

Brighter Days for Brighter Futures



Central Florida CoC-FL 507
Coordinated Community Plan
Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

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Acronyms Used in this CCP

BIPOC	Black, Indigenous and People of Color
CCP	Coordinated Community Plan
CES	Coordinated Entry System
CAFTH	Community Alliance for the Homeless
CQI	Continuous Quality Improvement
CoC	Continuum of Care
ES	Emergency Shelter
FTE	Full Time Employee
HMIS	Homeless Management Information System
LGBTQ+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing
PYD	Positive Youth Development
RFA	Request for Applications
TH-RRH	Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing
TIC	Trauma-Informed Care
USICH	United States interagency Council on Homelessness
YAB	Youth Action Board
YAS	Youth Action Society
YHDP	Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program
YYA	Youth and Young Adults

ABOUT HOMELESS SERVICES NETWORK OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Central Florida embraces a collective impact model of cross-sectoral collaboration and is committed to ending homelessness through shared expertise, data-informed decision-making, and best practice development. Utilizing the collective voice of advocates and persons with lived experience, we work to ensure that if people in our community experience homelessness it is rare, brief and non-recurring.

The Homeless Services Network of Central Florida (HSN), established in 1993, is the lead agency for the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness (also known as CFCH and HUD Continuum of Care FL-507), which includes Osceola, Seminole and Orange counties and the cities of Orlando, Kissimmee and Sanford.

As regional leaders made a renewed commitment to tackle chronic homelessness in Central Florida in 2015, Martha Are joined HSN as chief executive officer. Previously from North Carolina, Ms. Are brought with her expertise in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) continuum of care program and a successful record of accomplishment implementing evidence-based Housing First/Housing-Focused strategies to combat homelessness.



HSN administers federal, state and local housing and services grants and contracts with a network of sub-recipient agencies that provide services to houseless youth and young adults, men, women and families in our region. These agencies implement projects that provide rapid-rehousing as well as transitional, supportive and permanent housing and ongoing case management for people experiencing houselessness in our continuum region.

HSN is also the lead agency for the Veterans Administration Supportive Services for Families (SSVF) grant program. In 2016 the region was able to parlay SSVF, VASH and other local resources to effectively end veteran chronic homelessness, and it has made significant progress towards the goal of developing a system to effectively end all veteran homelessness. If we can do it for veterans, it *is* possible for our youth and young adults!

INTRODUCTION

Unaccompanied houseless youth and youth adults under the age of 25 are frequently hidden from public view. Disconnection from family and community is lonely, stressful and traumatic. Whereas people typically think of houseless persons being on the streets, in cars or camped in the woods, youth work extra hard not to be found. They blend in at places like airports, coffee shops, shopping malls, gyms, university campuses and transit hubs. They may choose first to shuffle around from couch to couch, or shelter precariously in abandoned buildings, or find ways to scrounge up funds for short-lived hotel stays. Too many are victims of adult schemes that traffic persons for labor or sex. As a result, they keep their living situation a secret both for protection and in fear of judgment. This furthers isolation and often forces a return to situations and systems that have caused them harm. The situation itself conspires to rob them of their right to safety and dignity in order to survive. Unless you know where to look, you will rarely see or hear from them. This invisibility makes it difficult to collectively understand the full picture of youth houselessness. This plan pulls together the full expertise of youth with lived experience along with data from multiple systems in order to chart a course towards a brighter day and brighter future.

Note on houselessness: *Throughout this plan, you will notice the intentional replacement of the term “homelessness,” with “houselessness.” This editorial change reflects the deep commitment by the Youth Action Society to reorient and transform the mindsets of the public regarding particular challenges for YYA’s without a stable dwelling place. YYA experiencing houselessness do their best to making a home out of every living situation in which they find themselves. Housing is what they need and want. Whenever you struggle with the word “houselessness,” we call on you to remember that the precarious living situations of YYA’s should not carry with it blame or judgement—rather compassion and tenacious solution-based action towards ensuring these youth and young adults have housing.*

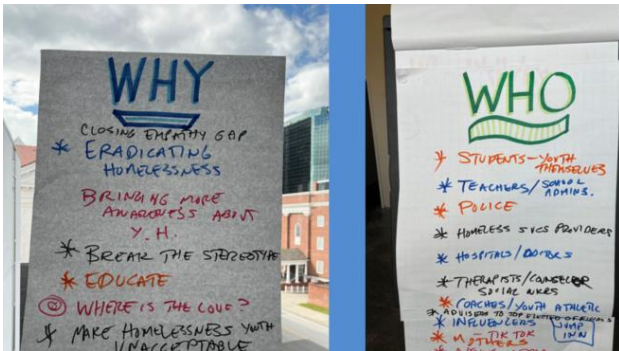
Our coordinated work to support houseless youth has been persistent, but nobody is satisfied with the pace of progress. We must ensure that our collective impact strategy is led by youth with lived experience and specifically targets the unique needs of unaccompanied and parenting houseless youth.

Five years of persistent collaboration with community partners, service providers and youth with lived experience of houselessness (Youth Action Society of Central Florida, aka YAS), was finally rewarded in October 2022. The Central Florida Commission on Homeless, CoC FL-507, is one of 17 communities awarded the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant. The initial \$8.4 million over two years is renewable through HUD’s annual Continuum of Care Program competition.



Shortly after the announcement, we eagerly convened a YHDP planning team led by YAS, advocates and cross-systems partners. Varieties of community consultations were facilitated to imagine how we utilize the game-changing YHDP planning process as a catalyst towards our truly audacious goal.

We entertained the question “Where is the love?” for youth experiencing homelessness. Can we stop youth homelessness? Should our refrain be “Not their fault” or “Any is too many”? Who will join us in this effort? A campaign is emerging in conjunction with our plan.



The result is this Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) that is a blueprint for ending youth homelessness in Central Florida. This CCP documents our plan to utilize the \$8.4 million award and additional match funding to ensure homelessness is brief, rare and non-recurring among youth and young adults. YAS names this plan “Brighter Days for Brighter Futures.” We are confident that we will achieve our goal together.



YOUTH
ACTION
SOCIETY
OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

YOUTH ACTION SOCIETY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

Youth Action Society (YAS) of Central Florida began in 2016, facilitated by leadership of the Homeless Services Network of Central Florida and the Continuum of Care Youth Workgroup. As the first youth action board in Central Florida, we strive to build a stronger and safer community by using our lived experience to influence how resources are implemented and by ensuring services are meeting the needs of the young people who need them the most – youth and young adults ages 13-24.

- We strive to provide leadership and offer our lived experience expertise to the CoC while developing a region-wide system of care.
- We hope to reconstruct the homeless response system by reviewing and analyzing the current system of care for youth houselessness and consulting with stakeholders and community leaders. We seek to improve things that are working but also inform the broader community on the harsh realities of existing gaps within the system.
- We work to educate the community on current legislation and data regarding Central Florida YYA, aiming to improve the CoC's present knowledge and capacity to target resources toward the challenges directly facing houseless YYA – all while holding them accountable to shared commitments and goals of improving the system of care for YYA.

Purpose

Our purpose is to be the blueprint for successfully eradicating youth houselessness in Central Florida while building a safer and more inclusive community led by youth voices and hands.

Vision

We look to build long-standing and constructive relationships between youth and community partners to eradicate barriers and houselessness for youth and young adults in Central Florida.

Mission

The mission of Youth Action Society of Central Florida is to create a safe space for houseless youth and young adults to be expressive about their lived experiences, develop ways to uplift their peers, address areas of concerns within their community, and reconstruct social services for houseless youth and young adults in Central Florida.

Current YAS Members



Anthony "Brotha Amp" Roberts
Peer Specialist & YAS Co-Chair



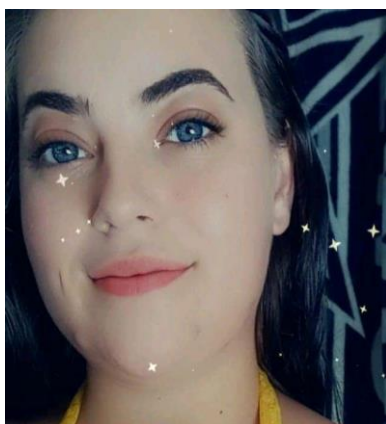
Juli Meyer
Peer Specialist & YAS Co-Chair



Jada Blocker
Peer Specialist & YAS Member



Ellease Cabrera
YAS Member



Brianna Bernthal
YAS Member



Joseph Hampton
YAS Member



MacKayla Jones
YAS Co-Chair



John Bruitt
YAS Member

Letter from YAS Member Juli



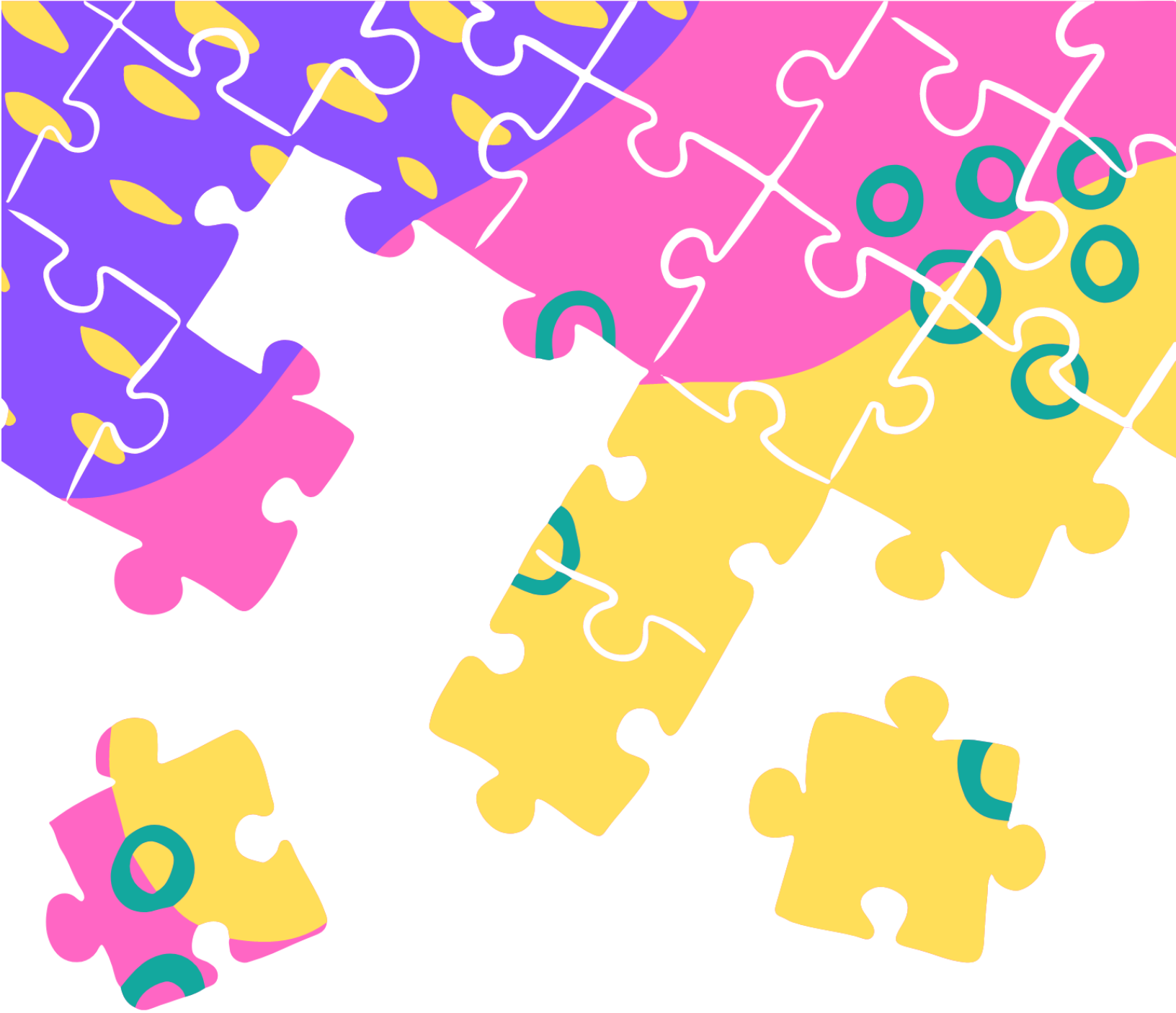
“Never in the past couple of years did I think that I’d be sitting right here, writing about what YHDP and Youth Action Society (YAS) means to me. It’s crazy even thinking about the end of last year, when I was struggling to obtain documents that I needed to even start a future for myself.

I became homeless during the summer of 2016 and was put immediately in a homeless shelter. And though I am grateful for that, it was such a jarring experience coming from a family space to a space where I immediately had to learn how to become independent and had to solve problems that were not originally mine. I had to research and figure out ways on how to obtain legal documents to fix my name on my Social Security card because of a botched adoption. That first year was rough. I could barely explain my situation to case managers and other providers because I didn’t even know how to explain it. They were also new to this and had to learn along with me on how to fix this problem, and I felt alone and helpless. It wasn’t all bad though. I will say this also was the start of speaking about my experience with youth homelessness at events and those who wanted to learn more about it, sparking my interest in advocating and voicing on what could alleviate YHA homelessness.

Then around fall of 2017, I became part of another youth homeless program. I had aged out from the first program, and they could not help me obtain the documents I needed. At this point, I was tired. I felt like I was never going to achieve independence in my lifetime, and, those first couple years of the program, the process of obtaining the legal documents I needed was still stagnant. But I had started other things too. I was able to start college classes and volunteer, and I also became a member of that youth council within that organization and asked to help start up the new Youth Action Society (YAS). It didn’t get far then, but it was something. I also was still speaking at events and talking about what youth homelessness looks like in general and for me.

And then COVID hit in 2020. That caused every progress and thing I was working on to just stop at that moment, and it was disheartening. I felt like it was never going to end, and it felt that way for a year – until the summer of 2021 came around.

I was asked to become a member of YAS again. Admittedly, I was excited to become part of this board again. While working within the homeless response system, I was taking note of what providers were doing and how what they were implementing wasn’t working. This includes interacting with homeless youth and young adults. During the first year, restarting YAS took a while, but HSN was able to hire a youth coordinator. At the time it was Aja Hunter (our Youth Program Manager), who was able to support our board and get us back on track. With the application process of the YHDP funding, YAS was a huge part in providing input and leading this effort. It means a lot to know that I am a part of something bigger and I am to give insight on what the project should look like.”



