heading Home), Karla Castaneda (Centro Savila), Kerry Moriarty (CYFD BHS), Dr. Art Kaufman (UNM-HSC Office of Community Health), Hillari Lipton, (CYFD), Joscylyn Huffmaster (BHI), Ilyssa Bowser, (Hands Across Time), Laura Norman (CABQ consultant), Monica Jenrette (UNM)</i></p>

<b>Agenda Items:</b>	<b>Discussion of Needs/Gaps – SPECIFICALLY, YOUNG ADULT SHELTER</b>
1) Welcome	All attendees were welcomed by co-chair Quinn Donnay, introduced themselves and indicated organizational affiliation.
2) Quinn Donnay	Minutes from Oct 14 <sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.
3) Quinn Donnay & Assata Zerai & Nasha Torrez	<p>Quinn Donnay provided a brief report on the HCC meeting, the good news being that this committee is ahead on its tasks. <b>The next charge is to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Prioritize our 4 high-impact strategies;</b></li> <li>- <b>Attach timelines to them in ranges of 3 to 6 months, 6 to 12 months, or 12 to 24 months; and</b></li> <li>- <b>Assign cost estimates.</b></li> </ul> <p><u>Today’s meeting focuses on the one of the 4 high-impact strategies – Youth/young adult shelter for ages 18-24</u></p> <p>-Assata Zerai opened the conversation by sharing that UNM President Stokes posed questions as to whether this program would be close to the campus, and what services/population would be there; central questions to today’s discussion.</p> <p>-<b>The group brainstormed</b> what such a shelter/program for young adults could look like; integrating the program participants vs. separating them from community; hub and spoke model vs. services on site; budget and staffing issues.</p>

	<p>-Knowing that on-site services will make operating costs higher, Nasha Torrez offered the insight that such services at UNM are funded by student fees which are going down in today's economic and Covid environment; staff are working hard just to serve the current student population with current funding.</p> <p>-Conceptual <b>discussion turned to cost</b>, with estimates of current costs shared by providers. They ranged from \$37 per bed night without food for adult shelter only, to \$150 with food, some staffing and some services. Could be as high as \$225. It was agreed that the depth of services provided will drive the cost, and personnel will be the highest cost.</p> <p>-CYFD is committed to the project and wants to see its success. Hillari Lipton said that funding must come from a blend of sources, since the project is not going to be for just system-involved youth/young adults</p> <p><b>-Back to conceptual and program discussion</b>, the group reviewed more closely the idea of a non-24-hour shelter; being closed during the day. Or, if it were open in the day would it be a resource center for youth? Key to deciding the model is agreeing on the goals and purpose – is the goal to put a roof over heads, or to coordinate care? What do we want to be different for the youth/young adults from their stay here? Is it to get them out of the system? If it is a holistic approach, would the services be woven together that include behavioral health, life skills and coaching, yoga, career development?</p> <p>-Quinn Donnay asked BernCo reps to offer insight with respect to behavioral health services on site, to which they recommended that Medicaid funding be leveraged and pointed out that there are BHI dollars to help providers serving the Medicaid population to do this. Gilbert Ramirez pointed out that the youth/young adults should apply for and have health coverage, and that coverage may include some of these services.</p> <p>-A different idea and model concept was posed, one that was less health and illness focused and more about jobs, job-training; think a UNM or CNM special dorm instead of a traditional 'shelter'.</p> <p>-Dependent upon the model and services provided, what is a good cost estimate for annual operating expenses? Jennifer Scacco pointed out that there is economy of scale related to the census/size of the project, and a 12-hour model will be less expensive than a 24-hour model. New building vs renovating an existing structure? Hub and spoke, or many on-site services? We may be able to get creative as a community and leverage spaces already available. Hilari Lipton will go back to CYFD to gather more information regarding blended funding opportunities.</p> <p>-It was pointed out that <b>this age group needs to be directly engaged</b> and asked what they would want. <u>Quinn Donnay to follow up with Brooke Tafoya and Diana Lopez</u> who offered an opportunity to talk with youth/young adults in their programs to gather insight.</p> <p>- Brooke Tafoya shared that New Day has purchased a building that will be renovated and serve as a coordinated entry point, helping youth get out of the system faster.</p> <p>-The referenced study by Barbara Poppe which identifies 18 to 25 year olds as falling through the cracks in Albuquerque <u>will be emailed to the committee by Quinn Donnay</u>.</p> <p>-Geography and language relative to this project are important – is 'shelter' the right word?</p> <p><b>-The consensus on annual operating cost ranges for this program was \$400,000 to 800,000 or \$500,000 to \$1 million</b></p>
All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Will discuss cost further at the next meeting.</li> <li>- Will discuss subsidized housing for students at next meeting.</li> </ul>

	- Need to prioritize and create timelines at next meeting.
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**Next Meeting: Nov 11th, 4:00-5:30 pm**