



Minutes
Youth Housing Continuum Committee
4:00 – 5:30 pm
September 1, 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), Jennifer Scacco (BernCo Dept. Beh. Health), Nasha Torrez (UNM Dean of Students)</i>
<i>Attending - Dr. Assata Zerai (UNM), Laura Norman (CABQ consultant), Catie Willging (PIRE-Evaluator), Jack Siamu (YDI), Kerry Moriarty (CYFD), Jennifer Scacco (BernCo), Brooke Tafoya (New Day), Gilbert Ramirez (CABQ), Hilary Stim (CYFD), Josclylyn Huffmaster (BHI Cmte), Kashif Muhammad (BernCo), Doug Chaplin (CABQ), Comm Adrian Barboa (BernCo), Susan Wells (New Day), Nasha Torrez (UNM)</i>

Agenda Item/Person:	Discussion and Action
1.) Welcome and Intros and Approval of Minutes; Jennifer Scacco	Jennifer Scacco welcomed committee members, introductions were made. Motion to approve August minutes was made by Gilbert Ramirez. Seconded by Assata Zerai. Motion to approve passed.
2.) Young Adult Shelter Next Steps, Assata Zerai	<p>Assata Zerai shared screen of presentation given in June of the Young Adult Shelter, as a refresher (for ages 18 to 25, and estimate 10 to 20 beds); then opened for questions and discussion. Comm Barboa asked about the maximum length of stay being 30 days; where will the young adults go after that? Committee discussed this challenge, recognizing that a Young Adult Shelter is just one part of a continuum of care - and that current continuum has gaps.</p> <p>Gilbert Ramirez shared that CABQ staff recently went to Phoenix and Tucson to learn about and from their shelters and crisis triage center; exit should begin at entry so do not 'warehouse' people. While 30-day length of stay is target, individual approach is important. Susan Wells added that young adult in shelters are often in a mode of chaos, many of whom will stay only a few days and come back later, and maybe stay longer then. Brooke Tafoya added that in her youth shelter experience, about 45 days is where things start to unravel; it is a long time to not know what is going to happen next.</p>

	<p>Catie Willging highlighted the benefits of Critical Time Intervention, a best practice, of moving people successfully from shelter to community; a robust case management strategy. Catie offered to facilitate a presentation by the model’s founders, if the committee wanted this in the future. She provided relevant links, below:</p> <p>https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/17/2/661</p> <p>https://heinonline.org/HOL/LandingPage?handle=hein.journals/mnlr104&div=9&id=&page=</p> <p>Comm Barboa said that it is important for this committee/service providers/experts to create program criteria prior to a program’s opening. Gilbert Ramirez mentioned that a trending success story in the literature is Tiny Home Villages for youth. Comm Barboa thinks there are funding opportunities within ARPA; she will be on lookout for other funding opportunities also. Doug Chaplin added that nonprofit partners generally have the ability to adjust and be more nimble, rather than governmental entities running programs. Jennifer Scacco said there have been preliminary discussions about having a young adult program at Cares Campus (County), substance abuse/mental health focused. The committee needs to start thinking about budgets and costs for projects. Comm Barboa will ask County staff what the next step is to move discussions forward about potential funding. Comm Barboa asked if there is an agency(ies) ready to take on such a shelter project – Jennifer Scacco said this is a good point for future discussion. Brooke Tafoya mentioned that if another entity ran shelter, and New Day continued to run drop in center, would build a larger community for young people. 24-hour shelters are expensive to run. Gilbert Ramirez said should keep the Young Adult Shelter component in mind as look at Gibson Health Hub plans, in case there is a place for this element. Kashif Muhammad mentioned that Covenant House-led collaboration is doing Drop In Center and Shelter combination, back East, and is working well</p>
<p>3.) Emergency Shelter for UNM Students; Nasha Torrez</p>	<p>Nasha Torrez provided a brief overview, reminding the committee that the first idea was to do Emergency Shelter for UNM and CNM students. After researching, she believes it would be better to start with UNM, then see how pilot goes before add CNM. Since initial plans, there are not as many campus housing vacancies as initially thought. Have secured some funding for part-time person for one year. Variables at UNM: need to know housing available for pilot project; mandatory vaccination requirement must be followed; will be one apartment unit of 5 bedrooms of a single gender, initially; no funding for the rent/operational costs. Could vouchers be used to fund this?. Committee discussed the UNM Shelter concept, pros and cons such as anti-donation clause, private funding, needs/means based testing vs. open to all UNM students,</p>
<p>4.) Update from Researchers; Catie Willging</p>	<p>Ran out of time; will put research update at top of agenda next meeting.</p>
<p>5.) Next steps, agency updates, closing</p>	<p>None</p>

Next Meeting: Oct 6, 2021, 4:00-5:30 pm