YHDP Partners

YHDP PARTNERS



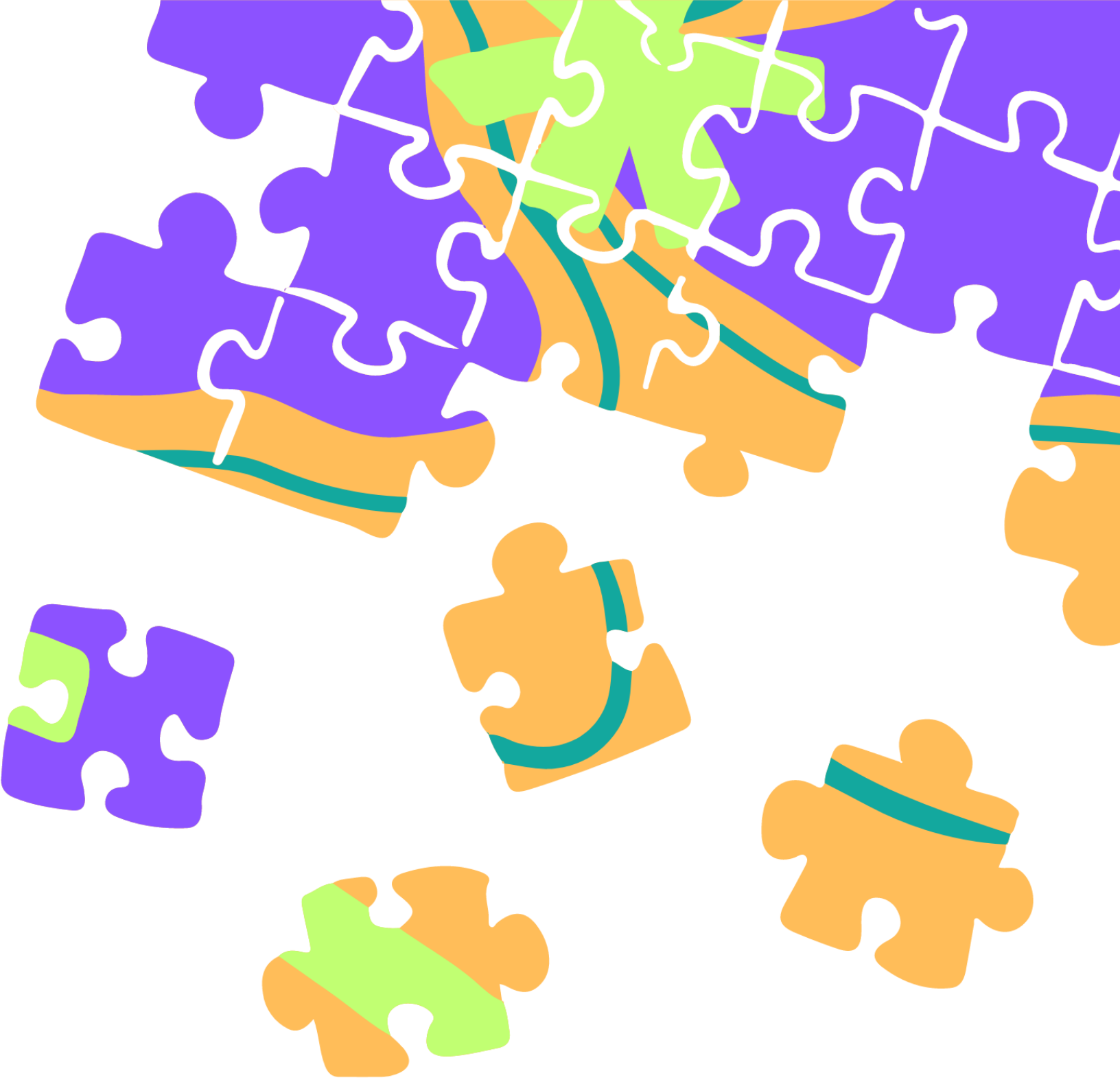
The following table outlines the list of partners involved in the creation of the Coordinated Community Plan as well as describes their involvement. To gain further insight into partner involvement, please refer to the Governance section on page 37.

"THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YYA AND SERVICE PROVIDERS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE, TO CARE FOR YYA, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY ARE VULNERABLE AND TRAUMATIZED, PROVIDERS NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHICH TOOLS AND PRACTICES WORK AND WHICH DON'T. AND THE FIRST BIG STEP IS ASKING YYA WHAT THEY NEED TO FEEL SUPPORTED AND TO THRIVE AS THEY NAVIGATE THE HOMELESS SYSTEM. OFTENTIMES, PROVIDERS ARE TAUGHT AND TRAINED ON CERTAIN PRACTICES THAT DON'T FIT YYA'S NEEDS. THEY'RE TOO GENERALIZED AND IMPERSONAL. PROVIDERS SHOULD TRY THEIR BEST TO CREATE POLICIES THAT HAVE YYA'S BEST INTERESTS AT HEART AND THAT ARE YYA-CENTERED. IN MY OPINION, THE BEST WAY TO HELP THESE POLICIES BE IMPLEMENTED IS TO CREATE A YOUTH BOARD THAT COORDINATES WITH THE SERVICE PROVIDERS TO ADVOCATE FOR YOUTH AND OFFER BETTER CARE. THIS ALSO HOLDS BOTH SIDES ACCOUNTABLE AND BALANCES THAT UNEVEN POWER DYNAMIC BETWEEN YYA AND SERVICE PROVIDERS." - JULI M., PEER SPECIALIST

Table 1: YHDP Partners

Partner	Organization	Involvement
Youth Action Board	Youth Action Society (YAS)	YHDP Planning Team, CoC Managing Board, Youth Advisory Board, Education Sub-committee
CoC- Lead Agency (HMIS, CES, YAS Support)	Homeless Service Network (HSN)	YHDP Lead, YHDP Planning Team, Work Groups/Info Sessions, Managing Board, Leadership Council, YAB Recruiter/Support
CoC Program Recipient (YAS Recruiter, Housing, Supportive Services, Youth CES, Access)	Covenant House Florida - Orlando	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, CoC Member

CoC Program Recipient (Youth Prevention Programs, Youth Mental Health, Youth Substance Misuse)	Impower	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, CoC Member
CoC Program Recipient (LGBTQ+ Youth Provider & Youth Serving Organization)	Zebra Coalition	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, CoC Member
CoC Program Recipient (Shelter, Youth Programming)	Coalition for the Homeless	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, CoC Member
Public Child Welfare Agency (Local)	Embrace Families	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, CoC Member, Managing Board
Public Child Welfare (DCF)	My Florida Families	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup
City Government (Youth Services, Workforce, Violence Prevention Services, Parks & Recreation)	City of Orlando	YHDP Planning Team, Managing Board, Leadership Council, Youth Homelessness Workgroup
City Government	City of Kissimmee	CoC Managing Board
City Government	City of Sanford	CoC Managing Board
WIOA Boards & Employment Agencies	Career Source Central Florida	YHDP Planning Team, Youth Homelessness Workgroup
Local & State Educational Agency (LEA & Homeless Youth Liaison)	Seminole County School District	YHDP Planning, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, Education Sub-committee, CoC Member, Managing Board
Local & State Educational Agency (LEA & Homeless Youth Liaison)	Orange County School District	YHDP Planning, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, Education Sub-committee, CoC Member
Local & State Educational Agency (LEA & Homeless Youth Liaison)	Osceola County School District	YHDP Planning, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, Education Sub-committee, CoC Member
Institution of Higher Education	Valencia College	YHDP Planning, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, Education Sub-committee, CoC Member
Institution of Higher Education	University of Central Florida	YHDP Planning, Youth Homelessness Workgroup, Education Sub-committee, CoC Member
Institution of Higher Education	Seminole State College	YHDP Planning, Education Sub-committee
Mental Health & Homelessness	Orange County Community and Family Services	CoC Managing Board
Advocacy, Lobbying, Resourcing CoC	Florida Coalition to End Homelessness	CoC Managing Board



Statement of Needs

STATEMENT OF NEEDS

Where We Started – Central Florida’s First Youth Needs Assessment 2017

The Central Florida Youth Count (CFYC) was a regional project organized by the Central Florida Commission on Homelessness, Homeless Services Network, and over 45 community organizations. The purpose was to conduct a three-day count, from October 17-19, 2017, with technical assistance provided by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, and survey unaccompanied houseless and unstably housed youth in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties. This report was also supplemented with analysis of administrative data to provide an estimate of the size of the houseless youth population and its characteristics. Additionally, information was also gathered about the types of services available to young people experiencing houselessness.

The key findings from the CFYC are:

- On a single night in October 2017, there was an overall count of 268 houseless and unstably housed youth, ages 13 to 24 years old, in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties.
- Forty-six percent of the surveyed houseless and unstably housed youth were sheltered, and twenty-one percent were unsheltered on October 16, 2017.
- Twelve percent of the surveyed houseless and unstably housed youth were 13 to 17 years old.
- Black or African American houseless and unstably housed youth were overrepresented in all three counties. Forty-seven, 27 and 18 percent of the surveyed youth identified as Black or African American, yet they represented only 23, 14 and 12 percent of Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties’ overall populations, respectively.
- Thirty-six percent of the surveyed houseless and unstably housed 16 to 24 year olds in the tri-county area were neither working nor in school.
- Youth in the foster care and justice systems were overrepresented in the tri-county area. Thirty percent of the youth surveyed had been in the foster care system, yet only two percent of the general youth population has been. Forty-four percent of the youth surveyed had been in juvenile detention, jail or prison, yet only 15 percent of the general youth population has been. Additionally, 16 percent of youth surveyed had experienced both.
- Thirty-three percent of the female youth in the tri-county area reported being pregnant or a parent.
- Providers in Orange, Seminole and Osceola counties have 104 shelter, transitional living, rapid rehousing and subsidized affordable housing slots available for youth – only 10 of which serve youth under age 18.
- Analysis of schools data indicated that there were 530 unaccompanied students in the tri-county area during the 2015-2016 school year.

Among youth surveyed, Orange County youth were more likely to be sheltered than youth in Osceola and Seminole counties. One explanation for this finding is that the only emergency shelter, which offers more than half of the youth-targeted beds in the tri-county area, is in Orange County.

Youth in Seminole County were more likely to be employed, attending school, or to anticipate upcoming employment that would require them to work 30 or more hours a week. However, due to the small number of youth surveyed in Seminole County, this finding might not represent the larger population of houseless youth there.

About 36 percent of houseless or unstably housed 16 to 24 year olds in the tri-county area were neither attending school nor employed (“disconnected”). Disconnected youth were more likely to be from Osceola County. Although it is unclear why these youth were neither working nor attending school, their lack of education and employment could be a barrier to finding and maintaining housing, to their well-being, and to their ability to participate productively in the economy.

This data was released to inform the development and refinement of the continuum of services provided to houseless and unstably housed YYA in the Florida tri-county area. It underscored the diverse experiences and characteristics of youth facing houselessness in Central Florida and revealed the multiple needs young people have, as well as the different systems with which they interact. As a community, we saw urgent action was needed to design and implement an innovative, coordinated, multi-systems strategy to end youth houselessness, including housing, child welfare, justice, behavioral health, nutrition, education and career support.

More creative identification and outreach was needed. Coordinated services and support for parenting youth, as well as safe, affirming and preventative services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, queer, asexual and pansexual youth was needed. With this tri-county data, Central Florida had new evidence underscoring the importance of a community-level coordinated strategy to prevent and end youth houselessness.

Where We Are Now

Between October 1, 2021, and September 30, 2022, Central Florida CoC-507 served a total of 916 unduplicated youth and young adults (YYA) between the ages of 18 and 24. These YYA identified as heads of household and were either at-risk of or had already experienced houselessness. The 916 YYA we served during this time accounted for 1,651 project enrollments. The tables below show project enrollments and demographics.

Table 2: Current Projects with Focus Population and Data

Population	Data Source(s) - 10/1/21 - 9/30/22	Estimated # of Youth
At-risk unaccompanied YYA (18-24)	HMIS, HP, CE, SSO & OT Enrollments	363
Unaccompanied YYA experiencing houselessness (18-24)	HMIS, ES, TH, PSH, RRH, CE, SSO & OT	630
At-risk pregnant or parenting YYA (18-24)	HMIS, HP, CE, SSO & OT Enrollments	34
Parenting YYA experiencing houselessness (18-24)	Stella P, ES, TH, PSH, RRH	103
Pregnant YYA experiencing houselessness (18-24)	HMIS, ES, TH, PSH, RRH, CE, SSO & OT	14
Victims of Domestic Violence (18-24)	Stella P	134
Youth (15-17)	HMIS HH	15
LGBTQ+ and gender nonconforming YYA (15-24)	HMIS HH, Gender non-conforming (Gender is recently updated question by HUD 1/23)	31

Racial Disparities - Equity

Table 3 shows the intersectionality of race and gender for YYA served. It identifies the disproportionality and overrepresentation of those who identify as Black, African American or African. Our YHDP Planning Team is considering the impact of racial inequities and other disparities among those who identify as Black and Black female. These identified populations are at higher risk for experiencing houselessness, and as a community we are committed to coordinating and implementing preventative supports.

Table 3: Demographics of YYA Served

Race	Gender					Grand Total
	Female	Male	Transgender	Gender non-conforming	Data not collected	
Black, African American or African	326	175	3	5		509
White	166	162	3	6	2	339
American Indian, Alaska Native or Indigenous	2	3				5
Asian or Asian American	4	4				8
Multi-Racial	17	13		1		31
Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	3	3				6
Data not collected	13	12	1	1		27
Client doesn't know	2					2
Grand Total	533	372	7	13	2	927

Table 4: Project Enrollments shows which project types our current YYA are enrolled in throughout Central Florida.

Table 4: Project Enrollments

Project Type	Count of Enrollments	Unique Participants Within Project Type
Emergency Shelter (ES)	349	288
Transitional Housing (TH)	40	40
Street Outreach (SO)	235	200
Coordinated Entry (CE)	340	279
Services Only (SSO)	363	328
Other (OT)	113	84
Rapid Re-housing (RRH)	168	107
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	4	2
Homelessness Prevention (HP)	27	27

Special Populations Needs, Barriers, & Strategies

"ADDRESSING SPECIAL POPULATIONS IS NECESSARY TO THE WORK OF YHDP BECAUSE THEY FACE THE MOST CHALLENGES AND ADVERSITY IN THE SYSTEM- ESPECIALLY WHEN THERE ARE POLICIES OR BELIEFS THAT WORK AGAINST THEM. A LOT OF TIMES BEING HOMELESS IS PART OF AN IDENTITY THAT INTERSECTS WITH OTHER IDENTITIES THAT FACE OPPRESSION. IT'S IMPORTANT TO ADDRESS THOSE SOCIAL ISSUES AS THEY PERTAIN TO YYA HOMELESSNESS BECAUSE ONE THING CANNOT EXIST WITHOUT THE OTHER. IT'S AN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT IN ORDER TO END YYA HOMELESSNESS, PROVIDERS HAVE TO BALANCE AND UNDERSTAND THAT YYA IN SPECIAL POPULATIONS ARE MORE VULNERABLE AND MAY NEED MORE SUPPORT. IT'S NOT TO SAY THAT ALL YYA WHO ARE AT-RISK OR FACING HOMELESSNESS DON'T DESERVE THE SUPPORT; IT'S MORE TO SAY THAT, TO CREATE A SYSTEM OF EQUITY, INCLUSION IS IMPORTANT, AND SOMETIMES YOU HAVE TO PRIORITIZE CERTAIN NEEDS MORE TO END YYA HOMELESSNESS AS A WHOLE, AND WITH THAT YOU HAVE TO ADVOCATE FOR THOSE WHO ARE THE MOST IMPACTED BECAUSE THEIR LIVELIHOOD IS ON THE LINE."

