



**OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES
2012 ANNUAL REPORT**

**COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF HOUSING**



Youth from the Colorado Rural Collaborative Youth Leadership Team were the winners of the annual Family and Youth Services Bureau National Runaway and Homeless Youth Mural Contest At the 2012 Grantee Conference in Indianapolis.

Executive Summary

January 15, 2013

I am pleased to present the Annual Report for the Office of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS) located within the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing. In July 2011, House Bill 1230 passed, authorizing the transfer of the OHYS from the Department of Human Services (CDHS), Division of Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs (SHHP) to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing (DOH). This was a result of the consolidation of SHHP and DOH's Housing Choice Voucher programs.

These changes will allow DOH to put an emphasis on connecting housing to services for homeless youth. In an effort to address the problem of homeless youth the OHYS supports providing supportive housing with wraparound services to youth that engage them fully while assisting them to learn how to support themselves. We believe it is important to effectively use resources to plan and provide housing and services that meet the needs of the youth within our community.

In 2012, DOH created a Homeless Prevention Team (HPT) in partnership with the Governor's Office made up of key personnel from DOH. The HPT provides expertise on housing and homelessness that represent youth, families with children, senior citizens, veterans, persons with disabilities who are at risk or experiencing homelessness.

During the last year, DOH listened to the Homeless Youth Advisory Committee Advisory (ACHY) Members and conducted an extensive listening tour of youth and youth serving agencies. All of these important conversations have informed and will guide the work OHYS does in 2013. The ACHY Leadership Team provided the direction and focus of the Strategic Plan. The progress and recommendations for the plan were presented throughout the year at the ACHY quarterly meetings for consensus.

In order to promote accountability and coordination of services this report is aligned with the Colorado Revised Statutes 24-32-723. Accordingly, the OHYS consulted with the Prevention Division of Department of Public Health and Environment, Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program, Department of Education, and the Division of Child Welfare, Department of Human Services to put forward this report.

The following report highlights the work of the Colorado Division of Housing in providing leadership to collectively confront youth homelessness through the OHYS. I want to thank the staff members of the youth service providers, state departments and the staff from the many community based organizations for committing resources and expertise to ensure progress towards the goals outlined in this report. Through the continued shared efforts of our public and private sectors, Colorado youth will be afforded the opportunities necessary for a successful transition to adulthood.

Sincerely,



Pat Coyle, Director
Division of Housing

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

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OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

Overview

The Office of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS) continues to provide information, coordination, and support services for infrastructure around homeless youth resources in Colorado. It also collaborates with leaders from State and local government, private nonprofit organizations, federal departments, homeless and formerly homeless youth, and other key stakeholders in the communities to address local and state needs surrounding youth homelessness. The Office of Homeless Youth Services seeks to:

- Identify and remove obstacles to the provision of services;
- Improve the quality of services provided to homeless youth;
- Reduce needless expenditures caused by the provision of overlapping services;
- Identify housing and supportive services funding resources available to entities serving homeless youth.

The statutory requirements of the Office of Homeless Youth Services include:

- To provide information, coordination, and technical assistance as may be necessary to reduce needless expenditures associated with the provision of overlapping services and to improve the quality of services provided to homeless youth;
- To identify both procedural and substantive obstacles to the provision of services and to make recommendations to the entities specified above concerning procedural, regulatory, or statutory changes necessary to remove such obstacles;
- To obtain information from service providers concerning known services available for the homeless youth population in the state of Colorado and to post such information on a website on the internet;
- To develop, maintain, and make available a listing of all rights and organizations that may be relevant to the homeless youth population in the state of Colorado, including but not limited to a listing of legal, educational, and victims' rights and organizations related thereto;
- To obtain information concerning known funding sources available for the homeless youth population in the state of Colorado;
- To work with entities to identify issues concerning sharing of information in providing services to homeless youth and to facilitate resolution of such information-sharing issues; and
- To prepare and submit a written annual report for the Governor and the General Assembly concerning the performance of the OHYS.

The OHYS created the statewide Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth (ACHY) to assist with implementation of the Homeless Youth Services Act. The ACHY is made up of key stakeholder organizations and individuals representing federal, state, and local governments, non-profit service agencies, faith based agencies, foundations, and homeless or formerly homeless youth. Their passion and knowledge of the issue of homeless youth is invaluable to preventing the cycle of homelessness for Colorado youth.

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

Youth leave home for a variety of reasons. Some leave home without a parent's permission; others are forced out or due to abuse and neglect. Many leave home because they are not welcome in their homes due to sexual orientation, pregnancy, or other family conflict. According to the National Runaway Switchboard, there are over 1,500 homeless and runaway youth in Colorado. An unaccompanied homeless youth is someone who is acting day to day without the guidance of a parent or a guardian, living without shelter, fixed place, or regular night time residence where he or she receives adult love, care and support.

Homeless youth face barriers to education, housing and integrated health care. Because of lack of financial support, and with limited opportunities to earn income, these youth will often resort to criminal behavior or trading sex and labor acts to secure basic needs like food, clothing and shelter. Transitioning to adulthood is difficult, but homeless youth have even greater obstacles to overcome. Youth who have experienced homelessness are more likely to experience depression, suicidal thoughts, mental health disorders, chronic physical health conditions and substance abuse disorders. Because the transition from youth to adulthood spans across multiple years, multiple systems and multiple facets of life there is not one solution or program that will make a difference for youth who are disconnected.

More needs to be known about the costs associated with youth homelessness but we know that high rates of medical and behavioral health care, school drop outs and incarceration are costly. Most homeless youth have limited options for housing, income, and other social support systems. There are many opportunities to build on system improvements to youth transitioning into self-sufficiency. Identifying the most vulnerable youth experiencing homelessness and improved access to health care, housing, and supports are critical strategies in ending and preventing homelessness among youth. In light of the very real problems that homeless youth experience, there is not one designated funding stream and few state or federal funded programs for homeless youth.

It is difficult to say how many homeless youth there are in Colorado. Homeless youth are a 'hidden population,' because in some areas these youth are present but invisible in the community. Often homeless youth bounce from couch to couch, sleep in parks or cars, or open themselves up to exploitation in attempt to find a place to sleep, eat and be safe. Typically, homeless youth do not access traditional homeless services and shelters. Consequently, many regions across the Colorado are unaware of the actual number of youth experiencing homelessness in their community. One reason for the lack of services is that unaccompanied homeless youth are not counted accurately. Public schools are the primary venue to identify homeless children and youth in Colorado, but schools do not capture those students not enrolled in school or students who are enrolled but have not been identified. Due to being unaccompanied and homeless an untold number of youth are not receiving the benefits of education, health care, housing and other services for which they are eligible.

The good news is there is no shortage of work going on around homeless youth issues in Colorado. The opportunity for positive change lies within the coordinated efforts across systems. This past year there has been a major effort in coordinating and aligning partnerships and goals to improve outcomes for youth. The long term goal will be a system of coordinated and integrated services, opportunities and supports for all youth ages 9 to 25 in Colorado to ensure that youth are safe, connected, educated and are contributing.

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

Homeless youth is all encompassing including youth living in shelters, on the streets, and couch surfers; and those doubled up with other families. Although the term is inclusive, how homeless youth experience instability often varies.

CATEGORIES BASED ON RESIDENTIAL STATUS

- Shelter youth: Youth under the age of 25 residing in emergency (short-term) or long-term shelter for homeless adolescents. This includes young people who are with or without their family.
- Disconnected youth: Youth under the age of 25 living with their family or on their own in a car, abandoned building, campsite or place not suitable for nighttime residence.
- Hotels/motels: Families living in a hotel or motel due to economic hardship. The hotels or motels generally lack a kitchen and a public bathroom is shared by tenants.
- Couch surfers: Youth that sleep on a different friend's or extended family member's couch or floor each night.
- Doubled up: Families that move in with another family due to economic hardship. The crowded environment only affords a semi-stable situation; if there is a dispute or one family experiences a financial crisis, all residents potentially end up without a home.
- Street youth: Youth who seek refuge in high-risk, nontraditional locations, such as under bridges or in abandoned buildings. They are generally disconnected from services for homeless youth.

CATEGORIES BASED ON RELATIONSHIP TO FAMILY

- Accompanied youth: Individuals who are under 25 and live with a parent or guardian in an unstable environment.
- Unaccompanied youth: "Young people under the age of 18, who are living apart from their parents or legal guardians in unstable or inadequate living situations" (The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty). Throwaway youth: A young person who was asked to leave home by a parent or other adult in the household and prevented from returning home.
- Systems youth: Young people who have been involved in government systems, such as juvenile justice and foster care, due to abuse, neglect, incarceration, or family homelessness.

TYOLOGY OF HOMELESS YOUTH

- Those who live with an adult guardian in an unstable, but secure, environment (shelter, storage room).
- Those who live with an adult guardian in a semi-stable, but potentially dangerous environment (hotel, motel).
- Those who are unaccompanied, live in an emergency youth shelter, and are transitioning into foster care for the first time or have run away from a foster care placement.
- Those who are unaccompanied and live in long-term group homes as a foster care placement, but have a recent history of homelessness.
- Those who live, or have lived for a significant period of time, with or without a guardian on the street and may be in the care of a shelter or agency.
- Those who are doubled up with a parent or guardian in another person's home for an extended period of time.

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Overall, the number of students experiencing homelessness has increased significantly. *During the 2011-12 school year, 23,680 students experiencing homelessness were identified and served in Colorado public schools, grades PK-12.* Based on end of year data collection counts submitted by Colorado public school districts, since the 2003-04 school year, the number of public school students experiencing homelessness in Colorado has more than tripled.

The number of unaccompanied homeless youth (youth on their own, without a parent or guardian) **identified and served in Colorado public schools increased 70% in just a two year timeframe, from 1,325 in the 2009-10 school year to 2,244 in the 2011-12 school year.** More young people than ever have been left to fend for themselves during these uncertain economic times. This is troubling because these youth are perhaps the most vulnerable, as they are dealing with the crises of homelessness without a safe, supportive parent or guardian.

2011-2012	23,680		
2010-2011	21,487		
2009-2010	18,408		
2008-2009	15,834		
2007-08	12,302		
2006-07	11,954		
	12,689		
2005-06	(Hurricane Katrina/Rita School Year)		
2004-05	9,309		
2003-04	7,319		
Sheltered 2011-12	Doubled Up 2011-12	Unsheltered 2011-12	Hotels/Motels 2011-12
2,935	18,766	662	1,317

Grade 10 2011-12	Grade 11 2011-12	Grade 12 2012-2012	Total
1,324	1,291	1,819	4,434 youth in grades 10th-12th

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

The 2013-2017 Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan was created by members of the Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth (ACHY) and its Leadership Team through shared goals, understanding and commitment to achieving the desired outcomes needed to best serve homeless youth. The plan will be facilitated through the Office of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS) to stabilize unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness, and those at-risk.

