



Minutes
Youth Housing Continuum Committee
4:00 – 5:30 pm
April 7, 2021

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

Attendees:
<i>Co-chairs: Dr. Assata Zerai (UNM), Quinn Donnay (FCS), Jennifer Scacco (BernCo Dept. Beh. Health), Nasha Torrez (UNM Dean of Students)</i>
<i>Dr. Assata Zerai (UNM), Quinn Donnay (FCS), Bill Wagner (CentroSavila), Laura Norman (CABQ consultant), Gilbert Ramirez (FCS-Beh Health Dep. Dir), Hilary Stim (CYFD), Kerry Moriarty (CYFD), Steve Johnson (New Day), Kim Zamarin (PIRE-Evaluator), Diana Lopez (YDI), Brooke Tafoya (New Day), Nasha Torrez (UNM), Kashif Muhammad (BernCo), Josclylyn Huffmaster (BHI), Jennifer Weiss-Burke (Serenity Mesa), Jeff Beg (APS)</i>

Agenda Item/Person:	Discussion and Action
1.) Welcome and Intros; Quinn Donnay	Quinn Donnay welcomed committee members, and introductions were made.
2.) Youth Housing Needs Assessment	<p>Kim Zamarin of PIRE updated the committee on Youth Housing Needs Assessment. Kim shared screen with powerpoint presentation. Leadership team meetings launched in February. Received funding and contract in March. Initiated recruitment of Youth Advisory Council. Need to identify 15 to 25 year olds to participate. Incentive of \$25 per meeting provided; meetings anticipated to be about 1 hour each. Diana Lopez and Brooke Tafoya to follow up with prospective young committee members. Also needed are organizational contacts, in addition to the leadership contacts already have – need staff contacts of those who work directly with youth/young people. With multiple points of contact, the organizational survey will reach as many front line staff as possible. Also will do focus groups with front line provider staff.</p> <p><u>For youth contacts: by next Wednesday. For organization contacts: by next Friday</u></p> <p>Other action items include initiated review and write up of relevant literature, and finalized implementation design for Capture-Recapture method using three count periods. End of June is target work completion.</p> <p><u>Powerpoint to be sent to the committee.</u></p>

	<p>Brooke Tafoya shared that the Coalition to End Homelessness recently had discussion around adding a youth arm and what adding this youth council would entail. She suggested to them that the Youth Advisory Board created for this committee’s Youth Housing Needs Assessment potentially could stay in place and function as what the Coalition is seeking. It is a similar voice around youth homelessness.</p>
<p>3.)White Paper</p>	<p>Quinn Donnay shared that (white paper) ‘Young Adult Shelter Recommendation Document’ draft was submitted to colleague, and clarifications of the following were requested:</p> <p>a.)-Why is a small operation, 10 to 16 beds, better than bigger; and why is it good for young people?</p> <p>Workforce issues/staffing requirements need to match size. If the paradigm is to get kids off the street, big is the answer – but if you want to build relationships with young people so they can change their lives, you need smaller with environment that can cultivate change. Young people report they don’t feel comfortable in bigger shelters because don’t feel safe, and there is no quiet place to study.</p> <p>Jeff Beg added that there are young people who do sometimes need a roof over their head, making a bigger shelter a necessary part of the continuum.</p> <p>Steve Johnson said census of under age 18 kids coming into care at New Day is low; not sure what impact Covid has had. But capacity isn’t the issue, at least currently.</p> <p>If long-term outcomes for these young adults are for them to become more stably housed and connected to long-term support, that is a different and more impactful approach than strictly a safe place to sleep. Relationships are key.</p> <p>b.)Shelter design will focus uniquely on young adults’ developmental stage and needs.</p> <p>During this age, individuation is happening (becoming one’s own person). The more obstacles a young person has, the harder this is to accomplish.</p> <p>Involving intact parental figures where appropriate.</p> <p>When complex trauma and/or substance use is involved, there are changes or a pause in development. Brains are still in formation within the age range being planned for this shelter.</p> <p>Building relationships takes more time, more involved, more intention – which points back to the smaller size shelter being better fit.</p> <p>Young adults need help not only getting out of what they are in, but also getting in to something different.</p> <p>One trauma informed approach is ARC; an idea offered that may be helpful for the shelter structure is to build policies/procedures around each of its building blocks.</p> <p>Youth centered, client centered AND staff centered.</p> <p>c.) What are some of the things that connect the local service provider community, in terms of approaches (in thinking of a Hub Model)?</p>

<p>4.) Agency Updates</p>	<p>Lower the threshold on gatekeeping, so that access is good. Minimize barriers to get what they need. For example, there are architectural/flow issues such as are young people able to walk in, and are staff that greet them culturally and linguistically in tune.</p> <p>No wrong door approach would be good; waiting lists and tracking referrals has been a long-standing challenge. There will be a short window of time to make an impact on these young adults, and to demonstrate trauma informed response. Shouldn't matter which way or place someone reaches out for help; should be able to wraparound them and get them to care.</p> <p>Reduce the milieu dynamic and impact. Help build community in other places, outside and not in this shelter.</p> <p>Voice and choice; often this population is trying to break away from being told what to do. They need to be allowed to make bad decisions, honor those, and welcome them back. They must learn.</p> <p>Bill Wagner, Centro Savila – Hired a new clinical director; current director of operations is focusing specifically on director of finance work now; and a new director of operations on staff.</p> <p>Gilbert Ramirez, CABQ – As a response to trauma, particularly gun violence, the City is considering a trauma recovery center. Pursuing grant funding. Do have a violence intervention program already at City.</p> <p>Kashif Muhammad, BernCo - CARE Campus is under construction/renovation with several new services such as an observation and assessment unit, training center, outpatient clinic, living room model. All should be completed by December. Identified a location for a CYFD safe home for victims of sex trafficking; construction start target July 1. Community Engagement Team program has been given to YDI, and they are accepting referrals. BernCo collaborating with City to complete gaps analysis of behavioral health services, to be complete by early Fall. Started a Mobile Crisis Team</p> <p>Laura Norman, CABQ – The Emergency Rental Assistance Program went live Monday with the State of NM DFA. 600+ applications submitted already. Broad program that supports people with rental obligation who need help due to covid. renthelpnm.org. \$24 million</p> <p>Gilbert Ramirez, CABQ – City also has another rental assistance program through Health and Social Service Centers, keep making referrals.</p>
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Next Meeting: May 5, 2021, 4:00-5:30 pm