- YAS MEMBER/PEER SPECIALIST, JULI M.



In-School Youth and Young Adults

Early Childhood Education (ECE) – (Minors/Youth under 18)



The Early Learning Coalitions (ELC) of Orange County, Osceola County and Seminole County host school readiness (SR) programs to low-income families in the Central Florida community. These programs offer financial assistance for childcare and early education with the goal of supporting self-sufficiency for families engaging in the workforce, education and/or training programs while developing school readiness skills for their children. Data for SR enrollment for each county and the number of children 0-5 below 150% of federal poverty level is displayed in Table 5.

Table 5: Early Childhood Education Enrollment Numbers

Early Learning Coalition	School Readiness Children Enrolled Age 0-5*	Number of children 0-5 below 150% of federal poverty level (FY 2021-22)*
Coalition of Orange County	10,528	38,952
Coalition of Osceola County	2,233	12,090
Coalition of Seminole County	2,058	8,282

Based on a qualitative questionnaire, early childcare and education providers named the following as the top three challenges faced within their programs:

- Affordability of childcare
- Child behavior/development concerns
- Housing

These providers also identified housing, employment and transportation as the three areas that they are least aware of as supports for families. This data indicates a growing need for housing resources for families seeking services and a gap in knowledge and service provision to meet this need.



Education Partners with Youth Program Manager, Aia Hunter

School Aged Youth (K-12 Education) – (Minors/Youth under 18)

Under the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, all school districts are required to remove barriers to academic success for YYA lacking a “fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence.” Youth experiencing houselessness and unstable housing are disproportionately identified in reports of chronic absenteeism, truancy and gaps in proficiency in areas of English language arts, math and science. These concerns are amplified exponentially for YYA that are identified as unaccompanied houseless youth (UHY) – children who are identified as houseless and are not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

The Florida Department of Education (DOE) under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act mandates that school districts identify children and youth in houseless situations and provide resources for immediate school enrollment, regular school attendance, and academic success and promotion. The three school districts within our CoC’s geographical region include Osceola, Orange and Seminole County Public Schools. Through the YHDP planning process, they have been incredible partners, helping us understand the current state of houselessness within our school districts. The breakdown for each county can be found In Table 6.

Table 6: Tri-County Breakdown of Students Experiencing Houselessness

Total Number of Students Identified as Experiencing Houselessness		School Counties		
		Orange 5,288 (Jan 2023)	Osceola 3,448 (Feb 2023)	Seminole 2,250 (Feb 2023)
Housing Type and Natural Disaster	Number of students in shelters	306	107	72
	Number of students in shared housing (doubled up)	3,501	2,048	1,676
	Number of students in inadequate housing (streets, cars, campgrounds, inhabitable homes)	279	132	86
	Number of students in hotels	1191	858	416
	Of the total number of houseless students, number in houselessness due to a natural disaster	279	303	176

Sub-groups	Number of students experiencing houselessness with an identified disability	747	Did not share	582
	Number of students experiencing houselessness that identify as Black or African American	2,298	746	1,151
	Number of students experiencing houselessness that identify as White	1,154	2,457	1,140
	Number of students experiencing houselessness that identify as Hispanic	1,687	2,120	189
	Number of students experiencing houselessness that identify as Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander	Did not share	38	18
	Number of students experiencing houselessness that identify as Asian	Did not share	39	58
	Number of students experiencing houselessness identified as a Migrant	36	463	Did not share
	Number of students experiencing houselessness who are identified as English learner	1325	1,071	290
UHY	Number of students identified as Unaccompanied Homeless Youth (UHY – age 25 and under)	200	59	290

All three school districts anticipate that their numbers will continue to rise during the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year specifically for students who are unaccompanied houseless youth. The majority of unaccompanied minors within these three school districts are high school youth have left or been kicked out of their homes and who are couch surfing or doubling up in the home of a school friend or extended family member.

Further review of houseless identification is necessary to ensure that YYA experiencing housing instability while in the K-12 education system are eligible for services and supports through community-wide efforts and can be assessed for need through the HMIS system.

The development of a parallel database system and continued collaboration between the education system and CoC will ensure YYA are not re-traumatized in sharing their story multiple times and can benefit from varied resources and services.

Postsecondary

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for Florida shows the following as the number of unaccompanied houseless youth who were deemed "independent students" on the FAFSA, enabling them to apply for federal student aid without information on or consideration of the income and assets of their parent(s)/guardian(s).

Table 7: Independent Students per FAFSA from 2018-2021

FAFSA Year	Number of Students deemed Independent
2018 – 2019	2,559
2019 – 2020	2,546
2020 – 2021	2,318

**It is important to note that this data likely underestimates the number of youth experiencing houselessness in higher education given the FAFSA's use of skip logic to determine independent student status.*

Research conducted by the Trellis Company in partnership with Valencia College in Orlando explored the financial well-being and student success indicators of postsecondary students in fall 2020.

Key findings related to basic needs and homelessness were:

- Food insecurity is quite common among students. Using U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) methodology and covering the 30 days prior to being surveyed, Trellis learned that more than half of respondents at Valencia College showed signs of food insecurity – 25 percent with low food security and 29 percent with very low food security.
- Nearly three in five respondents (57 percent) showed signs of housing insecurity within the 12 months prior to the survey.
- Seventeen percent of respondents indicated being houseless since starting college or within the 12 months prior to the survey.

This research highlights the many barriers that housing and food insecurity can have on YYA accessing postsecondary education and the need for institutions to work alongside the community to provide emergency support services in terms of housing, food and crisis funding.

Table 8: In-School Aged Youth

In-School Aged Youth (16-24)		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need safe places to live • Barrier – age restrictions for minors for ES/housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create safe transportation options, including vehicle ownership with driver's education
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need resources to pay for tuition, educational materials and transportation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create positive solution-based mentoring programs for minors
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrier to obtain jobs due to age • Barrier to advancing to higher positions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create youth-focused transitional housing and rapid rehousing options • Create Host Homes for minors
Emotional/ Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need family therapy to heal relationships between youth and caregivers • Need mental health providers to help with development of support systems outside of family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources)

Youth and Young Adults Involved with the Juvenile Justice System

Currently, CoC FL-507 does not explicitly collect information about justice-involved YYA in HMIS. There are a few questions on our intake assessment that inquire about YYA



involvement with the juvenile justice system, but those questions are often left blank. The YAS stated that YYA do not disclose this information out of fear that doing so would prevent them from gaining access to housing supports. This is one of the reasons we are working closely with the YAS to create an updated script and new coordinated entry tool to accurately collect data points to support prioritization of vulnerable YYA in need of housing.

Through YHDP planning, we were able to partner with the city of Orlando’s Families, Parks and Recreation Department to gain insight on juvenile arrests taking place in Orlando. Currently the Department of Families, Parks and Recreation is providing wrap-around support in the form of economic assistance, mental health services, substance use services, one-on-one mentoring, career/employment exploration, tutoring and direct youth employment to decrease juvenile arrest.

The chart below shows the breakdown of the 2,394 juvenile arrests that took place in the city of Orlando within 2021.

Chart 1: Young Adults involved with the Juvenile Justice System in 2021

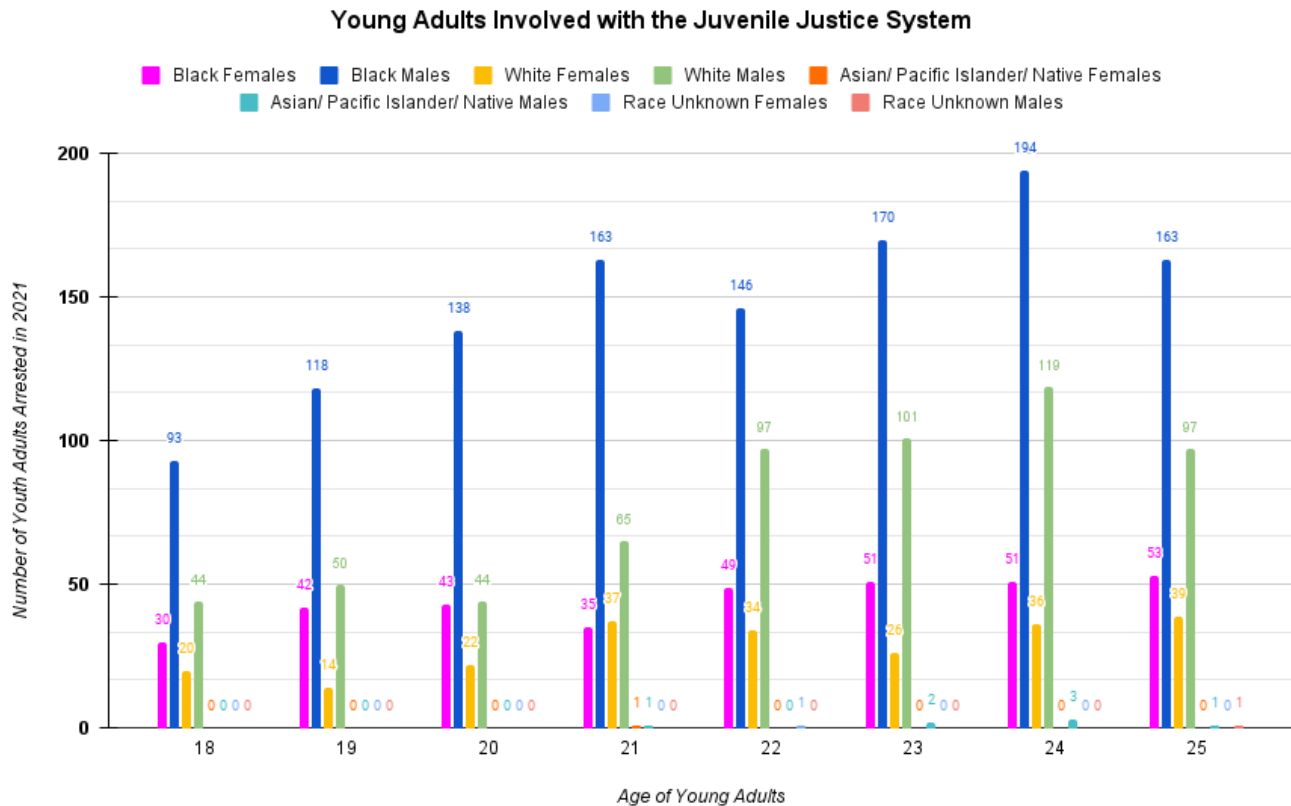


Table 9: Young Adults Involved with Juvenile Justice Needs, Barriers & Strategies

Youth Involved with Juvenile Justice		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need better transportation access to housing units • Barrier: lack of trust between YYA and landlords • Need affordable and appropriate housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a landlord/employer education workshop that provides information on how to work with YYA in their environments • Develop partnerships with workforce programs to hire YYA with criminal backgrounds • Create youth-focused transitional housing, rapid rehousing options, and permanent supportive housing • Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources) • Assign youth-focused navigators to assist YYA in navigating complex systems of support
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need free GED classes • Need free access to trade schools/programs • Need flexible class times and time frame with tutoring support • Need proper sex education/physical health education • Barrier: lack of financial literacy 	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barrier: dependable transportation • Need support in expunging convictions/ pro-bono legal aid 	
Emotional/ Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need low-barrier pathways to mental health/wellness • Need development of social skills (life skills training) 	


"IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH EMPATHY OR UNDERSTANDING IN CERTAIN PROGRAMS OR PROVIDERS WHEN IT PERTAINS TO YYA EXITING THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM. THERE IS A LACK OF UNDERSTANDING THAT MENTAL ILLNESS AND POVERTY ARE THE TWO BIGGEST CAUSES OF CRIME IN AMERICA. COMPOUNDING THE PROBLEM IS THE ILL-EQUIPPED AND POORLY FUNDED EDUCATION IN POVERTY-STRICKEN AREAS FOUND WOVEN INTO HISTORIC BLACK OR AFRICAN-AMERICAN COMMUNITIES ACROSS AMERICA. LIVING A LIFE LIMITED BY POVERTY DOESN'T ALLOW ONE THE MEANS TO ADDRESS POTENTIAL MENTAL-HEALTH BARRIERS AND CHALLENGES, INCLUDING GENERAL DEPRESSION OR THE ANXIETY OF DAY-TO-DAY SURVIVAL. THE LACK OF EMPATHY AND CARE FOR POVERTY-STRICKEN YYA LEADS TO CRIME. THE LACK OF MEANS NEEDS TO BE UNDERSTOOD IN ITS ENTIRETY, NOT HELD AGAINST A YOUTH OR YOUNG ADULT WHEN THEY ARE JUST TRYING TO SURVIVE." - BROTHA AMP, PEER SPECIALIST

Youth Involved in Child Welfare and/or Foster Care Systems



Currently, CoC FL-507 does not explicitly collect information in HMIS for children and youth active in out-of-home care. Through the YHDP planning process, we have strengthened our relationship with Florida's Department of Children and Families (DCF) and our local DCF provider, Embrace Families. As of April 2023 in our tri-county area, we know there are 1,686 children and youth being served in out-of-home care (see Chart 2 below). By June 2023, 20 YYA will be aging out of foster care. Through YHDP, we will continue to strengthen our collaboration to ensure YYA are intentionally supported during discharge with diversion, prevention, clear access to the houselessness response system, and affordable housing as needed.

Chart 2: Children Active in Out-of-Home Care



**Children Active in Out-of-Home Care
by Age and Primary Assignment County
Point-in-time as of April 10, 2023**

Child Age	Primary County			Grand Total
	Orange	Osceola	Seminole	
0	74	21	30	125
1	88	30	30	148
2	86	32	34	152
3	64	24	28	116
4	54	19	29	102
5	57	21	33	111
6	47	8	21	76
7	50	11	22	83
8	42	12	26	80
9	47	16	16	79
10	43	19	18	80
11	28	17	18	63
12	37	13	19	69
13	37	13	12	62
14	48	16	21	85
15	47	21	22	90
16	50	17	22	89
17	42	16	18	76
Grand Total	941	326	419	1686

Source: Daily FSFN report; Children Active Receiving Services by District as of April 10, 2023

martin.marmol@myflfamilies.com

Table 10: Youth Involved with Child Welfare and/or Foster Care Systems

Youth Involved with Child Welfare and/or Foster Care Systems		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need immediate housing availability for YYA aged-out of the system Need to prepare YYA with transitional life skills/financial literacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open extended foster care to YYA who are unhoused or unemployed or otherwise would exit without a housing plan Provide diversion services that include flexible financial support and housing problem-solving techniques Create host homes opportunities Create youth-focused transitional housing, rapid rehousing options, and permanent supportive housing Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources) Assign youth-focused navigators to assist YYA in navigating complex systems of support
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need financial aid and support to verify houselessness to access post-secondary education Need support tracking and transferring HS credits Need help paying for transcripts & gathering educational records 	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need job-readiness training/workshops 	
Emotional/Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need adult or mentor support with regular check-ins when transitioning out of foster care (transitional wrap-around services and support) 	

Victims of Violence (Domestic Violence, Sex Trafficking & Exploitation)



Data collection around such subgroups is often under-reported or unidentified due to victim service providers (VSP) and anti-trafficking service providers not being connected to the continuum of care (CoC). Additionally, there is the reported concern and misinformation for survivors that sharing sensitive details may place them and their family at risk for involvement in other systems, such as the child welfare system.