OHYS will act as a convener, coordinator, and collaborator with government, youth, service providers, foundations, non-profit and community based organizations, and other important partners to strategically and effectively address homelessness among Colorado youth. The plan is a living document that allows progress and milestones to evolve through the effort of workgroups and manageable projects and deliverables.

The key themes/goals of the OHYS strategic plan include components of the previous OHYS action plan, are in alignment with the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness's Opening Doors, the federal strategic plan to prevent and end homelessness, and Pathways Home Colorado, the Colorado state plan to address homelessness.

The Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan

The Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan is designed to prevent and address youth homelessness in Colorado and to ensure that the primary objectives outlined in the Homeless Youth Services Act are accomplished. OHYS is responsible for overseeing the overall implementation of the plan.

Vision Statement

Public, private, faith-based agencies, youth and families working together to prevent and address youth homelessness in Colorado.

Mission Statement

To prevent and address youth homelessness by improving the quality, availability, and accessibility of services and supports that will provide solutions to homeless youth and those at risk of homelessness.

Value Statement

In accordance with our Mission and Vision, we believe that every homeless youth should have the opportunity to be safe, healthy, educated, connected and contributing. (Colorado 9 to 25)

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

State Theme	History of the Homeless Youth Initiative
2002	The Legislature passed the Homeless Youth Services Act (House Bill 02-1159) in response to the overwhelming and diverse needs of homeless youth in Colorado. The intent of this legislation was to create a focus on the cooperation among agencies providing services to homeless youth statewide to break down the barriers and provide a seamless collaboration, and effective services to fully serve the youth by facilitating interagency collaboration. This resulted in an ongoing collaborative effort between organizations all over the state to identify gaps, remove barriers, improve access and share information.
2004	Initially, the Office of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS) was housed under the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. On May 21st, 2004 the Governor Bill Owens signed House Bill 1107, authorizing the transfer of the Office of Homeless Youth Services from the Department of Public Health and Environment to the Department of Human Services (CDHS), Division of Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs (SHHP). A full time Homeless Youth Coordinator position was created and an Advisory Committee for Homeless Youth (ACHY) was convened in 2004 to assist with planning and implementation of the Statewide Homeless Youth Action Plan and assist OHYS in providing technical assistance to communities throughout Colorado.
2009	The State of Colorado and Bridging the Gap at Mile High United Way (MHUW) formed a partnership to manage the Family Unification Program (FUP). The partnership resulted in affordable housing for homeless youth with foster care involvement coordinated with a broad array of supportive services.
2011	House Bill 1230 passed, authorizing the transfer of the Office of Homeless Youth Services from the Department of Human Services (CDHS), Division of Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs (SHHP) to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing (DOH). This was a result of the consolidation of SHHP and DOH's Housing Choice Voucher programs in July 2011. These changes allow DOH to focus on connecting services to housing. Any solution to end homelessness must target the supply of safe, affordable housing as well as access to supports and services.

OHYS 2012 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Colorado Division of Housing (DOH) hired a Office Of Homeless Youth Services (OHYS) Manager.

The OHYS 2013-2017 Action Plan was drafted and adopted by the Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth (ACHY).

DOH created a Homeless Prevention Team (HPT) in partnership with the Governor's Office made up of key personnel from DOH. The HPT provides expertise on housing and homelessness and represent youth, families with children, senior citizens, Veterans, persons with disabilities, and those whom experience chronic homelessness.

Mile High United Way (MHUW) hired 3 Independent Life Coaches to provide wrap around support to youth with a FUP voucher. The eviction rate for these youth decreased by 100%.

152 youth FUP vouchers were leased and issued. This is the first time since 2000 that 100% of the vouchers were utilized.

The FUP vouchers were expanded for the first time from the Denver Metro area into rural communities in Alamosa, San Luis Valley, Garfield, Montrose, Moffat, Huerfano and Las Animas.

Nurse Family Partnership (NFP), DOH, MHUW and Denver Road Home offered vouchers and wraparound case management to 25 parenting youth that were homeless.

The OHYS provided support to the Continuum of Care on how to count youth in the 2013 Point In Time by providing a PIT Youth Tool Kit.

The Host Homes Rules Finalized.

HOPE House, youth shelter was opened in Grand Junction that served 10 homeless youth.

Colorado Department of Education (CDE) hired the state's first State Coordinator for the Education of Children and Youth in Foster Care. This position was created in partnership with the Colorado Department of Human Services, Morgridge Family Foundation, and Mile High United Way.

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS), Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) " Under 26" created Webinars that address the transition from adolescence to adulthood and how to access benefits and services moving from entitlement programs to eligibility programs: What are the Challenges in Colorado?

Developmentally and Culturally Appropriate Services (Implementation)Coordination: Transitioning from Child to Adult Services/Systems Focus: Young Adults, ages 18 – 25

Colorado is one of four states that the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is working with in regard to federal administrative flexibility, in particular generating recommendations about blending/ pooling of federal funds for programs/services for "multi-systems and disconnected youth" and what OMB calls "Performance Partnership Pilots."

OHYS hosted the November National Homeless and Runaway Youth Awareness Month a Kick off Event and Youth Resource at the Denver Art Society.

DBH was awarded a System of Care Implementation Grant from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Colorado is one of 16 sites nationally to be awarded the grant, and will receive up to one million dollars per year, for four years, to implement the system of care approach across the state.

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment Launched Colorado 9 to 25.

The Governor announced a plan to redesign the mental health system.

Disability Benefits Support Program (DBS) is implementing the SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access, and Recovery) model as a strategy to reduce youth homelessness and access SSA disability benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

Committis and Hope House were awarded grants to serve homeless youth at their shelters.

The OHYS hosted a Human Sex and Labor Trafficking Training for youth service providers and local Department of Human Service Staff.

The Rural Collaborative hosted a Homeless Youth Summit and won a national award for the mural project.

BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH STRATEGIC PLAN

1. Theme/Goal: Increase capacity, knowledge, leadership, and collaboration between state government, non-profits, and for-profits, and regional strategic planning committees.
<i>Strategies #1, 2, 3</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Provide and promote collaborative leadership across all sectors to increase awareness about homelessness youth & young adults.</i> 2. <i>Strengthen the capacity of organizations by increasing and sharing knowledge of homeless youth & young adult issues and successful interventions.</i> 3. <i>Remove barriers which contribute to youth homelessness including policies and practices.</i>
2. Theme/Goal: Increase the capabilities of crisis response & prevention systems to address homelessness.
<i>Strategy #4</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. <i>Transform homeless youth and young adult crisis response systems that prevent youth homelessness and rapidly provide stable housing and/or emergency shelter.</i>
3. Theme/Goal: Increase resources and capacity to streamline acquisition of mainstream entitlement programs.
<i>Strategy #5</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <i>Improve access to benefits, mainstream programs, and services to reduce homeless youth & young adult's financial vulnerability.</i>
4. Theme/Goal: Increase employment and educational opportunities.
<i>Strategy #6</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. <i>Increase sustainable employment and educational opportunities for youth & young adults experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.</i>
5. Theme/Goal: Increase the number of youth that have access to housing units throughout the continuum of housing.
<i>Strategies #7</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. <i>Increase affordable, supportive housing to youth & young adults experiencing or most at risk of homelessness.</i>
6. Theme/ Goal: Increase access to all types of healthcare including mental health, substance abuse and the medical home model.
<i>Strategies #8, 9</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. <i>Integrate primary and behavioral health care services with homeless assistance programs to reduce youth & young adults' vulnerability and the impacts of homelessness.</i> 9. <i>Advance health and housing stability for youth & young adults who have contact with child welfare and justice system.</i>

1. Theme/Goal: Increase capacity, knowledge, leadership, and collaboration between state government, non-profits, and for-profits, and regional strategic planning committees.

Strategy #1

1. *Provide and promote collaborative leadership across all sectors to increase awareness around youth homelessness.*

A. Key Priority - Systems Building and Collaboration Tactics

2013

1. OHYS will provide leadership on youth homelessness and housing throughout 2013 by actively participating on the Prevention Leadership Council and the Colorado 9to25 Leadership Team (Colorado's youth systems-building effort) to enhance cross-systems partnerships and strategies by attending regular scheduled meetings, soliciting information in advance of the meeting from ACHY and reporting back a summary of each meeting.
2. OHYS will provide leadership on youth homelessness and housing throughout 2013 as a member of the Division of Behavioral Health, Transformation Council and participate on the Under 26 and the Systems of Care Sub-Committees to coordinate across systems to stabilize youth transitioning from adolescents to adulthood by attending regular scheduled meetings, soliciting information in advance of the meeting from ACHY and reporting back a summary of each meeting.
3. OHYS will ensure that youth serving agencies have the opportunity to network at the 2013 by providing quarterly ACHY meetings and events in 2013.
4. OHYS will attend the 2013 quarterly "Bridging the Gap" partnership and ACHY meetings to coordinate the delivery of housing services for youth those have aged out of foster care.
5. OHYS, in conjunction with the members of ACHY, in April 2013 will host the first "Speed-Networking" for organizations serving youth where attendees will follow a speed dating format. Participation will be supportive of new a partnership that continues our collective impact on serving homeless youth and young adults.
6. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY Leadership Team, during 2013 will create a way for state agencies and local homeless planning bodies that serve youth in Colorado to be aware of each other's goals, ideas and resources by developing a training designed to provide an overview of homeless youth issues to ensure that youth collaborations and initiatives have complimentary goals and stay connected. This inclusion of homeless youth serving organizations will increase the visibility of homeless youth issues.

B. Key Priority – Awareness Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY workgroup, will host a Kick Off event in November 2013 at the Denver Art Society that includes a Youth Resource Fair by creating a public campaign in conjunction with the National Runaway and Homeless Youth Prevention Month with the goal of raising awareness of the issues and barriers faced by homeless youth.
2. OHYS, in conjunction with CDE, will request a Proclamation from the Governor in October 2013 that declares the month of November as Homeless and Runaway Awareness Month in Colorado.
3. OHYS will update the website quarterly in 2013 with information that is relevant to homeless youth in Colorado that will increase the awareness and education of homeless youth issues.

Strategy #2

2. Strengthen the capacity of youth serving organizations by increasing and sharing knowledge of homeless youth issues and successful interventions.