CoC-FL 507 has developed a data-sharing agreement with three victim service providers in Central Florida to collect more data around the housing needs for domestic violence survivors. This recent partnership further solidified the need for continued collaboration within the CoC, VSPs and anti-trafficking service providers for housing services.

We know that runaway and houseless youth have the potential to become victims of human trafficking – inclusive of sex and labor trafficking. The Central Florida CoC has identified the gaps in improving data, ensuring housing resources are accessible to survivors, and providing trauma-informed and person-centered services through collaboration with VSPs and anti-trafficking service providers.

As a result, more intentional efforts have been created through allocating a full-time position within the CoC for a DV/HT project advisor to work towards bridging a more collaborative effort in coordinated entry that reflects the need of domestic violence, sexual assault and human trafficking survivors. We will leverage this work to better support YYA who have survived or are currently fleeing domestic violence and sex and labor trafficking.

Table 11: Victims of Violence (Domestic Violence, Sex Trafficking & Exploitation)

Victims of Violence (Domestic Violence, Sex Trafficking & Exploitation)		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need the ability to create safe environments within housing • Need affordable and accessible housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of safe haven locations with pets • Provide diversion services that include flexible financial support and housing problem-solving techniques • Create host homes (including pets) opportunities • Create youth-focused transitional housing, rapid rehousing options, and permanent supportive housing • Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources) • Assign youth-focused navigators to assist YYA in navigating complex systems of support
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need free GED classes • Need free enrollment into education courses • Need remote access to education 	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need remote employment opportunities • Need access to vocational classes • Need employers to understand what trauma looks like in regard to victims of violence and how to support them 	
Emotional/ Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to be sustainable and realistic support from informed providers/ empathetic staff with welcoming/safe environments that have mental health support. 	

YYA with Co-Occurring Disorders



YYA who have co-occurring disorders are at risk of remaining houseless longer than most unhoused YYA due to the lack of consistent engagement with service providers and physical and mental health care. In some cases, these disorders may cause YYA to become unhoused. This makes it more difficult to manage their health. Many houseless YYA who initially did not have physical or mental health issues can develop disorders as a result of houselessness. Addressing their needs and supporting their long-term health goals is necessary to reduce their exposure to the harm and trauma of being houseless.

Table 12: YYA with Co-Occurring Disorders

YYA with Co-Occurring Disorders		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need immediate access to long-term housing options with intensive case management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocational rehabilitation employment specialists that work specifically with YYA Connect YYA to SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery) Onsite clinics that provide healthcare services and mental health support Provide diversion services that include flexible financial support and housing problem-solving techniques Create host homes (including pets) opportunities Create youth-focused transitional housing, rapid rehousing options, and permanent supportive housing Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources) Assign youth-focused navigators to assist YYA in navigating complex systems of support
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need tutoring and support services within school to maintain educational paths 	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need support with obtaining and sustaining employment 	
Emotional /Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need proper mental and behavioral health screenings regarding challenges during intake and throughout receiving services Need mental health and medication management support 	

LGBTQ+ and Gender Nonconforming YYA

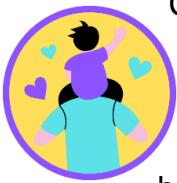


In the current political climate of Florida, LGBTQIA+ youth are under attack for their non-heteronormative or non-traditional identities. This not only hinders their freedom of expression but also erases their culture and history. Such discrimination can exacerbate the problem of youth homelessness as more young people are likely to be outed to their families, leading to the loss of their homes and close relationships. This can result in a rise in suicides and lead to other mental health crises. This can also lead to a pre-emption of care for certain populations, such as gender-affirming care for transgender youth. While Central Florida is generally more accepting of the LGBTQIA+ community, the implementation of these oppressive statewide laws and policies will make it difficult for service providers to support these youth with the housing resources they need. The affected youth will also face challenges in navigating these systems, thereby amplifying trauma not only as a LGBTQIA+ person, but also as a homeless youth.

Table 13: LGBTQ+ and Gender Nonconforming YYA

LGBTQ+ and Gender Nonconforming YYA		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need access to affordable, safe and long-term housing options 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create mandatory workshops for staff/providers around cultural competency Onsite clinics that provide healthcare services and mental health support Provide diversion services that include flexible financial support and housing problem-solving techniques Create host homes (including pets) opportunities Create youth-focused transitional housing, rapid rehousing options, and permanent supportive housing Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources) Assign youth-focused navigators to assist YYA in navigating complex systems of support
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need education in their legal rights and related legislation 	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need workforce development and job training 	
Emotional/ Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need more resources and education for providers who work in the mental health field Barrier: Access to mental health services and medication management Barrier: Access to health insurance Barrier: Access to safe clinics for healthcare services 	

Pregnant and Parenting YYA



CoC FL-507 provided services to 151 pregnant or parenting YYA who were either at risk or currently experiencing homelessness between October 1, 2021, and September 30, 2022. In our community, these YYA are particularly vulnerable to homelessness and other challenges involving multiple complex systems. They often feel apprehensive about sharing sensitive information related to their housing needs as they fear it might jeopardize their ability to keep their children.

As YAS members, we understand that building trust is critical to providing housing and supportive services to this population.

Table 14: Pregnant and Parenting YYA

Pregnant and Parenting YYA		
	Needs & Barriers	Strategies
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need affordable housing for multiple bedroom units Barrier: financial and background qualifications for housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An allotment of funds to support family and friends that provide childcare Provide diversion services that include flexible financial support and housing problem-solving techniques Create host homes opportunities Create youth-focused transitional housing and rapid rehousing options Create a drop-in center that offers supportive services (employment, education, mental health, housing resources) Assign youth-focused navigators to assist YYA in navigating complex systems of support
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need access to remote vocational and/or higher education classes in the evening or self-paced Need parenting education for young fathers 	
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barrier: lack of childcare options open 24/7 Need dependable transportation 	
Emotional/ Mental	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barrier: lack of post-partum and mental health support Need parenting support groups for YYA 	

Local Research Projects



LOCAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

City Of Orlando's 2022 Bloomberg Innovation Project

Throughout 2022, the city of Orlando participated in an innovation training program with the Bloomberg Center for Public Innovation at Johns Hopkins University. During this training program, the city performed research around the topic of youth houselessness. Most of this research was qualitative and included dozens of interviews of service providers and youth and young adults (YYA) with lived experience. Hundreds of data points were collected and synthesized into common themes and key findings.

The figure included below highlights the key findings, organized by YAS using the framework provided by the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness' (USICH) to prevent and end YYA houselessness. The four core outcomes associated with this work are centered on housing, education, employment and social and emotional well-being.

Table 15: City of Orlando's Bloomberg Project Key Findings

Bloomberg Key Findings	
Housing	
There's no place for houseless or runaway youth under 18 to go where it is safe.	Houseless or precariously housed youth and their families face compounding financial burdens and obligations.
Houseless youth feel threatened by unsafe living conditions, sexual predators and strangers.	Houseless youth are rarely asked for their opinions on services, although their experiences and insights would help create more empowering programs.
Can't find landlords who will rent to them because of racial discrimination.	
Education	
Lack of financial literacy and vision planning.	Students cannot afford to pay for their graduation attire, cap, gown, yearbook, etc.
Lack of reading capability and educational development because students are taught the "tests," not the skills	Youth want to learn and develop life skills because they were not taught.
Those who are attending post-secondary institutions lack access to residential programs due to a limited number of units or affordable dorms/student housing.	
Employment	
YYA need 2-3 jobs to maintain housing.	Youth who have a criminal background find it hard to get jobs or cover basic life necessities – often leading them to question if there is any point in living.
Youth who can't afford a car rely on public buses, which are difficult to navigate, require excessive travel time, have limited operating hours and feel unsafe.	Youth are seeking job/workforce training that caters to YYA.
Need livable wages from employers to pay for proper housing. The only available jobs are retail and fast food. There are not enough hours available to work, and wages don't cover the cost of rent.	

Social and Emotional Well-being	
DCF case managers had caseloads of 40-50 kids. They only had to meet in person once a year and check in once a month by phone. They didn't know the kids.	It is already hard to fit in as a kid when you do not have support and resources. Since houseless youth do not, they feel abandoned, unsafe, separated, shameful, looked down upon and like they can't do anything right. They feel there is no opportunity.
Houseless youth don't usually have someone they trust who is always there accepting, supporting, connecting them to others, teaching them life skills and providing guidance.	With little emphasis on socio-emotional factors in programming or services and internal exploitation within the system, housing facilities designed for adults leave youth feeling threatened and unsafe.
All houseless youth have experienced trauma that impacts their mental health, but their mental health needs are not always taken into account when receiving services.	

University of Central Florida's Research Project: Pathways through the Homeless Service System

In looking at our current houselessness response system, we have an opportunity to become more strategic in how we support YYA in Central Florida. During the YHDP planning process, our CoC strengthened its relationship with the University of Central Florida. Along with their assistance in the planning process, we also developed a partnership with their School of Social Work and School of Public Administration research teams to implement the project "Pathways through the Homeless Service System."

This study has three research questions:

1. What are the service pathways of youth (aged 18-24) through the homeless service system?
2. Which pathway (emergency shelter alone compared with emergency shelter plus other services) relates to a shorter experience of homelessness?
3. How do these service pathways vary by organizational characteristics (e.g., capacity, location, funding and sector)?

This project will make scientific contributions to research and produce guidance to support broad impacts on the community of homeless service professionals in Central Florida and beyond. It will identify the best service connections for youth experiencing houselessness in Central Florida and capture their life experiences. The findings will provide important implications for local policymakers to develop more targeted programs to minimize, and eventually end, youth houselessness in Central Florida. Ultimately, this will contribute to building a strong partnership between researchers and practitioners that work toward ending youth houselessness in our community and lessening the disruptiveness of houselessness in people's lives.

YHDP Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles, and Outcomes



YHDP VISION, MISSION, GUIDING PRINCIPLES & OUTCOMES

Vision

All houseless youth and young adults have a pathway to obtain and maintain a safe, stable and secure home.

Mission

Central Florida will utilize YHDP as a catalyst to ensure YYA experiencing houselessness have access to timely, equitable and affirming support to attain success in leadership, housing, education, employment, well-being and inter-personal relationships.

HUD Guiding Principles

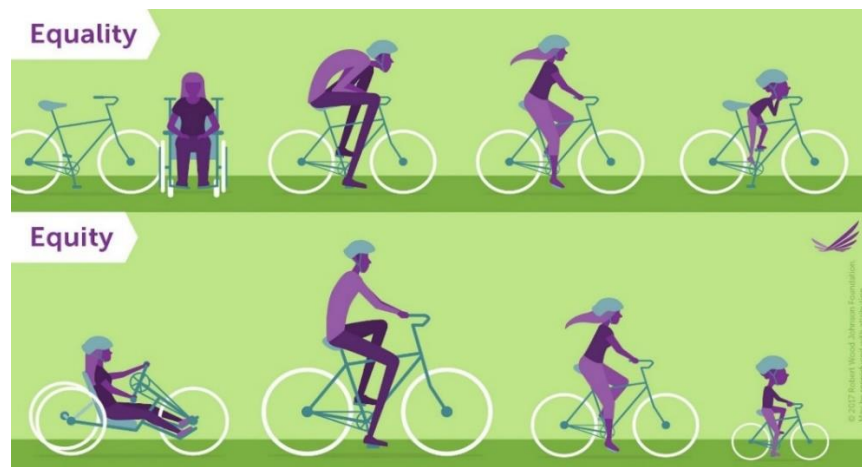
There are 10 evidence-based practices and principles that guide our work to end and prevent YYA houselessness. These principles inform our goals, objectives, action steps and new projects. YAS worked to define these principles for our community. All YHDP funded projects are expected to incorporate these 10 guiding principles into their project implementation plans. They include:

Special Populations

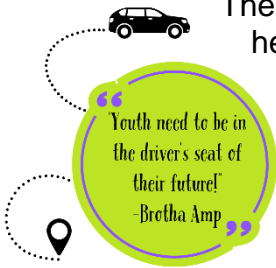
Equitable access to resources for special populations requires additional support. These populations may belong to multiple categories, such as LGBTQ+; Black, indigenous and people of color (BIPOC); pregnant and parenting individuals; those experiencing co-occurring disorders; and YYA involved in systems such as juvenile justice and out-of-home care. However, this list is not exhaustive. There are other special populations that require attention and support.

Equity

Leading with equity ensures that people, regardless of their situations, receive resource and support based on what they need to succeed. The picture below illustrates the difference between equity and equality. Equality might mean that everyone has access to the same bike. Equity suggests all of us need a bike that is appropriately suited for our unique needs.



Positive Youth Development (PYD)



The positive youth development approach aims to create a care system that helps YYA thrive. Given that young people have diverse needs, this approach requires flexibility and understanding. The care system should enable YYA to make progress in their lives while also supporting their engagement with community services and empowering them to keep growing. To build trust and understanding, it is crucial to use appropriate verbiage and tones. Additionally, providers are expected to incorporate positive youth development and trauma-informed care into their programs and work with YYA. Positive youth development is a proactive, pro-social method that involves young people in their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups and families in a way that is productive and constructive. It recognizes, utilizes and enhances young people's strengths and promotes positive outcomes by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships and offering the necessary support to build on their leadership skills.

Trauma-Informed Care (TIC)

Houselessness is a traumatizing experience and often draws past trauma back to the surface. Trauma-informed care (TIC) practices are essential when working alongside houseless YYA. TIC principles need to be embedded in the cultural environment of every provider agency, and training must be early and often.

Family Engagement

Family engagement becomes even more critical as it can serve as a safety net for YYA. The involvement of family, whether biological or chosen, can be a source of stability and support during difficult times. However, it is essential to recognize that not all YYA experiencing homelessness have access to a supportive family network. In such cases, providers may need to work with the YYA to identify alternative supportive relationships or create a new network of support. Family engagement can also facilitate the development of a plan for the YYA's safe and stable housing as families can provide a temporary or permanent living arrangement, financial support or assistance in navigating housing-related services. Involving the family in the recovery process can improve outcomes by strengthening the YYA's social support and providing a sense of belonging and connection. Overall, family engagement is a vital aspect of addressing homelessness among YYA and ensuring their well-being and success in the long term.

Unsheltered Homelessness

Our goals and objectives aim to create equity within the youth coordinated entry system for unsheltered, houseless and at-risk YYA. It is crucial that these vulnerable youth are swiftly prioritized for housing to prevent further harm and trauma. Unsheltered houselessness is particularly dangerous as it puts YYA at risk of violence, abuse, exploitation and health problems. Therefore, our efforts are focused on providing immediate access to safe and stable housing as well as the necessary support and resources to ensure that YYA can thrive and lead successful lives.

Housing First

Our goals and new projects prioritize the Housing First model, which is integrated into the youth coordinated entry system and new projects. The youth coordinated entry system ensures that housing is prioritized for underserved or at-risk YYA with no discrimination based on ethnicity, race, religion, criminal background, identity, sobriety, employment/educational status, or any other factor. Youth projects should therefore prioritize immediate access to permanent housing without readiness requirements, and they should provide choices that are appropriate for the participants' needs, strengths-based, recovery-oriented care and person-driven support.

Youth Choice

Allowing YYA to make decisions for themselves is crucial in fostering their independence and personal growth. It promotes a sense of empowerment and self-determination. When given the freedom to make choices regarding their lives, YYA are more likely to take ownership and responsibility for their decisions. This, in turn, can lead to greater satisfaction with their living situations and increased motivation to achieve their goals. Youth choice can contribute to a more positive and respectful relationship between YYA and service providers as it recognizes their unique needs and perspectives. Youth choice promotes accountability and responsibility as it encourages YYA to take an active role in their own lives and make decisions that have a positive impact on their future.

Individualized and Client-Driven Supports

These supports are tailored to the YYA that need services. It focuses on the individual's need instead of completing tasks for a case plan. This helps build autonomy, control and accountability for the youth while also receiving guidance from their support system.



Social and Community Integration

Community supports and resources are visible and easily accessible. YYA can navigate those supports and services while becoming an active member of society. The process encourages the YYA to fully participate in the growth of the community while developing personal supports.

Coordinated Entry (CE)

Coordinated entry should be an equitable way to assess and prioritize YYA that are in need of housing. The process should be low-barrier and without trauma. Resources should be easily accessible and help support YYA gain immediate access to housing that fits their needs. It is important for providers to be transparent and keep YYA informed throughout the CE process.

USICH Core Outcomes

CoC FL-507 and the YHDP Planning team committed to utilizing the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness' (USICH) four core outcomes as a guide to prevent and end youth houselessness in Central Florida. The outcomes are listed below with accompanying explanations from the YAS:



Danielle Pierson with YAS Peer Specialist, Jada Blocker

Stable Housing

It is a basic human right that YYA have a safe place to call home. All housing opportunities and support should be absent of barriers and affordable while also upholding the dignity of YYA. Our CCP addresses this by swiftly providing housing supports to those in need using diversion practices, the coordinated entry process, and housing options to best fit the individualized needs of YYA.

Education and Employment

We recognize education and employment as two of the best protective factors to limit the impact of houselessness for YYA. We also realize that there are many barriers to education and employment when a young person is unhoused. YYA need resources, intentional training, and individualized support to ensure that they are given equitable and attainable access to information while engaged in educational programs and while researching educational/employment opportunities. This allows them to lead healthy and sustainable lives. This plan is rooted in the belief that education and employment can be a part of the solution to addressing YYA houselessness, but it cannot be the sole factor. YYA deserve a holistic approach to their needs.

Permanent Connections

Strong relationships with family, schools, communities, and positive social networks are crucial for YYA success. Housing instability can make it hard to maintain these relationships, especially for unaccompanied YYA. Our plan facilitates healthy relationships between programs, schools, community members, families, and YYA to navigate difficult situations and prevent/reduce houselessness.

Social and Emotional Well-being

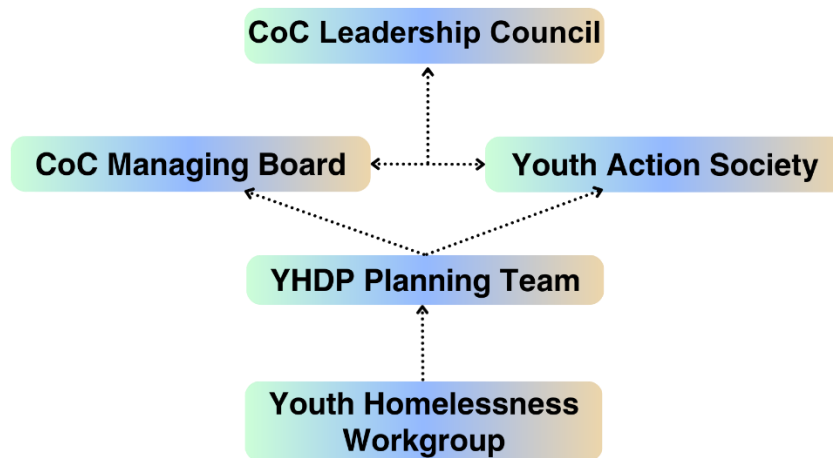
Those in our local communities experiencing houselessness are among the most affected by the lack of social and emotional support. We believe that when a person's social and emotional well-being is addressed, it allows the individual to grow. The houselessness response system must recognize the strengths that each YYA possesses while also working to identify where there is room for intentional support. We know that YYA experiencing or at risk of houselessness have also been exposed to adverse childhood experiences. This may have a significant impact on executive functioning and cognitive development and lead to poor health outcomes. Our plan not only addresses housing instability, but it also address impacts of trauma that have been associated with housing instability. We believe that while basic needs are being met, YYA should have access to affordable, high-quality, therapeutic supports and services.



Governance

GOVERNANCE

To actualize our vision of ending and preventing youth houselessness, we have established a network of YYA with lived experience, cross-systems, providers, partners and youth-serving agencies. Provided below is an organizational chart followed by text descriptions of each entity, its decision-making process and its commitment to youth voice.



CoC FL-507 Leadership Council

The managing board is the primary governance arm of the CoC. The leadership council does set structure and priorities. The council meets bi-monthly and is composed of leaders in the business, civic, faith, government and nonprofit sectors. Its youth-related task is to galvanize external resources (public/private) for a successful YHDP process, holding the lead agency accountable to a youth-centered plan. The managing board and the Youth Action Board (Youth Action Society-YAS) provide updates to the leadership council in relation to the Coordinated Community Plan and the projects that will be funded.

CoC FL-507 Managing Board

This 23-member board meets monthly to ensure the CoC's operational success, making actionable the guidance of the CoC leadership council. While YAS representatives have not consistently attended board meetings, they hold voting power and do provide advice on matters related to youth and young adults (YYA). This board will track the progress of the YHDP Coordinated Community Plan and advise the CoC leadership council regarding external resources and support needed to leverage YHDP.

Decision-Making Process

The managing board will approve funding awards based on the applicant's ability to meet YHDP priorities. The managing board and YAS have the final decision on all YHDP matters, including the Coordinated Community Plan, and selected projects. On the managing board, decisions will be made by each member holding equal voting responsibilities and authority. YAS has one seat on the managing board with voting power.

Youth Action Board - Youth Action Society (YAS)

In 2016, the CoC facilitated the formation of YAS to inform key decision-making. A small work group and an appointed youth liaison worked with YAS to establish internal policies including mission/vision, recruitment and governance standards. Throughout the years, YAS membership has fluctuated between three and five active members. Today, YAS has eight active members with three elected co-chairs. YAS is currently compensated in the form of cash payments at \$20/hour. CoC FL-507 is committed to sustaining this relationship and compensation throughout YHDP and afterwards by the use of matching funds and NOFO planning dollars.

Purpose

The purpose of YAS is to be the blueprint that successfully eradicates youth houselessness in Central Florida while building a safer and more inclusive community led by youth voices and hands.

Vision

YAS looks to build long-standing and constructive relationships between youth and community partners to eradicate barriers and houselessness among youth and young adults in Central Florida.

YAS Objectives

1. Provide leadership and offer expertise through lived experience to the CoC on the development of a region-wide system of care for youth.
2. To review and analyze the current system of care for youth houselessness and consult with stakeholders and community leaders about ways to improve things that are working, but also to inform them and the broader community on the harsh realities of existing gaps within the system.
3. Improve the CoC's present knowledge and capacity to target resources towards the challenges directly facing houseless youth.
4. Hold community stakeholders accountable to shared commitments and goals for improving the system of care for youth experiencing houselessness.

YAS meets two to three times a month and has been co-facilitating weekly YHDP planning meetings as well as participating in various HUD technical assistance meetings during the YHDP process. YAS has three elected chairs that attend the YHDP planning meetings, where they serve as advisors utilizing their lived experience and elevate the concerns and experiences of other YYA with lived experiences. Within their YAS meetings, they relay and discuss information with their peers to ensure transparency and equity of voice.

YAS Decision-Making Structure

YAS uses a majority vote structure. With this voting structure, general YAS members get a single vote when making YAS decisions. YAS Co-Chairs do not have individual voting power. In the event of a tie, the three YAS co-chairs will discuss the matter and offer one unanimous vote to break the tie. If the three YAS co-chairs cannot reach a unanimous decision within the allotted time frame, then the motion does not pass. YAS will continue discussing the motion and will vote again within 24 to 48 hours. If the

general body determines that the motion is urgent, the YAS co-chairs will provide their one unanimous vote within 24 hours.

Decision-Making Process

YAS is a decision-making body of the CoC with the responsibility for planning and implementation. YAS has voting power on the CoC managing board. YAS works closely with the YHDP planning team to set the priorities and projects to be included in the Coordinated Community Plan. At least two YAS members must be present during YHDP planning meetings when deciding on items to be addressed in the Coordinated Community Plan. Once the Coordinated Community Plan is complete and projects are selected, YAS and the managing board will review, offering feedback and ultimately making the final decision to submit.

YHDP Planning Team

The YHDP planning team is composed of YAS members, Youth Homelessness Workgroup members, CoC lead agency staff (including the housing operations staff), and a diverse cross-section of community leaders. The participating members are listed in the partner chart below. The team meets weekly and is facilitated by the CoC's youth project manager. This team works to lend their expertise and ideas to YAS and operates with persistence to prioritize and engage authentic youth voices. The YHDP planning team meets, virtually and in person, to brainstorm needs, data, programming and policy, making recommendations to include in the CCP.

Decision-Making Process

All action steps will be determined based on the priorities set forth by YAS and YYA with lived experience. This team will have equal votes on items submitted in the CCP. At least two YAS members will need to be present for voting to take place, and YAS members will be allowed time to discuss as a group prior to voting.

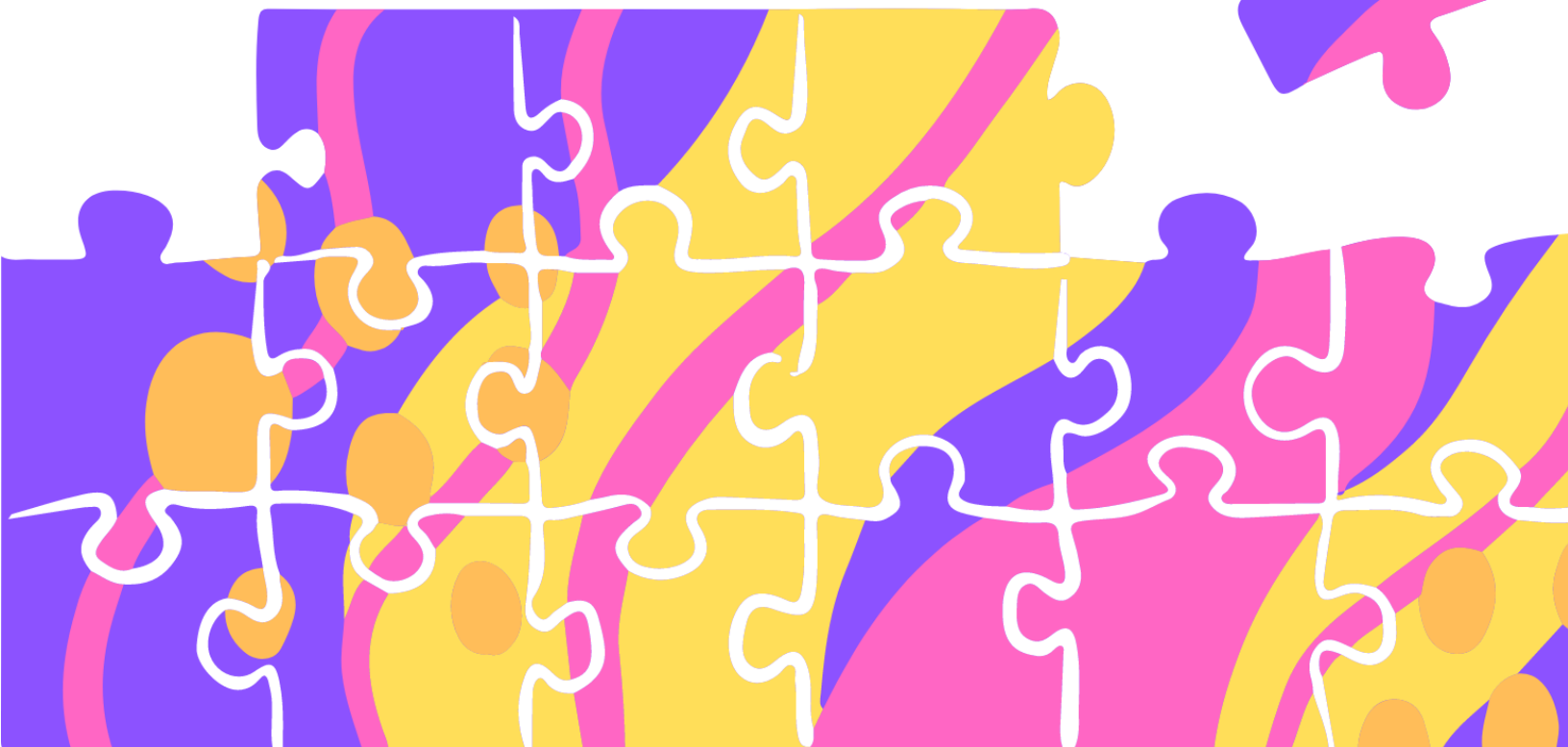
Youth Homelessness Workgroup

The Youth Homelessness Workgroup is a 45-member CoC committee with the objective of addressing youth homelessness and engaging diverse stakeholders, the full CoC, the CoC Board, the YHDP Team and the YAS. They meet, at a minimum, bi-monthly and work to develop and implement a community-wide youth-focused system.

Decision-Making Process

While this work group does not make decisions, they are committed to informing the processes that affect youth systems. YAS members are invited to all meetings to ensure the work is aligned and impactful. This group will be consulted throughout the YHDP process as some members are also on the YHDP planning team.