A. Key Priority – Data Tactics

2013

1. OHYS supports the implementation of Colorado Counts (vulnerability index) across Colorado by providing guidance on the youth survey questions, identifying and engaging all of the youth serving agencies to participate in the count in two new communities during 2013.
2. OHYS will provide technical assistance to youth agencies in January 2013 on the youth Point In Time count statewide by creating a tool kit that will provide information to help communities develop key partnerships, planning, and promising practices to support the efforts in Colorado to get unaccompanied homeless youth counted.
3. To improve cross agency data sharing on homeless youth, the OHYS will attend the Colorado Department of Education’s (CDE) homeless education liaison training in January 2013 to discuss and develop proposed solutions on how best to conduct a comprehensive statewide count of homeless youth in partnership with CDE, homeless youth service providers and Continuum of Care organizations.

2014-2017

4. OHYS will work with the HMIS Colorado committee to improve data quality and collection that will provide a clearer understanding of the prevalence, characteristics, and needs of unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness by working on strategies to integrate the data system for Runaway and Homeless Youth Act grantees (RHYMIS) with the Continuum of Care data system (HMIS).

B. Key Priority – Education and Outreach Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with the members of ACHY, will host two free trainings in 2013 for homeless youth service providers, CDE’s Homeless Liaisons, and local Departments of Human Services statewide to increase awareness of the risk posed to homeless youth with regard to human sex and labor trafficking and exploitation.

Key Priority - Youth Voice Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY workgroup, and Mile High United Way will create a mechanism to engage FUP youth to be involved and to provide opportunity for youth voice by hosting two meetings in 2013 for all interested youth to discuss the opportunities available to become more involved including attending and participating in the quarterly ACHY meetings.

2014-2017

2. OHYS will support the creation of county based youth advisory boards across systems by supporting the work of “No Time to Loose” that engages youth in a meaningful way, shifts their role as a recipient of services to that of a leader and a decision maker to influence program development, delivery, evaluation, policies and funding.

C. Key Priority – Capacity Building Tactics

2013

1. OHYS will commit 5% of the Coordinator’s time to the Rural Collaborative for Runaway and Homeless Youth (RCRHY) by attending monthly meetings to identify sustainable strategies that serve homeless and runaway youth.

E. Key Priority – Demonstrate Cost Savings through Successful Interventions

2014-2017

2. OHYS will increase success for homeless youth by leveraging outcomes by partnering with the youth serving agencies and Interagency Prevention System Program at CDPHE to explore how to implement Social Impact Bonds that would finance a bundled suite of interventions for disadvantaged youth.

Strategy #3

- 3. Address policies and practices that contribute to youth homelessness.***

A. Key Priority – Remove Barriers that Contribute to Youth Homelessness Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with the Rural Collaborative, will partner with CDPHE during 2013 on the White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) “Performance Partnership Pilot” regarding federal administrative flexibility, in particular generating recommendations through 4 focus groups around the state about blending/ pooling of federal funds for programs/services for “multi-systems and disconnected youth”.
2. OHYS in 2013 supports and will track the outcome of the recommendation of Colorado’s Higher Education Taskforce for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth to allow unaccompanied homeless and foster youth under the age of 22 who have resided in Colorado for a one-year period to receive in-state tuition classification. This recommendation complements existing provisions for youth who are currently in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

2. Theme/Goal: Increase the capabilities of crisis response & prevention systems to address youth homelessness.

Strategy #4

- 4. Transform homeless youth crisis response systems that prevent youth homelessness, and rapidly provide emergency shelter and stable housing.***

A. Key Priority – Emergency Shelters and Prevention Programs’ Tactics

2013

1. OHYS in partnership with the Rural Collaborative will explore a minimum of two new funding opportunities in 2013 that will increase the utilization of the host home model to increase emergency shelter and crisis services to improve access to shelter care, crisis counseling and family unification services in rural communities.

2014-2017

2. OHYS will partner with 211 to have a youth specialist available to take calls from youth to improve the crisis response system.
3. OHYS will support and track current youth serving agencies that provide emergency homelessness programs that offer crisis counseling, family unification services, and services after reunification (aftercare services).

B. Key Priority – Other Prevention Tactics

2014-2017

1. OHYS, with youth service providers, prioritize family reunification of minors and support as the initial intervention where ever possible to reduce the number of Colorado youth becoming homeless.
2. OHYS will explore the utilization of transitional living programs and provide youth with longer-term housing options when reunification with family is not possible.

C. Key Priority – Homeless Rights Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY workgroup, will draft a Homeless Youth Bill of Rights by December 2013 that discourage governments, police, healthcare workers, landlords or employers from treating homeless youth unfairly because of their housing status.

D. Key Priority- Link Housing and Services Tactics

2014-2017

1. OHYS will support statewide outreach efforts through current service providers to ensure that vulnerable young people are linked to housing and supportive services that prevent youth from becoming homeless or to intervene when they are already homeless.
2. In an effort to address the problem of homeless youth, OHYS will provide leadership and guidance to DOH to support applications for supportive transitional housing with wraparound services that will increase the number of homeless youth with positive housing outcomes.
3. OHYS will develop and implement the housing continuum and service plan that rapidly moves youth from homelessness into appropriate housing with services.

3. Theme/Goal: Increase the resources and capacity to streamline acquisition of mainstream entitlement programs.

Strategy #5

5. Improve access to benefits, mainstream programs, and services to reduce homeless youth's financial vulnerability and increase access to health care.

A. Key Priority – Access to Benefits, Mainstream Programs and Services Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY Leadership Team, will partner with the Colorado Disability Benefits Support Program (DBS) and the DBH group Under 26 to implement the SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access, and Recovery) model at two youth serving agencies by December 2013 as a strategy to reduce youth homelessness and access SSA disability benefits such as Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI).

2014-2017

2. OHYS, in conjunction with members of ACHY will provide guidance to the Colorado Disability Benefits Support Program (DBS) and the DBH group Under 26 to determine the best way to implement a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to interface and coordinate with mainstream benefits, programs and supportive services to increase access to medical, behavioral health, educational, vocational, and life skills training.

4. Theme/Goal: Increase employment and educational opportunities.

Strategy #6

6. Increase sustainable employment and educational opportunities for youth experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness.

A. Key Priority – Education Tactics

2013

1. OHYS will track the Colorado Department of Higher Education’s FASFA completion project that focuses on increasing the FAFSA completion rate for homeless youth to equal that of their housed peers by the end of the 2013.
2. OHYS will track the Colorado Department of Higher Education’s increase in post-secondary enrollment of homeless youth to match the statewide average by the end of 2013.
3. OHYS will track usage of Family Tree’s Higher Education Fund for youth experiencing homelessness engaged in postsecondary education in Colorado, from zero in 2012 to a projected 50 youth in 2013.
4. OHYS will convene a series of meetings in 2013 with MHUW and the Colorado Department of Education’s State Coordinator for Foster Care, Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Child Welfare (DCW) to explore ways to increase the effectiveness and access of the Education and Training Vouchers (ETV) for youth that have aged out of foster care by communicating the current barriers and recommendation that would enhance the changes that youth have educational success.

2014-2017

5. OHYS will follow and support the progress of CDE and CDPHE’s collaboration to provide technical assistance, trainings and program collaborations with eight TRIO sites in Colorado. The Federal TRIO is outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Colorado Department of Education’s Higher Education Liaison model geared toward meeting the unique needs of homeless youth transitioning into higher education will be replicated in 6 other states by 2014.

B. Key Priority – Employment Tactics

2013

1. OHYS will attend the Colorado Department of Labor’s (DOL) Think Big Conference in 2013 (spring) with the long-term goal of creating a referral process for homeless youth to utilize the workforce system to seek assistance in obtaining GED or equivalent and or employment.

2014-2017

2. OHYS, in conjunction with the members of ACHY, wants to ensure that youth have work relevant soft skills, work ready skills, and on the job training skills by developing a resource manual of businesses that will work with and hire youth.
3. OHYS will network with local workforce youth councils state-wide via conference call, local meetings, webinars, attendance at events and job fairs that would include cross training the workforce system about the homeless youth system.
4. OHYS, in partnership with DOL, will off trainings for the state and local youth homeless providers around Federal and State labor laws, and youth services and related resources, administered by the workforce system in Colorado.
5. OHYS track the progress of the Workforce Investment Act, which counts youth that qualify for more intensive services as a result of living below poverty level, foster care, disability, corrections, drop out etc., in an effort to increase sustainable employment opportunities for youth.

C. Key Priority – Vital Documents Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY workgroup, will continue to eliminate barriers for youth seeking education, employment and housing, with the “vital documents tool kit” project to build off of SB10-006. A lunch -n- learn will be offered in 2013 focused on the transition process to ensure that youth have their vital documents by utilizing a centrally stored, confidential, state supported Website accessible by youth at College In Colorado www.collegeincolorado.org.

5. Theme/Goal: Increase the number of youth that have access to housing units throughout the continuum of housing.

Strategy #7

7. Increase affordable housing to youth experiencing or most at risk of homelessness.

A. Key Priority – Affordable Housing Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY Leadership Team, will host a Housing Round Table in July 2013 for key parties around the state that will be an ongoing forum bringing together youth service providers, developers, owners, community leaders, funders, advocates, and formerly homeless youth to have a discussion of supportive housing needs and models, including resources for capital needs, operating expenses and services needed to establish housing goals for homeless youth in 2014-2107 as a result of this meeting.
2. OHYS in partnership with the Rural Collaborative will develop a community readiness and needs assessment in 2013 for housing options and strategy for financing and supportive services.

2014-2017

3. OHYS will track the progress of the HOME, Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program in the Mesa, Jefferson and Boulder County areas, for the St. Vrain & Boulder, Jefferson County and Mesa county school districts.
4. OHYS will provide technical assistance and support applications for supportive affordable housing for homeless youth through the Colorado Division of Housing.

Strategy #8

8. Increase Emergency Housing by using the host home model.

A. Key Priority- Emergency Housing

2013

1. OHYS in partnership with the Rural Collaborative will support the utilization of the host home model by conducting training at the Rural Summit in July 2013 on host homes best practices that will increase the knowledge of emergency shelter and crisis services to improve access to shelter care in rural areas of Colorado.

2014-2017

1. OHYS will provide technical assistance to new shelters on licensing and everyday protocols.
2. OHYS will support and provide technical assistance to agencies applying for funds from the Colorado Division of Housing to create emergency housing.

Strategy #9

9. Increase supportive housing for most vulnerable youth.

A. Key Priority – Supportive Housing Tactics

2013

1. OHYS will support Colorado Springs' COC inclusion of youth housing as a priority in their Continuum of Care grant that will create 9 units of youth housing in 2013 and encourage other Colorado COCs to include youth.

2. OHYS in partnership with MHUW, Nurse Family Partnership and Denver Road Home will offer vouchers and wraparound case management to 25 homeless parenting youth in 2013.