Goals, Objectives, & Action Steps



GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & ACTION STEPS

Goal 1: YYA LEAD - Central Florida collaborates with YYA that have lived experience of houselessness to prioritize and uplift youth voices throughout the implementation of YHDP.			
Objective 1.1: Establish a process of accountability for service providers to ensure authentic youth engagement and collaboration at all levels - CoC leadership/ service provider.	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
	1.1.1: All YHDP-funded providers develop youth action boards that are connected to YAS and surveyed to help continuously shape and improve service delivery and programming.	CoC Grantees YAS	October 2023
	1.1.2: Provide training and ongoing technical assistance to YHDP-funded providers in best practices for authentic youth collaboration, including establishing equity as a guiding principle.	CoC YAS	Fall 2023/ October 2023
Objective 1.2: Develop a YYA-led campaign to help the community and local government understand youth houselessness and the associated needs and barriers to stable housing.	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
	1.2.1: YAS and Adult partners collaborate to develop an education and awareness campaign that targets the public, community partners and local government.	CoC and YAS Leadership Council	Winter 2023/2024
	1.2.2: Work with YAS and associated YABs to identify best ways to share campaign information and resources at community events/centers, forums, schools and government meetings led by YAS.	CoC and YAS	Winter 2023/2024
HUD GUIDING PRINCIPLES			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Populations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive Youth Development & Trauma-Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	Individualized & Client-Driven Supports
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Family Engagement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Youth Choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry

Goal 2: IDENTIFICATION: Central Florida identifies all unaccompanied YYA experiencing or at risk of houselessness to understand their unique needs and ensure timely connections to needed resources.

	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
<p>Objective 2.1: Engage system partners to improve the identification of YYA experiencing or at risk of houselessness and opportunities for cross-systems planning and evaluation.</p>	<p>2.1.1: Utilize the youth houselessness workgroup to define and strengthen relationships, CoC recruitment efforts, referral practices, data sharing and polices.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Require engagement from all YHDP-funded agencies in the CoC and Youth Homelessness Workgroup activities. 	CoC	Winter 2023
	<p>2.1.2: Develop upstream prevention and diversion strategies to youth and families before separation occurs.</p>	CoC	Winter 2023
	<p>2.1.3: Develop a data-sharing agreement for creating a more robust data set from system partners (schools, child welfare and juvenile services).</p>	CoC	Winter 2023
	<p>2.1.4: Educate YYA and HMIS users about consent and confidentiality. Provide HMIS users with training on options for entering YYAs with identifiers. Adapt privacy statements to address the specific concerns of YYAs and their legal rights to protection of information.</p>	CoC	Winter 2023
	<p>2.1.5: Deploy mobile outreach teams to focus on areas frequented by YYA throughout Central Florida (e.g., streets, libraries, public schools and recreation centers).</p>	Grantee	Winter 2023
	<p>Objective 2.2: Youth in crisis have a variety of ways to access and be connected to the services and supports they need.</p>	<p>Action Steps</p>	<p>Responsible Party</p>
<p>2.2.1: Develop a youth-centered outreach strategy that is inclusive of special populations and utilizes trained and compensated peer outreach workers.</p>		CoC Grantee YAS	Winter 2023
<p>2.2.2: Develop additional access points that are low-barrier and specific to YYA needs.</p>		CoC	Spring 2024
<p>2.2.3: Implement a YYA navigator program incorporating youth choice with the capacity to support YYA as they move through the system from front door access to stable housing.</p>		Grantee	Winter 2023
<p>2.2.4: Redesign CE assessment tool to effectively measure youth-specific risks and needs for housing and services including: physical and behavioral health, education and employment.</p>		CoC YAS	Winter 2024
<p>2.2.5: Redesign our policies and processes to prioritize youth with the highest level of need for the most intensive and immediate interventions, including creating a prioritization path for youth-</p>		CoC YAS	Winter 2024

	specific programs and revising the overall prioritization scheme to ensure equitable access to non-youth-specific CoC programs.		
	2.2.6: The CoC will train all YHDP-funded programs in diversion strategies, such as family reunification and housing problem-solving.	CoC	Winter 2023
HUD GUIDING PRINCIPLES			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Populations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive Youth Development & Trauma-Informed Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Individualized & Client-Driven Supports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Family Engagement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Youth Choice	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry

Goal 3: HOUSING: YYA are provided choices through diverse, flexible and low-barrier housing options. These options are immediate, safe and supportive and reflect individualized needs to ensure long-term stable housing and decrease the length of time a YYA is unhoused.

	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
Objective 3.1: Increase the supply of housing to ensure a wide array of flexible youth-specific options, including permanent, low-barrier options tailored for YYA needs.	3.1.1: Create new joint TH (transitional) - RRH (rapid rehousing) projects providing immediate access to short-term/crisis housing (when needed) that is connected to RRH and uses housing-first principles.	CoC Grantees	Winter 2023
	3.1.2: Create additional permanent supportive housing (PSH) for youth with higher service needs.	CoC Grantees	Winter 2023
	3.1.3: Increase the supply of short-term crisis housing such as crisis transitional housing and host homes.	CoC	Winter 2023
	3.1.4: Implement a landlord liaison program that partners with and educates landlords to increase the availability of housing units for YYA.	CoC Housing Operations Team	Spring 2024
	3.1.5: Explore private and non-CoC funding opportunities to implement other projects and innovative pathways outside of the YHDP funding.	CoC	Ongoing
	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
Objective 3.2: Develop a system of accountability to ensure that all YYA housing programs are effective.	3.2.1: Develop continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan and committee, including YAS members, that collects qualitative and quantitative information from YHDP-funded projects to ensure feedback and input from YYA participants are incorporated.	CoC YAS	Fall 2023
	3.2.2: Develop data collection standards and community metrics of success for all funded projects.	CoC YAS	Fall 2023
HUD GUIDING PRINCIPLES			
☒	Special Populations	☒	Equity
☒	Positive Youth Development & Trauma-Informed Care	☒	Individualized & Client-Driven Supports
☒	Housing First	☒	Family Engagement
☒	Unsheltered Homelessness	☒	Social & Community Integration
☒	Youth Choice	☒	Coordinated Entry

Goal 4: EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT: Central Florida supports all YYA at risk and experiencing houselessness in achieving their personal, educational and career goals with supports tailored to their needs.

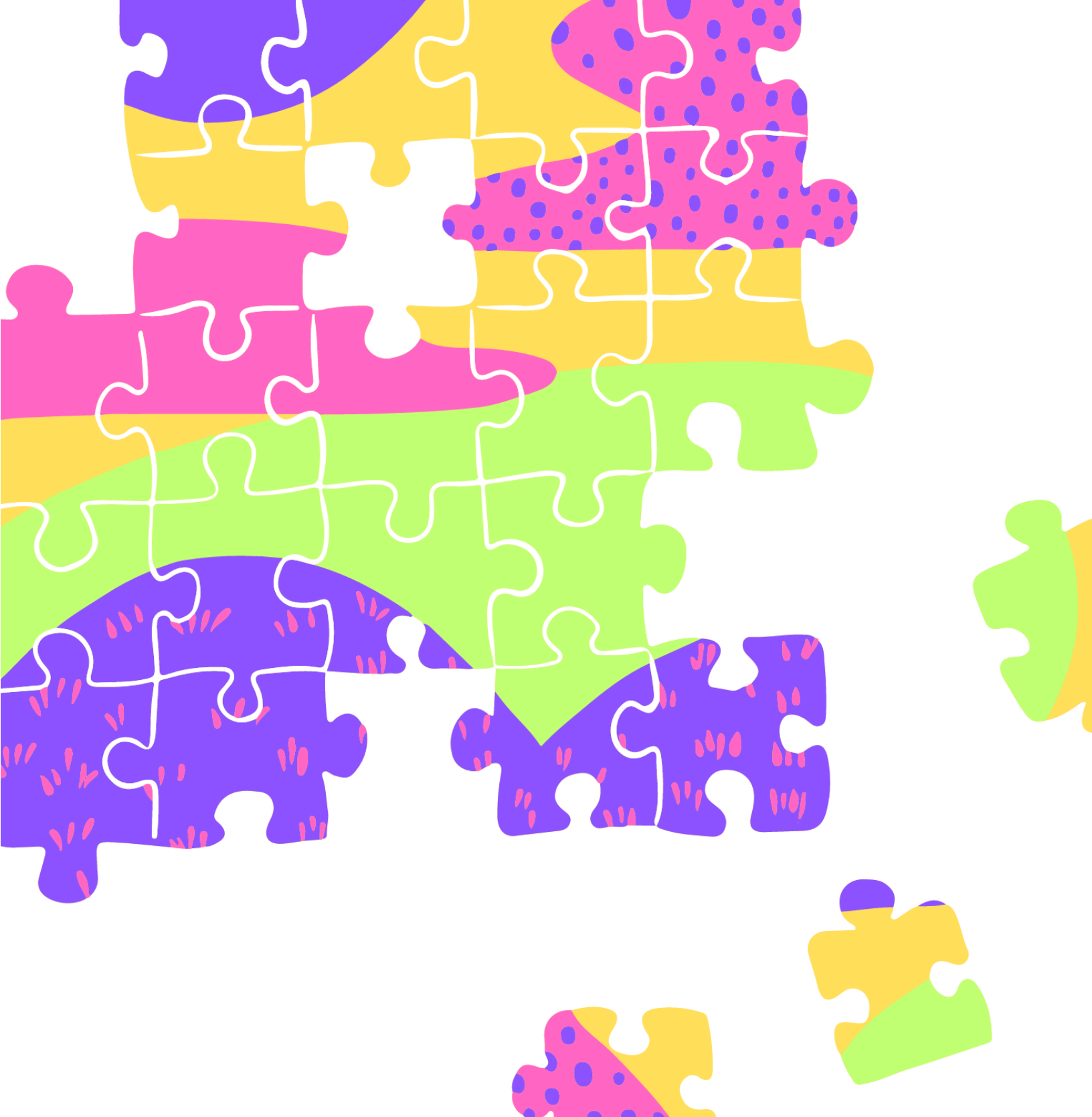
Objective 4.1:	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
Develop and improve partnerships within the education and workforce system and with other system providers to holistically support at-risk youth and young adults experiencing houselessness.	4.1.1: The education and employment subcommittee will convene 4x/year to identify and implement action steps in collaboration with the Youth Action Society.	Education/ employment subcommittee	Winter 2023
	4.1.2: Representatives from the education and employment subcommittee will participate in the Youth Homelessness Workgroup meetings at least 1x/month.		
	4.1.3: Identify potential partners to join the subcommittee and develop an outreach and engagement plan.		
Objective 4.2:	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
Eliminate barriers to accessing education and employment opportunities for youth and young adults.	4.2.1: Identify and provide resources to support YYA in determining education and career goals.	Education/ employment subcommittee	Winter 2023
	4.2.2: Train educators, workforce partners and other system providers on education pathways, including early childcare and early education, employment resources and financial resources for paying for education.		
	4.2.3: Identify and implement strategies to support YYA with accessing early childcare and education.		

HUD GUIDING PRINCIPLES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Special Populations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equity
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Positive Youth Development & Trauma-Informed Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Individualized & Client-Driven Supports
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing First	<input type="checkbox"/>	Family Engagement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Youth Choice	<input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry

Goal 5: HEALTH AND PERMANENT RELATIONSHIPS: The health and well-being of YYA are prioritized by meeting youth where they are and providing them with the resources, supports and permanent connections they need to achieve stability, health and self-sufficiency.

	Action Steps	Responsible Party	Time Frame
Objective 5.1: Establish a process of accountability for service providers to ensure authentic youth engagement and collaboration at all levels – CoC leadership/service provider.	5.1.1: YHDP-funded housing programs and partners will have the supportive services in place to assist youth with social and emotional well-being, healthcare, employment and education, including programming or connections that support youth with the acquisition of skills, competencies and self-efficacy needed for independent living.	CoC Grantees YAS	October 2023
	5.1.2: Provide training and ongoing technical assistance to YHDP-funded providers in best practices for authentic youth collaboration, including establishing equity as a guiding principle.	CoC YAS	Fall 2023/ October 2023
	5.1.3: CoC will incorporate positive youth development, trauma-informed care, motivational interviewing and harm-reduction training for YHDP-funded programs to provide effective, individualized and YYA-driven support.	CoC YAS	Fall 2023
	5.1.4: Create drop-in centers that serve as a one-stop-shop for YYA's, providing services such as laundry, showers, food pantries, life skills and connections to health, housing, education, employment and state/SOAR benefits.	CoC Grantee YAS	Winter 2023
	5.1.5: YHDP-funded projects partner with HUD-approved first-time home-buyer education programs to provide purchasing education to YYAs.	Grantee	Winter 2023
	5.1.6: Create a resource map to identify existing services/resources, eligibility criteria for services/resources, drop-in centers and service hotspots.	CoC YAS	Spring 2024
HUD GUIDING PRINCIPLES			
☒	Special Populations	☒	Equity
☒	Positive Youth Development & Trauma-Informed Care	☒	Individualized & Client-Driven Supports
☒	Housing First	☒	Family Engagement
☒	Unsheltered Homelessness	☒	Social & Community Integration
☒	Youth Choice	☒	Coordinated Entry



New Projects

NEW PROJECTS

Thanks to the dedication and intentional involvement of the YHDP planning team, the CoC FL-507 and the Youth Action Society of Central Florida (YAS) were able to identify new youth-specific projects to better support Central Florida's YYAs. These projects are designed to create a comprehensive, coordinated and youth-driven system of care for youth and young adults. Projects are low-barrier and prioritize family and community engagement (including family of choice), immediate access to supportive services, youth voice and choice, individualized person-centered support, social/community integration, and key principles of positive youth development and trauma-informed care.

Access referrals to each of these projects will be handled through coordinated entry. The CoC is committed to continual process improvement to transform the current coordinated entry and assessment process with leadership and input from YAS to ensure the coordinated entry process fulfills the aspirations noted above.

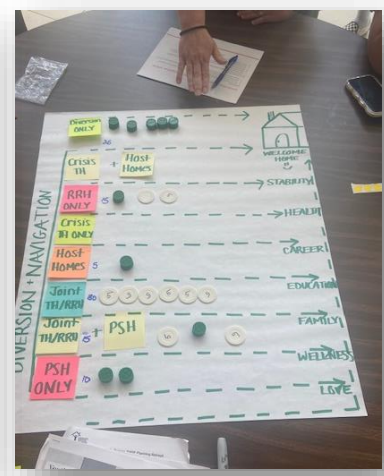
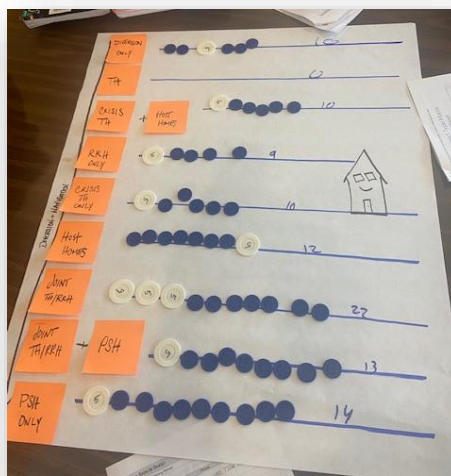
All projects will also be designed to meet the needs identified in the YHDP planning process for special populations and will ensure equity in access and outcomes across groups. Holistic monitoring thorough a continuous quality improvement process will be overseen by YAS, facilitated by the lead agency. This process will include the review of process and outcome data, as well as quantitative and qualitative feedback, from YYAs receiving services.

Requirements & Core Components of All YHDP Projects

The YHDP planning team – consisting of members from YAS, the CoC, youth system partners, and lead agency staff – identified and committed to a series of requirements that all YHDP projects should meet. Potential providers for each project will be required to demonstrate that they can meet all of the following as part of their response to the request for applications:

- All organizations applying for YHDP funding must be a current member of the CoC FL-507 and cooperate in data collaboration through the HMIS system and DV comparable databases.
- All projects must intentionally collaborate with the Youth Action Society and the CoC FL-507.
- All projects must be youth-driven and demonstrate incorporation of youth voice in planning, providing services and developing and evaluating programs and services and staff hires.
- All projects must commit to having a functioning Youth Action Board within the first 6 months of receiving funding. This board should be composed of at least three members between the ages of 16 and 24 with lived experience of youth houselessness. The board should include past and current project participants with varying identities. The Youth Action Board members will be members of YAS, attend monthly meetings, and receive training and support from YAS.

- All selected providers must have active representation on the CoC Youth Homeless Workgroup. This workgroup is a community of practice (COP). Providers are required to attend COP trainings, including trainings on YHDP-identified special populations.
- All projects must be low-barrier, safe, equitable, culturally competent, judgment-free and affirming.
- All project staff must maintain compassionate-oriented service delivery, be trauma-informed and strengths-based, and demonstrate a project design and implementation plan that help YYAs build on their strengths and develop the competencies that they want and need. YYA's voices and choices will be encouraged, honored and supported throughout service delivery.
- All project case managers will have sufficient training and demonstrate competency in supporting YYAs in transitioning to adulthood and choosing and understanding various pathways and available resources for each of those pathways.
- All project staff will be trained in facilitating diversion conversations exploring family reunification when possible. Staff will respect family of choice as a viable option for reunification, mentoring and other support for the youth they serve.
- All projects must introduce and intentionally support youth in attaining benefits, supportive services and opportunities to grow financially, educationally, physically and mentally and to become their best authentic self.
- All projects will work to maintain a diverse staff that is representative of the community and demonstrates cultural humility.
- All projects must participate in the CoC FL-507 coordinated entry process.
- All projects must collaborate with all applicable community supports, such as libraries, early childcare programs and K-12 and higher education partners, workforce development partners, mental and behavioral health partners, and other potential community supports for youth.



Innovative Strategies

SSO Innovations

- SSO - Host homes serve as a short-term housing option to support YYA in need of immediate housing while staying connected to education and employment.
- SSO - Host homes engage community members in preventing youth homelessness and prioritizing special populations.
- SSO – Drop-in centers include YYA-specific outreach emphasizing diversion and system navigation with youth-designed and led programming as well as basic services.
- SSO - YYA systems navigation assist YYA across projects to quickly transition YYA into permanent housing and address any barriers that might lead to YYA not being able to access housing or remain stably housed.
- SSO - Diversion project and drop-in center incorporate assistance with family reunification, including family of choice, whenever possible.
- SSO - CE-collaborative discharge planning among system partners and the homeless response system has been a challenge. This project will allow CE staff members and youth systems navigators to ensure collaborative efforts are happening at the system level.

Housing Innovations

- All housing projects will commit to operate under the housing-first service orientation with a commitment to trauma-informed care, harm reduction and positive youth development.
- Housing projects will include opportunities to hire young adults with lived experience of homelessness.
- A youth-focused permanent supportive housing project will dedicate beds to YYA in need of this housing option while still prioritizing the most vulnerable among YYA.
- Transitional housing/rapid re-housing project will provide immediate crisis-oriented stabilization and supportive housing options in place of emergency shelter, lasting up to three years.
- A transitional housing/rapid re-housing project will provide a transition-in-place model using scattered-site transitional housing, so that youth and young adults have fewer housing transitions in their journeys to housing stability.



YAS and HSN Designing Central Florida's End Youth Homelessness Campaign

Defining Supportive Services

YAS defines supportive services as methods and tools that assist individuals in combating barriers in their day-to-day lives. Through supportive services, the individual should feel heard and safe while having the opportunity to express themselves. With this support, the YYA should transition out of homelessness to permanent housing with a better understanding of themselves (including mental, physical and emotional aspects) and their ability to overcome adversity.

YYA can choose which supports are best for them. All populations will have access to the following services: basic needs, housing navigation, counseling, transportation, case management and aftercare. Each of these services will look different depending on the population served.

Supportive Services should include the following:

- Case management:
 - Staff roles are defined above all else as youth advocates prioritizing youth choice
 - Comprehensive and regular cultural competency training, with system review for maintaining fidelity to the practice
 - Comprehensive and regular racial equity training
 - Full implementation of trauma-informed practices, including special attention to grief and loss, PTSD, family separation and sex trafficking

- Healthy relationship education that includes the following:
 - Employee/supervisor
 - Significant other/self
 - Parent/offspring
 - Patient/doctor
 - Landlord/tenant
 - Teacher/student
 - Training on how and when to advocate for oneself and request mediation

- Substance abuse treatment that includes:
 - Peer support
 - Harm reduction
 - Safety planning
 - Relationship building
 - Coping skills

- Meeting the specific needs of youth under the age of 18, including:
 - Life skills
 - Family support/family engagement/family counseling/family reunification
 - GED/school work area
 - Communication support (help getting access to phone/internet)
 - Financial literacy

- Meeting the specific needs of youth who are pregnant and/or parenting, including:
 - Accessing healthcare (pre and post-natal)
 - Legal assistance/pro-bono
 - Parenting classes
 - Family counseling
 - Peer support groups
 - Access to prenatal care
 - Childcare vouchers
 - In-home educational supports

- Meeting the needs of youth between the ages of 18-24, including:
 - Utility assistance
 - Employment services
 - Career counselor
 - Resume building
 - Employment opportunities
 - Communication support – help with access to phone/internet
 - Moving assistance
 - In-kind donations for new apartments
 - Landlord mediation
 - How to understand a lease
 - Credit education – credit rating, credit card safety
 - Links to HUD-approved first-time homebuyers programs
 - Budgeting
 - Financial literacy
 - SOAR
 - Access to behavioral and mental health professionals of color, if desired
 - Access to multilingual behavioral and mental health professionals, if desired
 - Accessibility to services for those who speak Spanish/Creole
 - Legal support related to immigration

- Meeting the specific needs of youth who identify as LGBTQ+, Including:
 - Connections to open and affirming faith-based communities
 - Peer support groups
 - Mental health care from a provider that supports this group specifically
 - Connections to LGBTQ+-informed medical provider

Project 1: HMIS			
Summary of Project	<p>This project will allow for an expansion of HMIS to include YHDP programs and will support our efforts in continuous quality improvements on data quality and racial equity. It will also help the CoC identify and address system disparities.</p> <p>The funds will be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand HMIS to incorporate new YHDP programs and community partners delivering services to YYAs • Provide HMIS technical assistance, support and training of new providers and projects while enhancing data quality • Grow the CoC's ability to report and track data points related to YYA 		
YHDP Guiding Principles	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Coordinated Entry ✓ Special Populations </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Equity </td> </tr> </table>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Coordinated Entry ✓ Special Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Equity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Coordinated Entry ✓ Special Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Equity 		
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase and improve HMIS participation • Increase tracking for measurements of success or weaknesses • Create separate YHDP projects and reports, pulling data for evaluation and monitoring • Quarterly trend and data analysis with the YAS and YHDP leadership 		
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This will support all YYA data collection/reporting • HUD Homeless Definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4 		
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include opportunities for hiring young adults with lived experience in homelessness 		
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	N/A		
Target # of Housing Units	N/A		
Number of YYA Served	N/A		
Staffing	1 FTE		
Project Cost (1 year)	\$82,500 (+25% match)		

Project 2: SSO – Centralized Diversion Fund	
Summary of Project	<p>Diversion will be used to connect all unaccompanied YYA to safe and supportive housing, including the support of permanent connections through youth-defined family reunification. This model uses creative problem-solving conversations paired with flexible financial assistance to support connections to safe and stable housing that, when possible, are outside of the homeless response system.</p> <p>This centralized fund will be available to all YHDP partners engaging with YYA experiencing a housing crisis (outreach teams, youth navigators, coordinated entry assessment teams/access points, drop-in centers, etc.).</p>

	<p>Funding will also support ongoing system-wide training on diversion and housing problem-solving techniques to preserve more intensive resources (PSH, RRH, and joint TH-RRH) for those with no other options.</p> <p>We will support YYA and their families to stay stabilized in housing through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible financial support, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Transportation to other cities and states when safe and stable housing options are available outside of the CoC ○ Emergency housing financial assistance ○ Food assistance ○ Landlord mitigation fund • Family mediation • Family/ individual counseling • Referrals to community resources • Case management • Navigation 	
YHDP Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equity ✓ Positive Youth Development ✓ Trauma-Informed Care ✓ Family Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Youth Choice ✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports
Outcomes	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased permanent connections • Social-emotional well-being <p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease number of youths that become houseless for the first time • Increase number of youths obtaining stable housing and successful housing retention • Decrease number of youths returning to houselessness 	
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18 - 24 • Unaccompanied minors 15 - 17 • HUD homeless definition: categories 1, 2 and 4 	
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing 	
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Payment of rental arrears consisting of a one-time payment for up to 6 months of rent in arrears, including any late fees on those arrears. • Up to three months of utilities for a program participant, based on the utility costs schedule for the unit size and location. • Legal fees, including court fees, bail bonds and required courses and equipment. • Use of habitability standard rather than HQS 	
Target # of Housing Units	N/A	
Number of YYA Served	115	
Staffing	N/A	
Project Cost (1 year)	\$154,880 (+25% match)	

Project 3: SSO Youth Navigation		
Summary of Project	<p>Youth cross-system navigators will support YYA as they move through the system from front-door access to stable housing. They will serve as a single point of contact for YYA as they seek housing and navigate complex systems (schools, juvenile justice, foster care, health care, workforce and benefits). They will partner with the Youth Coordinated Entry System Manager to identify youth, divert youth and connect youth to CES and other housing options and resources.</p> <p>Youth cross-system navigators will not duplicate the services of case managers, but rather they will partner to provide youth advocacy and community connections. They will uplift and honor YYA voice and choice throughout the process. They will collaborate with all youth-serving organizations to ensure streamlined access to housing and services. They will have an extensive understanding of all system resources and options available to YYA and support YYA as they navigate them.</p> <p>Service Description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducts coordinated entry assessments • Provide youth-centered system navigation based on the individual needs of the YYA • Assist with diversion when possible and access flexible funds to remove barriers and quickly move YYA through the system • Meet with YYA in a variety of settings as well as remotely • Build relationships with system partners to enhance service coordination • Advocate for YYA voice and choice throughout all systems of care <p>Service Approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Person-centered and trauma-informed • Trained in housing-first goals and housing problem-solving techniques • Manageable caseloads 	
YHDP Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equity ✓ Positive Youth Development ✓ Trauma-Informed Care ✓ Family Engagement ✓ Coordinated Entry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Youth Choice ✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports ✓ Social and Community Integration
Outcomes	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing • Permanent connections • Education/employment • Social-emotional well-being <p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase number of youth with exits to stable housing • Decrease the length of time youth wait for housing • Increase system capacity to triage, engage and connect youth to supports • Expand YYA confidence in the system and in their own resources • Improve cross-system partnership and collaboration • Increase the ease of navigation through the system for YYA 	

Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18-24 • Unaccompanied minors ages 15-17 • HUD homeless definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing • Include opportunities for hiring young adults with lived experience in houselessness
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ youth who are receiving services, including housing, from the recipient organization. • YHDP recipients may continue providing supportive services to program participants for up to 24 months after the program participant exits houselessness or transitional housing or after the end of housing assistance
Target # of Housing Units	N/A
Number of YYA Served	500
Staffing	Youth Navigators: 8 FTE (Staff Ratio 1:25) Project Manager: 1 FTE Admin Support: 1 FTE
Project Cost (1 year)	\$929,500 (+25% match)

Project 4: SSO – Drop-In Center/Outreach

Summary of Project	<p>Youth drop-in centers are safe spaces for YYA at risk of or experiencing houselessness to have their immediate needs met while being connected with supportive services. Basic needs, such as food, showers, laundry and provision of hygiene supplies, are readily available. The environment is a safe and affirming space for all YYA to come exactly as they are and create connections with peers and community members.</p> <p>This project is designed by the YAS to ensure quick identification of houseless or at-risk YYA that would not generally present through the traditional houseless service entry points. This center will provide prevention, diversion support, and front-door navigation assistance. YYA accessing the drop-in center will be able to access a variety of supportive services and get their needs quickly assessed. Services will be available on site by staff and through partnerships with community service providers.</p>	
YHDP Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equity ✓ Positive Youth Development ✓ Trauma-Informed Care ✓ Family Engagement ✓ Coordinated Entry ✓ Special Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Youth Choice ✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports ✓ Social and Community Integration
Outcomes	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing • Education/employment 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social-emotional well-being <p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet the basic needs of YYA at risk of or experiencing houseless • Make referrals to community partners who can meet housing, educational and social/emotional needs • YYA meet self-determined goals • Increase education advancement • Increase employment attainment and advancements
Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18-24 • Unaccompanied minors ages 15-17 • HUD homeless definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing • Participation in Youth Homelessness Workgroup • Include opportunities for hiring young adults with lived experience in homelessness
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing start-up expenses for program participants, including furniture, pots and pans, linens, toiletries and other household goods • The one-time cost of purchasing a cellular phone and service for program participant use, provided that access to a cellular phone is necessary to obtain or maintain housing, education and employment • In addition to transportation costs eligible in 24 CFR 578.53(e)(15), a recipient may pay gas and mileage costs for a program participant's personal vehicle for trips to and from medical care, employment, childcare or other services eligible under this section • Legal fees, including court fees, bail bonds and required courses and equipment
Target # of Housing Units	N/A
Number of YYA Served	600
Staffing	<p>Program Director, 1 FTE Housing/Resource Liaison, 1 FTE (Staff Ratio 1:20) Peer Support 1 FTE (Staff Ratio 1:20) Outreach Worker 1 FTE (Staff Ratio 1:25)</p>
Project Cost (1 year)	\$302,500 (+25% match)