2014-2017

3. OHYS will explore supportive housing options for homeless youth.

Strategy #10

10. Utilization of the Family Unification Program (FUP) Vouchers.

A. Key Priority – Utilization of FUP Vouchers as a tool for Case Managers Tactics

2013

1. OHYS will increase housing for youth in the rural communities in 2013 by expanding the FUP program in Alamosa, Garfield, Montrose, Moffat, Huerfano, Las Animas and San Luis Valley by offering 10 FUP vouchers.
2. OHYS in partnership with MHUW, will continue to build on the success to increase access to housing units for homeless youth by 50% from 80 to 150 vouchers leased and issued in Adams, Arapahoe, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson Counties starting October 2012 to December 2013.
3. OHYS will work preserve 10 supportive housing units for homeless youth at Rocky Mountain Youth Housing by DOH transferring the ownership and Housing Assistance Payment contract to Urban Peak by January 2013.
4. OHYS will work with CDHS-DCW to gain TRAILS access to determine eligibility of the FUP youth by executing an agreement with the Colorado Division of Housing by the April 2013.
5. OHYS will convene a facilitated meeting with CDHS-DCW, Mile High United Way and representatives from Denver Metro Chafee Counties in February 2013 to have a conversation that will evaluate, inform and provide direction for the FUP MOU that will outline roles and responsibilities, including the referral process and case management requirements.

2014-2017

6. OHYS will explore funding streams for case management that is linked to housing.

6. Theme/Goal: Increase access to all types of healthcare including behavioral health and the medical home model.

Strategy #11

11. Integrate primary and behavioral health care services with homeless assistance programs to reduce youth vulnerability and the impacts of homelessness.

A. Key Priority – Comprehensive Care Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY Leadership Team, will support trauma informed practices by offering two trainings in 2013 for professionals and direct service providers that come into contact with homeless youth to increase understanding that youth seeking behavioral health and public services have histories of adverse childhood experiences that lead to behavioral health disorders.

2014-2017

2. OHYS, in conjunction members of ACHY, will provide guidance to the Under 26 workgroup that will explore models to integrate behavioral health and homeless youth services by providing an appropriate delivery of services and approaches, including location and relationship with the youth to bridge the gap for emerging adults from entitlement programs to eligibility programs to ensure that youth transitioning to adulthood have access to health care.

Strategy #12

12. Advance health and housing stability for youth who have contact with child welfare and justice system.

A. Key Priority – Link Housing with Services Tactics

2013

1. OHYS, in conjunction with ACHY Leadership Team, will build off the existing work being done around the state by partnering with DCW and representatives from youth serving organizations in 2013 to identify collaborative strategies on appropriate discharge planning for youth exiting systems of care to ensure that youth are not emancipated to homelessness by securing all available services and housing available.
2. OHYS will support the merge of homeless youth, prevention and Trauma Informed System of Care work into the existing Collaborative Management Programs House Bill (1451) across the 35 counties by December of 2013 that will provide wraparound services to youth and families to prevent homelessness and encourage attainment of positive outcomes.

2014-2017

3. OHYS will coordinate with DCW as it strengthens the child welfare system on permanency for older youth/preventing homelessness.
4. OHYS will support and participate in the implementation of the Mandatory Medicaid coverage expansion provision that goes into effect for former foster care youth who have aged out of the foster care system but are in care as of their eighteenth birthday.
5. OHYS will support the Title IV-E waiver that allows Colorado to use the funds for more intervention, prevention and innovation.
6. OHYS will assist DCW efforts in meeting their reporting requirements, define the scope of homelessness among former foster youth, and develop appropriate interventions/solutions.

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

Colorado has many stakeholders, collaborations and initiatives that are in alignment with their shared work to maximize the collective impact for youth from cradle to career. Colorado has a track record of working across multiple systems to serve youth in a coordinated way. There is strong leadership in Colorado. The Office of Homeless Youth Services believes that it is important to be aware of each other's goals, ideas and resources, to share strengths as well as identify gaps and overlap services. The goal is to ensure that youth collaborations and initiatives are working on similar issues and stay connected, have complimentary goals that will have a collective impact and improve outcomes for youth. This crosswalk demonstrates youth collaborations and initiatives in Colorado.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Office of Homeless Youth Services</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Runaway and Homeless Youth Act</i></p>	<p>The Legislature passed the Homeless Youth Services Act (House Bill 02-1159) in response to the overwhelming and diverse needs of homeless youth in Colorado. The intent of this legislation was to create a focus on the cooperation among agencies providing services to homeless youth statewide to break down the barriers and provide a seamless collaboration, and effective services to fully serve the youth by facilitating interagency collaboration. This resulted in an ongoing collaborative effort between organizations all over the state to identify gaps, remove barriers, improve access and share information.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Colorado Division of Housing</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>FUP for Youth</i></p>	<p>The Family Unification Program (FUP) administered by DOH through a contract with MHUW is a program under which Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) are provided to: Youth at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old who left foster care at age 16 or older and who lack adequate housing. FUP vouchers used by youth are limited, by statute to 18 months of housing assistance.</p>

<p><i>Prevention Leadership Council</i></p>	<p><i>The “Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment Services for Children and Youth” Act.</i></p>	<p>In May 2000, the Colorado General Assembly, with strong support from the Governor’s Office, passed HB00-1342. The overall purpose of this legislation is to create a more unified, effective and efficient approach to the delivery of state and federally funded prevention, intervention, and treatment services for children, youth and families in Colorado. In order to promote greater accountability and better coordination of services cross state agencies.</p>
<p><i>Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment</i></p>	<p><i>Colorado 9 to 25</i></p>	<p>CO9to25 is building a coordinated, comprehensive youth system to improve the health and well being of youth so that all young people can reach their full potential with an emphasis on positive youth development to ensure all youth are safe, healthy, educated, connected and contributing.</p>

*Colorado Division of
Behavior Health*

Transformation Council

The Behavioral Health Transformation Council was established by the Colorado legislation S.B. 10-153 to reduce the economic and social costs of untreated behavioral health disorders through systemic transformation of the behavioral health system that is fragmented and siloed into one that is streamlined, efficient and effective for Colorado citizens.

Under 26

Young people with mental health challenges, defined here as individuals between the ages of 14 to 25, have unique needs and strengths that often transcend services provided in traditional youth and adult service systems. Service approaches that are proving to be effective offer an array of services and supports in addition to behavioral health services.

Systems of Care

In 2012, The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) was awarded a System of Care Implementation Grant from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). Colorado is one of 16 sites nationally to be awarded the grant, and will receive up to one million dollars per year, for four years, to implement the trauma informed system of care approach across the state.

<p><i>Colorado Department of Human Services, Office of Children, Youth and Families Division of Welfare Division of Child Welfare</i></p>	<p>Permanency By Design County Youth Boards</p>	<p>Colorado continues to make great efforts for older youth in foster care. There is a new focus to continue to make progress so that every child in foster care has permanency, stability and well being. Colorado is the first jurisdiction to work with the Case Family Programs on the “No Time to Lose” practice framework. They piloted their new permanency framework for older youth in Colorado; this framework identifies core strategies to assure that all youth touched by the foster care system will have permanent families and permanent connections as they leave foster care. Youth involvement and leadership serves dual purposes of developing and supporting the youth while simultaneously bringing about improvements for systems and communities.</p>
<p><i>Colorado Department of Labor and Employment</i></p>	<p>Workforce Investment Act</p>	<p>Provides preparation and employment to meet the needs of businesses, job seekers, and people wanting to further their careers. There is Youth Services and Job Corps for youth.</p>
<p><i>Colorado Department of Youth Corrections</i></p>	<p>DYC</p>	<p>The Division of Youth Corrections (DYC) provides a continuum of residential and non-residential services that encompass juvenile detention, commitment and parole. DYC is the agency statutorily mandated to provide for the care and supervision of youth committed by the District Court to the custody of the Colorado Department of Human Services. The Division operates ten secure facilities that serve youth between the ages of 10 and 21, who are pre-adjudicated, sentenced, or committed. For pre-adjudicated youth, the Division is also responsible for the management and oversight of Senate Bill 91-94; a State-funded, locally administered program that provides services to youth at risk of further progressing into the juvenile justice system. In addition to residential programming, the Division administers juvenile parole services throughout the State.</p>

*Rural Collaborative on
Homeless Youth*

RCHY
Grant ending 9/30/2103

The Federal Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) awarded the Colorado Department of Human Services the Supportive Services for Runaway and Homeless Youth (SSRHY) demonstration grant to the partnership of the Divisions of Child Welfare and the Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs with the statewide Advisory Committee for Homeless Youth (ACHY), to develop best practices for rural youth services. All five sites have formed a collaborative called the "Rural Collaborative for Homeless Youth" The five rural regional sites across Western and Southern Colorado (Huerfano, San Luis Valley, Alamosa, Montrose, Garfield, and Moffat counties) continue to develop services and housing for homeless and runaway youth.

<p><i>Collaborative Management</i></p>	<p>HB 1451</p>	<p>The Collaborative Management Program (CMP) is the voluntary development of multi-agency services provided to children and families by county departments of human / social services and other mandatory agencies including local judicial districts, including probation; the local health department, the local school district(s), each community mental health center and each Mental Health Assessment and Service Agency (BHO). CMP use the input, expertise and active participation of parent or family advocacy organization to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce duplication and eliminate fragmentation of services provided • increase the quality, appropriateness and effectiveness of services provided • encourage cost-sharing among service providers • Lead to better outcomes and cost reduction for services provided to children and families in the child welfare system.
<p><i>Mile High United Way</i></p>	<p><i>Bridging the Gap and the FUP Youth Vouchers</i></p>	<p>Mile High United Way's Bridging the Gap Program was developed in 2005 to address the challenges faced by foster youth as they transition to adulthood. Bridging the Gap has created a model to provide youth with positive youth development, youth voice, permanency, advocacy, and opportunities that include: medical home, housing, community connections, employment, coaching, education, youth engagement and asset building.</p>

<p><i>Colorado Disability Benefits Support Program (DBS)</i></p>	<p>SOAR</p>	<p>Colorado Disability Benefits Support Program (DBS) is a new nonprofit organization whose staff is SOAR trained and currently serves the Denver Metro area. SAMHSA has promoted SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access and Recovery) for assisting individuals with behavioral health challenges who are homeless or at risk of being homeless. This strategy is a model for assisting individuals accessing SSI and or SSDI thereby providing individuals with financial support for health insurance.</p>
<p><i>Urban Peak</i></p>	<p>UP</p>	<p>Urban Peak works with homeless and runaway youth between the ages of 14 and 24 years of age in Denver and between the ages of 15 to 21 in Colorado Springs to provide a safe and caring place so that youth can begin to work on getting off the streets. UP has shelters, drop in centers, street outreach, case management, education and employment services.</p>

Family Tree/Gemini

Family Tree

Family Tree's mission is to help people overcome child abuse, domestic violence and homelessness to become safe, strong and self-reliant.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Family Tree serves children and adolescents who have been abused or neglected and are not safe in their homes; youth who are homeless on the streets or have run away from home. We serve youth who are at risk of being removed from their homes due to behavioral problems.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

Family Tree serves adult and child victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking; families who have experienced the break-up of their homes through divorce or separation; and children who have witnessed family violence and/or have experienced abuse in their homes.

HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

Family Tree serves adult individuals, youth and families who are homeless or are at risk of homelessness. We assist persons who have very low to no incomes and are working toward goals to increase their self-sufficiency.

TREASURE TRUNK THRIFT STORE

Provides clean, gently-used adult and children's clothing, household goods and small appliances for sale to the public and free of charge to Family Tree clients.

<p>Comitis, pronounced ko-MY-tis, means friendship or companionship. It is used to build the word community. Comitis is a community of professionals and caring volunteers. Comitis offers a comprehensive program of services, from emergency housing, crisis intervention, short term treatment, aftercare, outreach, and education and prevention services to Aurora persons ranging from infants to senior citizens. Comitis offers resources in the community for the homeless, the near-homeless and working poor.</p>	<p>Ko-MY-tis</p>	<p><i>Comitis</i></p>
<p>Volunteers of America provide high quality, innovative services for disadvantaged and disconnected children and youth. Through caring staff and dedicated volunteers VOA ensures the social, emotional and academic development of young children, and empowers older youth to be physically, emotionally and mentally healthy and ready to enter adulthood. Our programs provide a continuum of care and support for young people through prevention, early intervention, crisis intervention, and long-term services.</p>	<p>VOA</p>	<p><i>Volunteers of America</i></p>
<p>Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountain is a faith based, non-profit human service agency helping children and families during their most challenging times. The LFS Foster Care Program provides skilled and caring substitute families for children who cannot live with their birth families for a number of different reasons. Most children in foster care have been abused or neglected. Unaccompanied refugee minors are children under the age of 18 who have been resettled in the United States without a parent or relative to care for them. URM children are placed in LFS licensed foster homes. These foster parents have received special training on the adjustment needs of refugee youth.</p>	<p>LFS</p>	<p><i>Lutheran Family Services</i></p>

<p>The name Prax(us) comes from the word "praxis," which is defined in Paulo Freire's book <i>Pedagogy of the Oppressed</i> as "reflection and action upon the world in order to transform it." We believe that in order to transform the world, we need both broad reflection and action. Praxus does community outreach, organizing, training and policy work to address domestic human trafficking.</p>	<p>OHYS is dedicated to building awareness of trauma-informed care and promoting the implementation of trauma-informed practices in programs and services. Trauma can result from experiences of violence. Trauma includes physical, sexual and institutional abuse, neglect, intergenerational trauma, and disasters that induce powerlessness, fear, recurrent hopelessness, and a constant state of alert. Trauma-informed care is an approach engaging people with histories of trauma that recognizes the presence of trauma symptoms and acknowledges the role that trauma has played in their lives. OHYS seeks to change the paradigm from one that asks, "What's wrong with you?" to one that asks, "What has happened to you?"</p>	<p>High Fidelity</p>
<p>PRAXIS</p>	<p><i>Trauma Informed Care</i></p>	<p><i>High Fidelity Wrap Around</i></p>

High Fidelity Wraparound is a process led by a facilitator where multiple systems come together with the child, youth, and family to create a highly individualized plan to address complex emotional needs. The goals of High Fidelity Wraparound are to meet the needs prioritized by youth and family, improve their ability and confidence to manage their own services and supports, develop or strengthen the natural supports, and integrate the work of all children serving systems and natural supports into one streamlined plan. High Fidelity Wraparound is an evidence-based practice.

At the heart of the team-based, collaborative model is a youth guided, family driven planning process designed to empower youth with complex mental health needs and their families. High Fidelity Wraparound is a planning and implementation process that results in a unique set of community services and natural supports that are individualized to meet the child and family's needs and achieve positive outcomes

Housing Continuum for Youth who are in Transition

Housing Option	Definition	Support Services	Type
Shelters	Short-term emergency housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food, clothing, medical care, or other services that youth need (offered either directly or by referral) • Individual, group, and family counseling • Outreach targeting both youth who may need assistance and other public or private agencies that work with youth and families • Case Management • Aftercare services for youth after they leave the shelter 	<p>BASIC CENTER: agency based can provide up to 21 days of shelter for up to 20 youth.</p> <p>HOST HOME:</p> <p>HOTEL VOUCHER</p> <p>CRISIS CENTERS</p>
Subsidized Housing	Provide youth with assistance/resources for rent, food, personal supplies/support while youth meets and follows established guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safe, stable living accommodations • Basic life-skill building, • Interpersonal skill building • Educational opportunities • Assistance in job preparation and attainment, • Case Management • Links to community resources and services 	<p>FAMILY UNIFICATION PROGRAM – YOUTH: housing services for youth who have left the foster care system and lack adequate housing</p> <p>SHELTER PLUS CARE: provides housing and supportive services on a long-term basis for homeless persons with disabilities</p> <p>TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM: agency based that provide longer term residential services to youth that are designed to help youth make successful transition to self-sufficient living.</p> <p>STIPEND BASED: agency provide stipend for rent and independent living needs.</p> <p>SUPERVISED APARTMENTS: agency leased/owned housing that is supervised by either on sight or regular staff involvement</p> <p>Project Based Voucher Project</p> <p>COMMUNITY PLACEMENT: agency based living for youth with identified treatment (i.e. SO, Mental Health, Substance Abuse)</p> <p>INDEPENDANT LIVING GROUP HOME: agency based homes for youth with specialized needs or major barriers to living independent (i.e. dd, maternity, etc)</p>
Community Living	Individual living arrangements made with private landlord	Safe, stable living accommodations	SCATTERED SITE APARTMENTS:

OHYS Calendar of Meetings and Events

1 st Quarter ACHY Events		2013 Time Line	Time and Location
ACHY & PMG & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	January 8 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
Strategic Plan	ACHY Quarterly Meeting	January 23 rd	
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	February 5 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & PMG & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	February 12 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
Human Sex Trafficking Training		February 2013 TBD	TBD
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	February 26 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	March 12 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
Trauma Informed Practices Training		March 2013 TBD	TBD
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	March 26 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW

2 nd Quarter ACHY Events		2013 Time Line	Time and Location
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	April 9 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
"Speed-Networking"	ACHY Quarterly Meeting	April 24 th	
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	April 30 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	May 14 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	May 28 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	June 11 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	June 25 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW

3 rd Quarter ACHY Events		2013 Time Line	Time and Location
ACHY & PMG & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	July 9 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
Housing and Service Provider Roundtable	ACHY Quarterly Meeting	July 24 th 2013	TBD
Rural Homeless Youth Collaborative Summit		July 2013 - TBD	TBD
Trauma Informed Care Training		July 2013	TBD
Vital Documents Lunch n Learn		July 2013	TBD
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	July 30 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	August 13 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
Human Sex Trafficking Training		August 2013 - TBA	
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	August 28 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	September 10 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	September 24 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW

4 th Quarter ACHY Events		2013 Time Line	Time and Location
ACHY & PMG & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	October 8 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
ACHY Event	ACHY Quarterly Meeting	October 23 rd – TBD	
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	October 29 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
Homeless and Runaway Awareness Month Kick Off		November 1 st	Denver Art Society
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	November 12 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	November 26 th	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW
ACHY & RC Meeting	Leadership Team	December 10 th	Noon to 4:00 @ MHUW
ACHY Work Groups	ACHY Members	December 31 st	1:30-3:30 @ MHUW

Monthly ACHY Work Groups Projects

November's National Homeless and Runaway Awareness.
Youth Voice and Engagement
Homeless Youth Bill of Rights that prohibits governments, police, healthcare workers, landlords or employers from treating homeless youth unfairly because of their housing status.
"Vital documents tool kit," a resource to be shared with agencies that have contact with homeless youth.

Monthly ACHY Leadership Team Projects

Homeless Youth Training "Road Trip"
"Speed-Networking"
Housing and Service Provider Roundtable
Rural Homeless Youth Collaborative Summit
Discharge Planning

Quarterly ACHY Events

Strategic Plan
"Speed-Networking"
Housing and Service Provider Roundtable
Rural Homeless Youth Collaborative Summit
October ACHY Event to be determined
National Homeless and Awareness Month Kick Off

ACHY Training

Trauma Informed Practices Training
Human Sex Trafficking Training
High Fidelity Wrap Around Training
Vital Documents Tool Kit

OHYS Sub-Committees

DBH System of Care Sub-Committee
CDPHE Prevention Leadership Council
DBH Under 26 Sub-Committee
CDPHE Colorado 9 to 25

OHYS WORK PLAN

Project Title: _____

Objective: Objectives must be “Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-phased (SMART).”

Activity: _____

Inputs (resources) And (partners)	Activities	Outputs (projected products or measures immediately resulting from project activities)	Effects (Short & Intermediate Term Outcomes)	Impact (Projected Long term Outcome)	Evaluation
The resources you have or need to do the project you propose.	The activities you expect to conduct as part of the scope of your project.	Examples: # trainings, meetings, # individual participants or # of organizations participating	Examples: Changes expected in individual participants, policy or practice changes expected, with expected timelines – after 6 months, 1 year, etc.	Your ultimate goals – the community or system changes you hope will result from the project, even if you do not expect to measure them within the timeline of the funded project. E.g., a significant decreases in homelessness among youth your Colorado.	What information will you collect and/or use to determine if you met your objectives and to identify factors that helped or hindered meeting your objectives?

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

Glossary of Terms

- ACHY-Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth. Advises the Office of Homeless Youth Services and assists with implementation of the Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan
- Affordable Housing: Housing where the occupant is paying no more than 30 percent (of gross income for gross housing costs, including utility costs.
- AWDC: Adults without Dependent Children
- Capacity Building: Educational and organizational support assistance to promote the ability of community housing development organizations and nonprofit organizations to maintain, rehabilitate and construct housing for low and very low-income person and families
- CDE: Colorado Department of Education
- CDHCPF: Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
- CDHE: Colorado Department of Higher Education
- CDHS: Colorado Department of Human Services
- CDLE: Colorado Department of Labor and Employment
- CDOC: Colorado Department of Corrections
- CDOLA: Colorado Department of Local Affairs
- CDPHE: Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- CICHH: Colorado Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness
- CO: Colorado, abbreviation
- DOH: Division of Housing
- DYC-A division within the Colorado Department of Human Services responsible for management and oversight of State-operated and privately contracted residential facilities, and for community alternative programs that serve and treat youth aged 10-21 years who have demonstrated delinquent behavior
- (FUP) Family Unification Program for youth that are at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old who left foster care at age 16 or older and who lack adequate housing.
- FASFA – The free application for Federal Aid
- HA: Local Public Housing Authority
- HCV –Housing Choice Voucher Program - Section 8 Program: Statewide Housing Assistance Payments Program.
- HIV-Human Immunodeficiency Virus.
- HMIS: Homeless Management Information Systems
- HPAF: Homeless Prevention Activities Fund
- HPT: Refers to the Division of Housing's *Homeless Prevention Team*, which includes the Division, Governor's Office of Community Partnerships, and State Department Liaisons.
- HS: Local Department of Human Services
- Host Homes: Youth are sheltered in licensed host homes, living with volunteer families within the community that are also licensed foster care homes
- HUD U.S. Housing and Urban Development
- McKinney-Vento Act-The major federal legislative response to homelessness. Funds a range of services for homeless persons including health care, shelter, transitional housing, permanent supportive housing, job training, educational assistance, outreach, as well as other key services
- MOU: Memorandum of Understanding
- Next Step Program –Federal HOME tenant based rental assistance program in several communities in Colorado

- OHYS-Office of Homeless Youth Services, which is a function of the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing
- Plan: Colorado's State Plan to Prevent and End homelessness
- PSH: Permanent Supportive Housing
- Region: Refers to Regional Strategies
- Rural Collaborative: The Federal Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) awarded the Colorado Department of Human Services the Supportive Services for Runaway and Homeless Youth (SSRHY) demonstration grant to the partnership of the Divisions of Child Welfare and the Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs with the state-wide Advisory Committee for Homeless Youth (ACHY), to develop best practices for rural youth services
- SAMSHA-The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Sheltered: primary nighttime residence is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter, including emergency shelters, transitional housing for the homeless, domestic violence shelters, and residential shelters for runaway and homeless youth, and any hotel/motel/apartment voucher arrangement paid because the person is homeless
- SNAP: Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
- SOAR: SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery
- Supportive Housing: A housing, including Housing Units, which has a supportive environment and includes a planned service component
- Supportive Services: Services provided to residents of supportive housing for the purpose of facilitating the independence of residents. Some examples are case management, medical or psychological counseling and supervision, transportation, and job training
- SSA: Social Security Administration
- SSDI: Social Security Disability Insurance
- SSI: Social Security Insurance
- State: Refers to State Government
- STI-Sexually transmitted infection (also known as STD).
- Systems Youth-A young person leaving and/or aging out of the foster care/child welfare or juvenile justice system
- TANF: Temporary Assistance for Needy Families
- Tenant-Based (Rental) Assistance: A form or rental assistance in which the assisted tenant may move from a dwelling unit with a right to continued assistance. The assistance is provided for the tenant, not for the project
- USICH: United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
- VI: Vulnerability Index
- RYH: Runaway or Homeless Youth
- UHY: Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

OFFICE OF HOMELESS YOUTH SERVICES

Programs for Youth

Basic Center Program

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) serves runaway and homeless youth by funding the following grant programs: the Basic Center.

(BCP) helps create and strengthen community-based programs that meet the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth under 18 years old. In addition, BCP works to reunite young people with their families or locate appropriate alternative placements. BCP provides the following services:

- Up to 21 days of shelter
- Food, clothing and medical care
- Individual, group and family counseling
- Crisis Intervention
- Recreation programs
- Aftercare services for youth after they leave the shelter

Chafee Foster Care Independence Programs

Administered by the Children's Bureau in the Administration for Children and Families, the Chafee Foster Care Independence.

Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program (EHCY)

EHCY, authorized under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, supports efforts around the country to ensure that children and youth experiencing homelessness continue to attend school and succeed academically. The authorizing statute requires that each State have an office for coordination of the education of homeless children and youth, which gathers comprehensive information from other agencies and programs about homeless children and youth and the impediments they must overcome to attend and succeed in school.

States offer guidance, planning, and technical assistance to local educational agencies (LEAs), which in turn facilitate the enrollment, attendance, and success in school of homeless children and youth. Using program funds, LEAs administer programs and support services for children and youth experiencing homelessness that are supplements to the regular academic program. Examples include tutoring and enrichment programs during or outside of school, school supplies provision, evaluation and referral services, and training for educators on the needs of this population.

Job Corps

The Job Corps Program is designed as a holistic career development program for low-income young adults ages 16-24.

National Runaway Switchboard

Keeping America's runaway, homeless and at-risk youth safe and off the streets.

Call 1-800-RUNAWAY if you are a teenager who is thinking of running from home, if you have a friend who has run and is looking for help, or if you are a runaway ready to go home. Call 1-800-RUNAWAY if you care about a youth and want information on how you can help someone who may be at risk of running from home. Call 1-800-RUNAWAY if you are a teacher looking for information to pass along to your students about youth homelessness or the reality of life on the streets.

Services are provided in part through funding from [Family and Youth Services Bureau](#) in the Administration for Children and Families, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Maternity Group Home Program

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) serves runaway and homeless youth by funding the following grant programs: the Basic Center.

The **Maternity Group Homes for Pregnant and Parenting Youth (MGH) Program** supports homeless pregnant and/or parenting young people, as well as their dependent children. Youth must be between the ages of 16 and 22 to enter the program.

In addition to standard TLP services, MGH programs offer an array of comprehensive services to teach:

- Parenting skills
- Child development
- Family budgeting
- Health and nutrition

MGH projects incorporate the principles of [Positive Youth Development](#) and administer services such as:

- Child-safe transitional and independent **living accommodations**
- **Education** in parenting, child discipline and safety
- Mental, physical, and reproductive **health care**
- Resources to help youth identify reliable, **affordable child care**
- **Money management** and use of credit
- **Educational opportunities**, such as GED preparation, post-secondary training and vocational education

Street Outreach Program

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) serves runaway and homeless youth by funding the following grant programs: the Basic Center.

Through the **Street Outreach Program (SOP)**, FYSB supports work with homeless, runaway and street youth to help them find stable housing and services. SOPs focus on developing relationships between outreach workers and young people that allow them to rebuild connections with caring adults. The ultimate goal is to prevent the sexual exploitation and abuse of youth on the streets. **Street outreach services include:**

- Street based **education and outreach**
- Access to **emergency shelter**
- **Survival aid**
- **Treatment and counseling**
- **Crisis intervention**

Support Systems for Rural Homeless Youth FYSB, in collaboration with the Children's Bureau, has awarded five-year grants to six states: Colorado, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Vermont. The special project focuses on improving coordination of services and creating additional supports for rural youth to improve their circumstances and to enhance connections in three areas:

- **Survival support services**, such as housing, health care, substance abuse, and mental health
- **Community**, such as community service, youth and adult partnerships, mentoring, peer support groups, and Positive Youth Development activities
- **Education and employment**, such as high school and General Equivalency Diploma (GED) completion, postsecondary education, employment and training.

Transitional Living Program (TLP)

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) serves runaway and homeless youth by funding the following grant programs: the Basic Center.

Our **Transitional Living Program (TLP) for Older Homeless Youth** supports projects that provide long-term residential services to homeless youth. Young people must be between the ages of 16 and 22 to enter the program. **Living accommodations** may include:

- Host-family homes
- Group homes or maternity group homes
- Supervised apartments owned by the program or rented in the community

Youth Build

The Youth Build program provides funds to non-profit organizations to provide an alternative education pathway and teach occupational education.

Resources

Transition Age Youth and Young Adults with Behavioral Health Challenges

Community-based Approaches for Supporting Positive Development in Youth and Young Adults with Serious Mental Health Conditions

<http://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu/pdf/pbCmtyBasedApproaches09-2011.pdf>

Cooperative Services Handbook for Youth in Transition (Colorado)

http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdesped/download/pdf/CoopSvcsHndbk_YouthTrans.pdf

Enhancing Career Development Engagement and Self-Determination for Young Adults with Mental Health Diagnoses

<http://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu/pdf/proj1-lit-review.pdf>

Making Healthy Choices: A Guide on Psychotropic Medications for Youth in Foster Care

<http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu/publication-db/documents/psychmedyouthguide.pdf>

Paving the Way: Meeting Transition Needs of Young People with Developmental Disabilities and Serious Mental Health Conditions

<http://www.rtc.pdx.edu/PDF/pbPavingTheWayMonograph.pdf>

Supporting Youth in Transition to Adulthood: Lessons Learned from Child Welfare and Juvenile Justice

<http://cjjr.georgetown.edu/pdfs/TransitionPaperFinal.pdf>

The Adolescent Brain: New Research and Its Implications for Young People Transitioning From Foster Care

http://www.jimcaseyouth.org/sites/default/files/The%20Adolescent%20Brain_prepress_proof%5B1%5D.pdf

Tips on Core Competencies for Transition Service Providers

<http://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu/pdf/projPTTC-CoreCompetenciesSvcProviders.pdf>

Tip Sheets for Young Adults: Jobs, Personal Records & Communication

<http://labs.umassmed.edu/transitionsRTC/Resources/Publications.html#Tipsheet>

Transition Planning with Adolescents: A Review of Principles and Practices across Systems.

<http://www.nrcyd.ou.edu/publication-db/documents/transition-planning-with-adolescents.pdf>

Transition to Adulthood (complete issue of The Future of Children, Volume 20, Number 1, spring 2010) http://www.futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/publications/docs/20_01_FullJournal.pdf

Transitioning Youth from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services to Adult Mental Health Services

http://www.excellenceforchildandyouth.ca/sites/default/files/policy_growing_up_to_do.pdf

Tunnels & Cliffs: A Guide for Workforce Development Practitioners and Policymakers Serving Youth with Mental Health Needs

http://www.ncwd-youth.info/assets/guides/mental_health/Mental_Health_Guide_complete.pdf

Resource Organizations

Learning & Working during the Transition to Adulthood Rehabilitation Research and Training Center
<http://labs.umassmed.edu/transitionsRTC/>

The Research and Training Center for Pathways to Positive Futures. <http://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu>
National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth
<http://www.ncwd-youth.info/>

National Network on Youth Transition for Behavioral Health
<http://www.tipstars.org/>

SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access, and Recovery).
<http://www.prainc.com/soar/>

Colorado has practitioners in different parts of the state who are SOAR trained to implement this strategy. Colorado Disability Benefits Support Program (DBS) is a new nonprofit organization whose staff is SOAR trained and currently serves the Denver Metro area.

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act

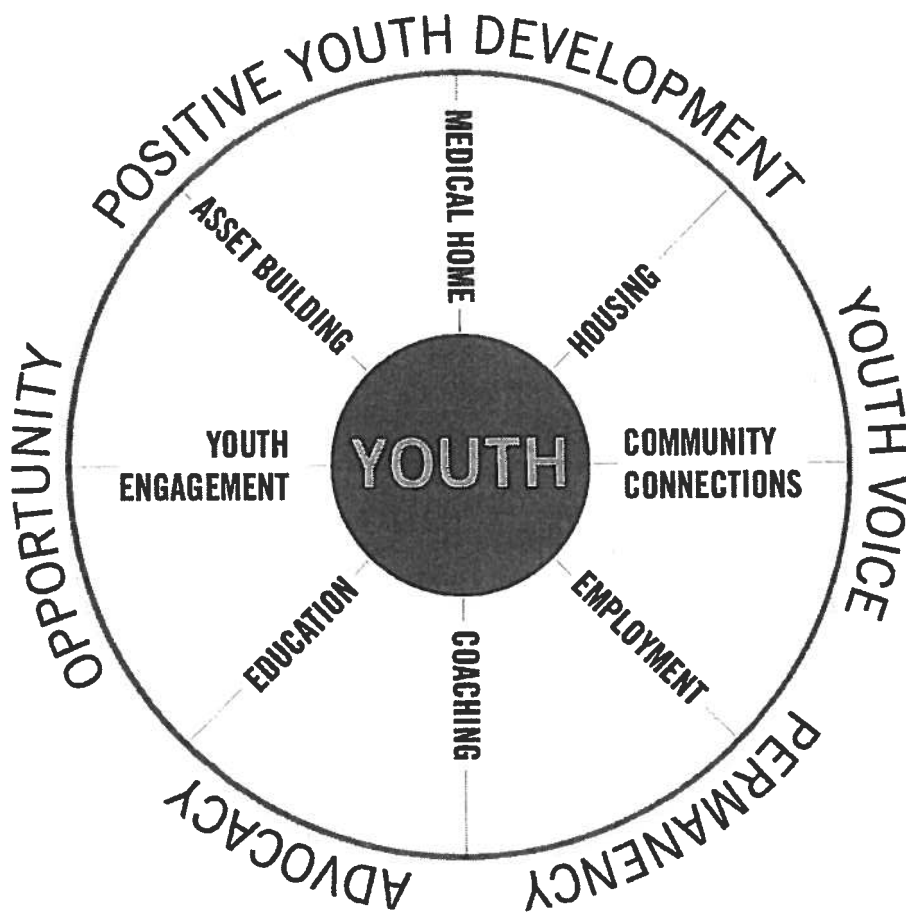
The complete version, including definition, of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (Title III of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974).

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as amended by The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 (PDF, 50 pages)

The complete version, including definition, of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act as amended by S. 896, The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009.

Mile High United Way's

Bridging the Gap



LIVE UNITED



Mile High United Way
Give. Advocate. Volunteer.
www.UnitedWayDenver.org



Social Impact Bonds Pave the Way for Bolder Actions: Financing a bundled suite of interventions for disadvantaged youth

Overview:

Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) are an innovative new financial instrument offering a different way to fund and ultimately scale evidence-based programs that improve social outcomes and save public dollars. SIBs are intended to complement government funding, using private capital to invest in prevention and early intervention programs that eventually reduce the need for expensive, crisis-driven services.

The world's first SIB project was launched in the U.K. in September 2010, dedicated to reducing recidivism rates. Closer to home, SIBs remain at the forefront of conversation but have yet to move from concept to development. Discussions are largely focused on single interventions with tangible outcome measures that tie directly to a specific agency – such as reducing homelessness or recidivism.

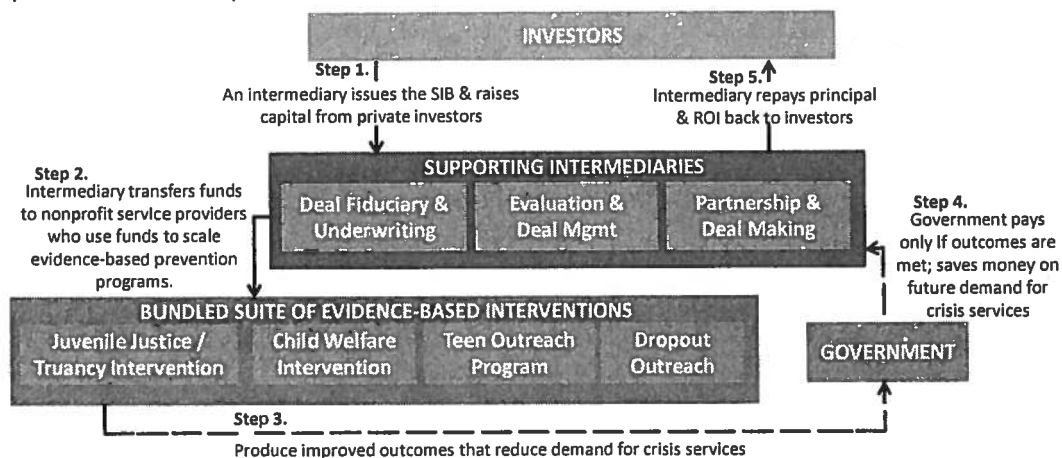
Marginal Change Yields Marginal Results

Youth face a myriad of challenges as they struggle to successfully transition to adulthood, a transition that for most takes a decade or more. Today's young people are expected to advance in several areas of development - academic, physical, vocational, financial, social, emotional, and civic. Research shows that youth who are not hopeful, engaged, and thriving are less likely to be developing assets and more likely to be engaged in risky behaviors.

Because this transition spans multiple years, multiple systems and multiple facets of life, one solution or one program is not enough to make a substantial impact on severely disadvantaged youth. Some youth are at high risk of disconnection because of complicating behaviors (e.g., truancy, pregnancy, substance abuse) and contributing factors (e.g. poverty, failing schools, domestic violence, mental health problems, involvement with the juvenile justice or child welfare systems). We know from research that co-occurring problems require co-occurring interventions and ongoing support and coordination of services.

Bundled Suite of Youth Interventions

A bundled suite of targeted, evidence-based youth programs tailored to local needs has the potential to target all areas of disconnection for disadvantaged youth, including truancy and dropout prevention, educational and career support, and initiatives to drive down child welfare out of home placements. The specific blend of interventions required will vary by community and individual youth, but should contain elements designed to promote physical, intellectual, psychological, emotional, and social development, ultimately providing a complete spectrum of integrated wrap-around services and supports anchored by and coordinated to a universal positive youth development program, such as the Teen Outreach Program (TOP). Potential intervention programs would include only those proven to work and provide a considerable return on investment.

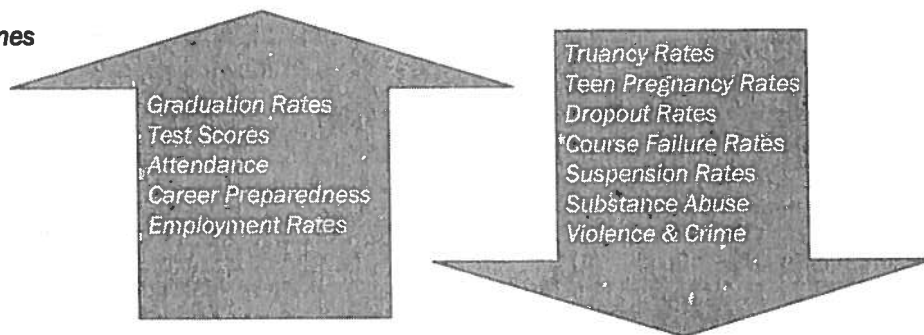


Adapted from Social Finance, Inc., How Social Impact Bonds can Mobilize Private Capital to Advance Social Good, 2012

Target Audience

Using Social Impact Bonds as a financing mechanism requires clear consensus on the definition of the target population and expected outcomes. Many system-level reform efforts take place in tandem; making it difficult to create a strong causality between specific policy, practice, and ultimate performance. To avoid this problem, the Forum recommends that the initial investment in a suite of bundled youth interventions targeting disadvantaged youth should occur at the lowest common denomination possible and in a specific place-based setting, such as a low-performing high school and/or feeder middle schools. The population would encompass all youth within the school, varying the level of services and interventions on an individual basis by need. A similarly situated middle school or high school in close geographic proximity could be selected for comparison purposes.

Measurable Outcomes



Savings Cut Across Systems

While defining program costs and evaluating improvement in the above referenced indicators is relatively straightforward, allocating benefits across multiple systems is another matter entirely. The only tested model of SIBs to date accrues savings in the correctional system, where the benefits are clearly attributable to reducing the exorbitant costs incurred to incarcerate individuals who will be quickly released back into the community.

A bundled suite of interventions targeted towards disadvantaged youth may provide the most immediate benefits at the school district level, but savings will perpetuate and compound across health and human service agencies, juvenile justice agencies, and child welfare systems. Furthermore, as graduation rates increase and students enter the workforce a substantial portion of the savings will be economic in nature, in the form of increased tax revenue and increased spending. If positive change in the above outcomes is achieved, which government agency is responsible for paying back investors?

Benefits that cross multiple government agencies will require careful coordination and support at the highest levels of state and local government. Strong partnerships spanning multiple state agencies in the form of child and youth focused coordinating bodies can serve as an existing resource for shared action and accountability, assuring investors that payments will be made when outcomes are achieved - irrespective of which specific government agency is realizing the savings.

Stakeholder Benefits:

SIBs are particularly unique given their ability to produce benefits for all parties.

Stakeholders	Benefits
Nonprofits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Access to growth capital to scale up operations ➤ Access to a stable and predictable revenue stream without labor-intensive fundraising ➤ Facilitated coordination with organizations working on overlapping problems
Investors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Achievement of financial returns ➤ Participation in effective philanthropy with maximum social impact ➤ Participation in a new asset class with portfolio diversification benefits
Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Accountability for taxpayer funds ➤ Reduction in the need for costly downstream remediation ➤ Increased supply of effective services for citizens without financial risk
Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Access to an increased supply of effective social services ➤ Eventual reduction in the need for crisis-driven interventions

Adapted from Social Finance, Inc., How Social Impact Bonds can Mobilize Private Capital to Advance Social Good, 2012

Opportunity Youth & Employment Factsheet

January 2012

The following includes information from two new pieces of research (*The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth* and *Opportunity Road*), the employer toolkit (*Connecting Youth & Business*), and additional data that is publicly available. Sources for all data are noted.

Opportunity Youth (OY) Stats

- **6.7M** or **17%** of youth 16-24 are considered OY (total youth = 38.9M)
- **3.4M** are “chronic” OY (defined as never in school or work after 16 years of age)
- **3.3M** are “under-attached” OY (defined as a lack of progression through college or into a job)
- OY are **equally represented by male and female**
- OY status is **more prevalent among minorities** vs. their representation of the population
- Female OY are more likely to be caregivers and male OY are more likely to be incarcerated
- By 28 years of age, only **74%** of OY have a high school diploma vs. 92% other youth
- Only **1%** of OY will have completed at least an Associate’s degree by the age of 28, compared to 36% of other youth
- OY are “**failing to build an economic foundation for adult independence**”

Figure 1 — Opportunity Youth Status by Gender and Race

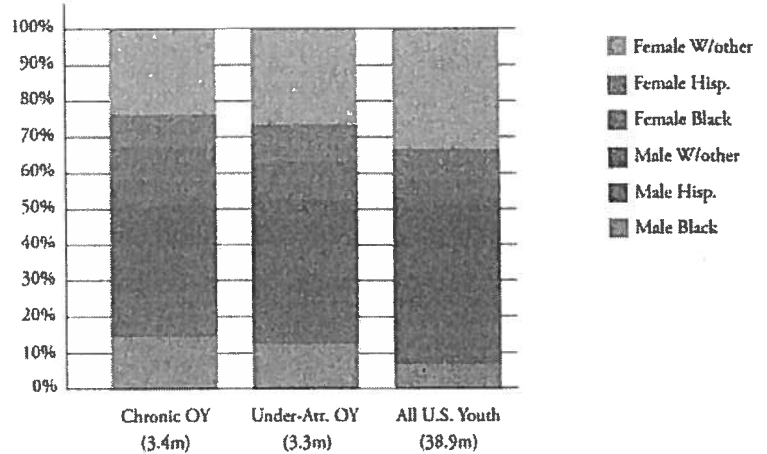


Table 4 — Education Levels at Age 28 by Opportunity Youth Status

	Percent with High School Diploma		Percent with GED		Percent with an Associate or Bachelor Degree	
	Opportunity Youth	Other Youth	Opportunity Youth	Other Youth	Opportunity Youth	Other Youth
Population	74	92	10	4	1	36
Black	63	93	14	4	1	30
Hispanic	68	86	9	5	1	21
White/other	79	93	8	3	2	43
Male	74	88	10	5	1	31
Female	71	96	10	3	1	42

Source: NLSY97. Notes: Opportunity Youth cohort is 6.74 million individuals aged 16-24 (see Table 1).

Figure 2 — Immediate Fiscal Burden per Opportunity Youth by Race and Gender

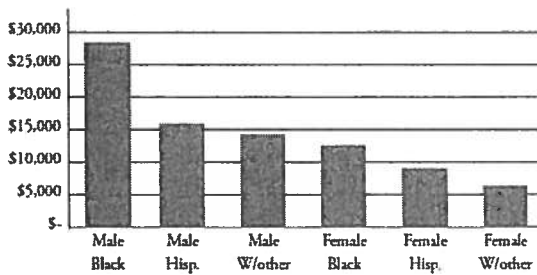
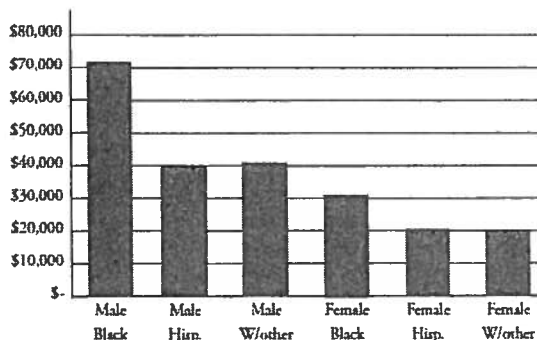


Figure 3 — Immediate Social Burden per Opportunity Youth by Race and Gender



Immediate & Future Burden of Youth Not Connecting

- 25% of the burden is pre-25 years of age and 75% of the burden is ages 25-65
- Immediate taxpayer burden* of each OY = **\$13.9K/year** (ages 16-24)
- Immediate social burden** of each OY = **\$37.5K/year** (ages 16-24)
- Future taxpayer burden of each OY = **\$171K** (from ages 25-65)
- Future social burden of each OY = **\$529K** (from ages 25-65)
- Immediate taxpayer burden of all OY = **\$93B** in 2011 (lost revenues & increased social services)
- Immediate social burden of all OY = **\$252B** in 2011 (includes earnings loss, loss to crime victims)
- Aggregate taxpayer burden (of all OY over their lives) = **\$1.6T**
- Aggregate social burden (of all OY over their lives) = **\$4.7T**

* The "taxpayer burden" of OY includes lost tax payments and increased government spending on crime, health care, and welfare

** The "social burden" of OY includes all of these costs and those beyond the taxpayer, such as lost earnings, crime victim costs, and private spending on health care

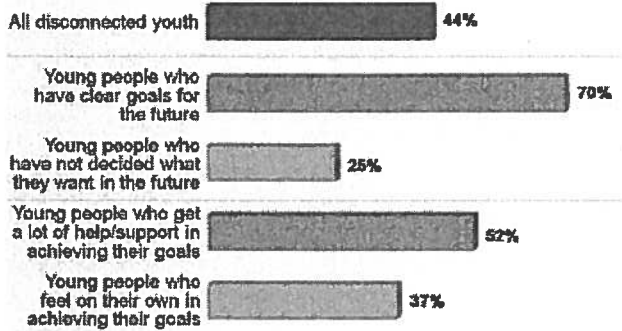
Source for all data on this page: Economic Value of Opportunity Youth, 2012

OY are Confident or Hopeful

- 73% are very confident or hopeful that they will be able to achieve their goals
- 77% believe getting a good education and job is their own responsibility and depends on their own effort
- 69% want to make a difference in improving life for others, while only 3% report they are volunteering in their communities (other research shows disconnection from school and work results in low levels of civic engagement)
- OY who feel supported are more confident about achieving their goals

Figure 7: Confidence Goes Hand-In-Hand with Goals and Supports

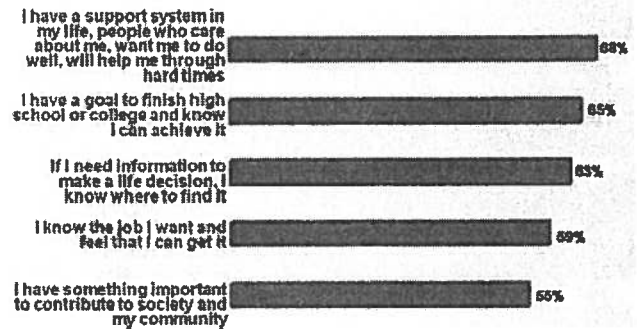
I am very confident in my ability to achieve my goals in life:



Source: Opportunity Road, 2012

Figure 13: Many Are Confident They Can Achieve Their Goals

Describes where I am in life right now extremely/quite well:



Source: Opportunity Road, 2012

Youth 16-24 Unemployment 2x's Total Rate

Data for All Youth - July 2011 (peak youth employment month)

- 18.1% youth unemployment vs. 9.2% total unemployment
- 4.1M wanted a job, but could not find one
- Hispanics = 20% youth unemployment
- African American = 31% youth unemployment

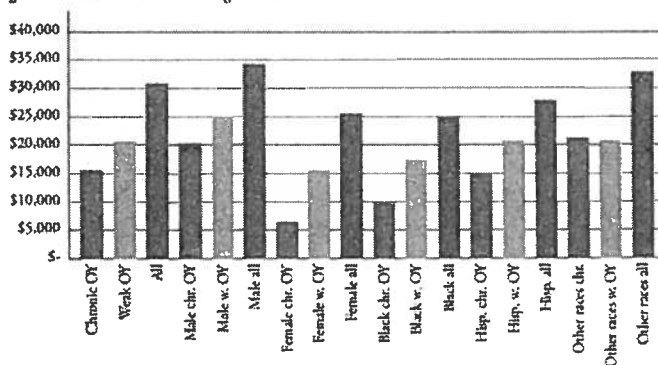
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Lifetime Earnings Diminished

- Lifetime earnings are diminished with each missed year of work equating to 2-3% less earnings each year thereafter
- Significant gaps in education-work sequence of activity leads to a pay and employability handicap
- Over a lifetime, OY earnings are estimated to be \$375K vs. a high school graduate at \$712K

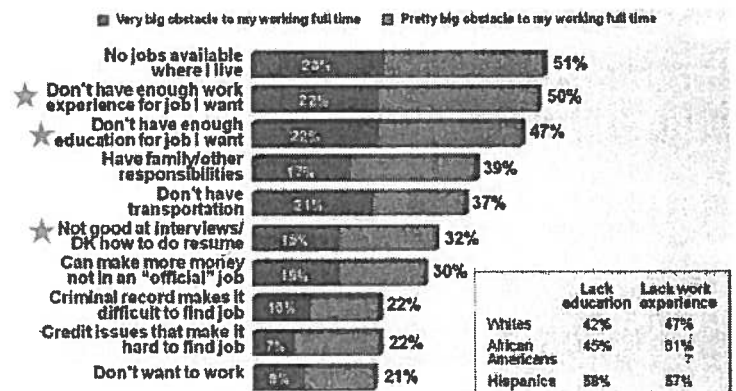
Sources: Center for American Progress, 2009; Bell & Blanchflower, 2011; Mroz & Savage, 2006; The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth, 2012

Figure 4 — Mean Income: Adults Ages 25-28



Source: The Economic Value of Opportunity Youth, 2012

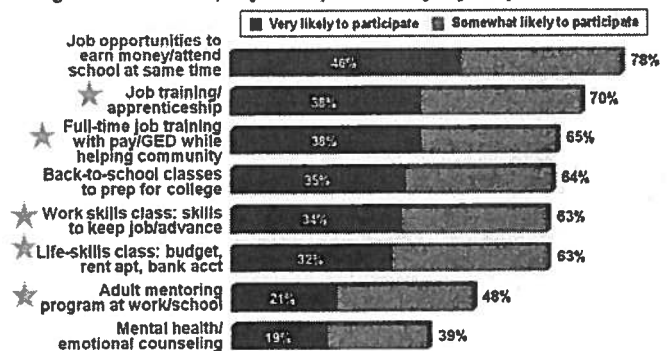
Figure 9: Obstacles to Connecting to Work



Source: Opportunity Road, 2012

How We Can Help Support OY

If it were available to you, how likely would you be to participate in this kind of program or resource to help young people like yourself find work, go back to school, or just help with everyday life problems?



Source: Opportunity Road, 2012

★ = addressed in employer toolkit

Power of Partnerships