Project 5: SSO – Youth Specific Coordinated Entry

<p>Summary of Project</p>	<p>This project will support a Youth Coordinated Entry System Coordinator to strengthen the operations of the entire youth CES, including system discharge for cross-system coordination, identification and housing. The coordinator will work closely with YYA system navigators, drop-in center staff, outreach teams and providers to ensure YYA are being properly identified and served according to trauma-informed care, positive youth development and youth-centered approaches.</p> <p>The Youth Coordinated Entry System Coordinator will also work with providers to market the youth-centered CES and engage YAS and local YABs to build, implement and conduct CQI. The Youth Coordinated Entry Quality Assurance Specialist will work with access points and youth providers to provide trainings and ensure all houseless youth are being identified, regardless of which system of care they first encountered. The youth coordinated entry project will expand access to diversion, shelter and housing services using an assessment to connect youth to the appropriate services and prioritize youth with the highest need.</p> <p>Service Description</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensures CE is accessible to YYA experiencing a housing crisis. • Provides coaching, training and support to YYA projects to ensure projects have capacity to adhere to YHDP principles, best practices and YHDP goals. • Works with cross-system community partners to adapt access points to improve access for LGBTQ+, BIPOC and parenting YYA. • Coordinates with providers of youth and young adult housing and services, including all YHDP-funded projects, to support streamlined access to resources and consistency in approach, regardless of where individuals first engage in services. • Participates in YYA case conferencing • Leads YYA-specific CE marketing and engagement. • Develops and leads the management of YYA “by name” list 	
<p>YHDP Guiding Principles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Equity ✓ Positive Youth Development ✓ Trauma-Informed Care ✓ Family Engagement ✓ Coordinated Entry ✓ Special Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Youth Choice ✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports ✓ Social and Community Integration ✓ Housing First
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing • Social-emotional well-being <p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the ease of navigation through the system for YYA and referring providers • Improve prioritization of most vulnerable YYA for housing offers • Adopt a new CE tool • Decrease the number of YYA turned away from services • Improve cross-system partnership and collaboration 	

Target Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18-24 • Unaccompanied minors ages 15-17 • HUD homeless definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing • Participation in Youth Homelessness Workgroup
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YHDP recipients may employ youth who are receiving services, including housing, from the recipient organization. • Use project administrative funds to attend conferences and training that are not HUD sponsored or HUD approved, provided that the subject matter is relevant to youth homelessness.
Target # of Housing Units	N/A
Number of YYA Served	N/A
Staffing	Youth Coordinated Entry System Coordinator, 1 FTE Youth Coordinated Entry Supportive Housing Coordinator, 1 FTE
Project Cost (1 year)	\$160,160 (+25% match)

Project 6: SSO – Host Homes									
Summary of Project	<p>The host home project is a new project for CoC FL-507. Host homes will serve as a short term, alternative housing option for YYA between the ages of 15-24 who are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied, • Unwilling or unable to access traditional shelters, • In need a “cooling off” period with their family of origin in order to safely reunite with family, and/or • Enrolled in post-secondary education and need somewhere to stay during extended breaks. <p>The host home matching process will be facilitated by hired staff and honor YYA choice and voice throughout the process. All host home families will be vetted to ensure the YYA safety, undergo training, and receive support from staff to support a successful placement. All YYA participating in the host home project will be provided with a YYA system navigator to assist with managing external resources, determining next steps, and ensuring a successful transition.</p> <p>Youth seeking host homes who are minors, pregnant or parenting, exiting foster care or LGBTQ+ will be prioritized for placement.</p>								
YHDP Guiding Principles	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>✓ Positive Youth Development</td> <td>✓ Unsheltered Homelessness</td> </tr> <tr> <td>✓ Trauma-Informed Care</td> <td>✓ Youth Choice</td> </tr> <tr> <td>✓ Family Engagement</td> <td>✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports</td> </tr> <tr> <td>✓ Special Populations</td> <td>✓ Social and Community Integration</td> </tr> </table>	✓ Positive Youth Development	✓ Unsheltered Homelessness	✓ Trauma-Informed Care	✓ Youth Choice	✓ Family Engagement	✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports	✓ Special Populations	✓ Social and Community Integration
✓ Positive Youth Development	✓ Unsheltered Homelessness								
✓ Trauma-Informed Care	✓ Youth Choice								
✓ Family Engagement	✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports								
✓ Special Populations	✓ Social and Community Integration								

Outcomes	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing • Social-emotional well-being <p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease the number of youth who become houseless • Increase the number of partners, housing providers and community members trained in trauma-informed care, positive youth development, harm reduction, cultural awareness, etc. • Increase community involvement in the housing system for youth • Increase education advancement • Increase employment attainment and advancements
Target population and number served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18-24 • Unaccompanied minors ages 15-17 • HUD homeless definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4
Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing • Participation in Youth Homelessness Workgroup
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to \$1,000 per month for families that provide housing under a host home and kinship care model, provided that the recipient can show that the additional cost is necessary to recruit hosts to the program • Provide moving expenses more than one time to a program participant • Use project administrative funds to attend conferences and training that are not HUD-sponsored or HUD-approved, provided that the subject matter is relevant to youth homelessness • The one-time cost of purchasing a cellular phone and service for program participant use, provided that access to a cellular phone is necessary to obtain or maintain housing, education and employment
Target # of Housing Units	40
Number of YYA Served	40
Staffing	<p>Host Home Project Manager, 1 FTE Host Home Trainer/Coach, 1 FTE Host Home Case Manager, 1 FTE (Staff Ratio 1:18)</p>
Project Cost (1 year)	\$451,000 (+25% match)

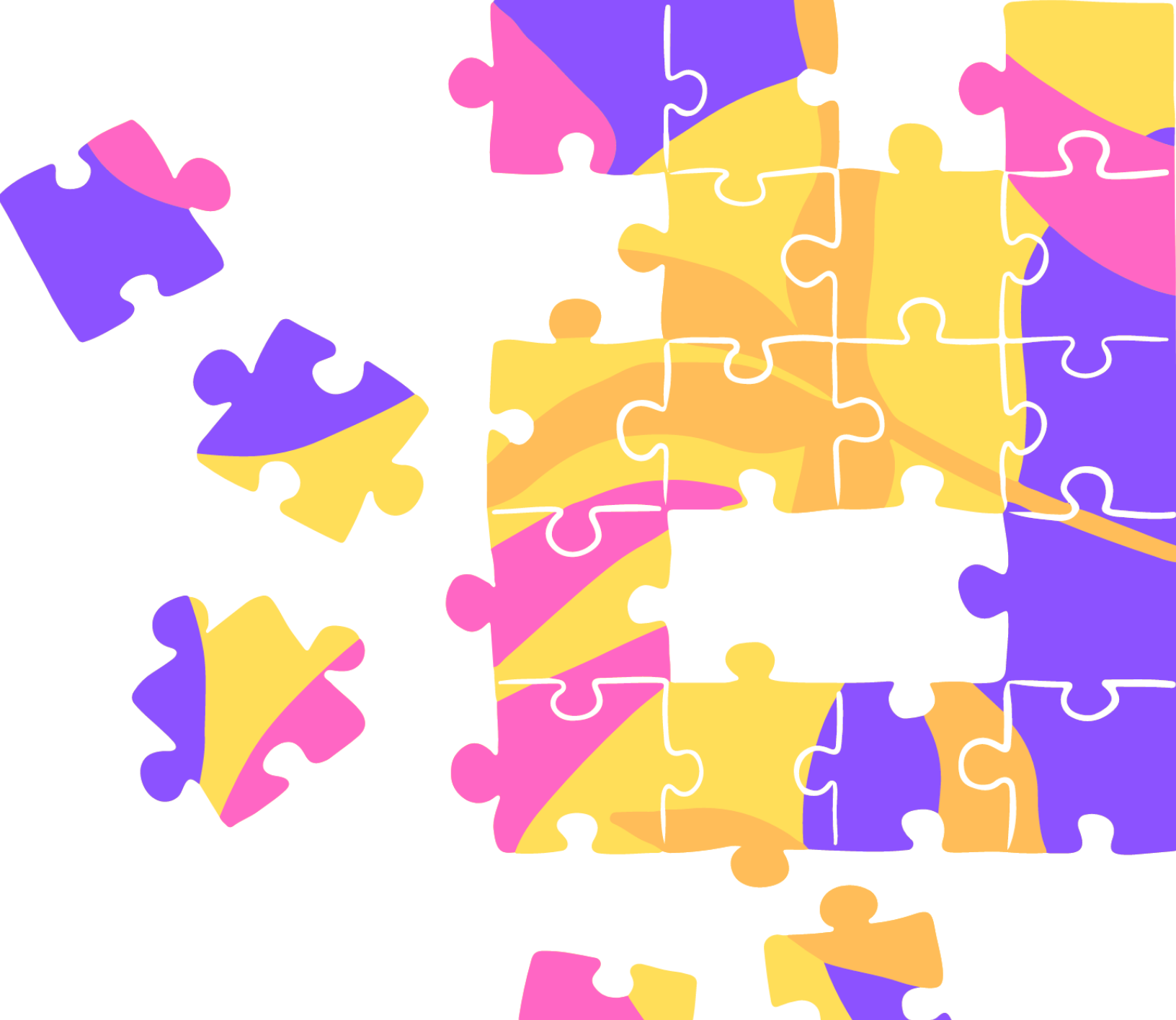
Project 7: Joint TH - RRH	
Summary of Project	<p>Using a combination of transitional housing (TH) and rapid rehousing (RRH) models, this project will provide up to 3 years of housing assistance for YYA.</p> <p>TH is short-term assistance, one or two years, and is not considered permanent housing. Intentional exit planning should start early in service delivery. RRH prioritizes a quick transition out of homelessness and into permanent housing by providing up to 36 months of housing and supportive services.</p>

	<p>Upon entry to the program, YYA will be given the opportunity to choose from TH or RRH assistance. Both options must be provided to the YYA. Program staff and youth navigators can explain the benefits of each program and make suggestions based on assessments, locations, rental experiences and availability. TH is not to be used as a prerequisite for RRH.</p> <p>Housing assistance can be provided in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A private home, • Shared apartment, • School dormitory, • Single room occupancy (SRO), and/or • Scattered site. <p>Master leasing is allowable for TH model. Housing assistance and services will be developmentally appropriate, safe, affirming and youth-driven. Housing assistance is supported by caring and empathetic staff that values health, well-being, education and employment as tools to aid in the intentional and rapid transition into independence.</p> <p>Joint TH-RRH serves as a great housing model because of its ability to provide timely access to youth-focused crisis housing when youth shelters are at capacity. If a YYA requests to transition from TH to RRH, this request can be honored without that YYA having to transition to a different agency.</p>	
<p>YHDP Guiding Principles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Positive youth development ✓ Trauma-informed care ✓ Family engagement ✓ Housing first 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Youth choice ✓ Unsheltered homelessness ✓ Individualized and client-driven supports ✓ Social and community integration
<p>Outcomes</p>	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing • Social-emotional well-being <p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease length of time YYA are literally houseless • Decrease the length of wait for housing • Decrease number of YYA returning to homelessness • Increase YYA who exit to stable housing • Increase educational advancement • Increase employment attainment and advancements 	
<p>Target Population</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18-24 • Parenting youth • HUD homeless definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4 	
<p>Requirements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing • Participation in Youth Homelessness Workgroup • Include opportunities for hiring young adults with lived experience in homelessness 	

Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of rapid re-housing time limitation to 36 months • Provide up to 24 months of services after transitional housing or rental assistance ends • YHDP recipients may employ youth who are receiving services, including housing, from the recipient organization • The costs to cover any damage to housing due to the action of a program participant, which may be paid while the youth continues to reside in the unit
Target # of Housing Units	105
Number of YYA Served	105
Staffing	Program Manager, 2 FTEs Case Manager, 6 FTEs (Staff Ratio 1:18)
Project Cost (1 year)	\$1,575,200 (+25% match)

Project 8: Youth-Focused PSH		
Summary of Project	<p>Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) will offer long-term low-barrier supportive housing for YYA who have serious and long-term disabilities, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental illness, • Substance use disorder, • Chronic health conditions, or • Developmental and physical disabilities. <p>This intervention will use housing-first practices providing individually tailored, intensive case management and community-based supportive services. PSH units may be provided either through scattered-site rental units or master-leased units, based on YYA choice and availability.</p>	
YHDP Guiding Principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Positive Youth Development ✓ Trauma-Informed Care ✓ Family Engagement ✓ Special Populations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Youth Choice ✓ Unsheltered Homelessness ✓ Individualized and Client-Driven Supports ✓ Social and Community Integration
Outcomes	<p>USICH Core Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stable housing • Social-emotional well-being • Education and employment • Permanent connections 	<p>CoC Outcomes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease length of time YYA are literally houseless • Decrease the length of wait for housing • Decrease number of YYA returning to houselessness • Increase YYA who exit to stable housing • Increase education advancement • Increase employment attainment and advancements • Provide long-term housing supports to YYA impacted by severe mental health issues, substance abuse or disability

		needing long-term rental assistance and supportive services
Target Population		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unaccompanied YYA ages 18-24 • HUD homeless definition: Categories 1, 2 and 4
Requirements		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinated entry participation • HMIS participation • Case conferencing • Participation in Youth Homelessness Workgroup • Include opportunities for hiring young adults with lived experience in homelessness
Use of YHDP Flexibilities? (See Appendix A for options)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The costs to pay for any damage to housing due to the action of a program participant, which may be paid while the youth continues to reside in the unit • Housing start-up expenses for program participants, including furniture, pots and pans, linens, toiletries and other household goods • The one-time cost of purchasing a cellular phone and service for program participant use, provided that access to a cellular phone is necessary to obtain or maintain housing, education or employment • The cost of internet in a program participant's unit and the costs of the service is reasonable • Up to three months of utilities for a program participant
Target # of Housing Units	20	
Number of YYA Served	20	
Staffing	Case Manager, 1 FTE (Staff Ratio 1:18)	
Project Cost (1 year)	\$407,000 (+25% match)	



Funding Process & CQI

FUNDING PROCESS

The funding process for YHDP begins with the request for application (RFA) for the YHDP projects prioritized by the YHDP planning team. The RFA will be created and facilitated by HSN, CoC FL-507, in collaboration with YAS.



Central Florida's CoC members and relevant community stakeholders have been informed about the YHDP planning process through monthly community meetings. In these community meetings, HSN and YAS have been transparent about the process, sharing the CCP components as they were developed and providing trainings around the guiding principles as

well as how to best prepare for the upcoming RFA process.

CoC members and community stakeholders can apply for funding through the RFA process to be eligible to receive project funding. A rank and review committee will consist of YAS and HSN staff. Together, they will develop a rubric, which will be included in the RFA packet, and they will score the RFAs accordingly.

The YAS will make recommendations for the proposals based on the RFA scores and any related considerations determined by YAS. YAS will send a slate of project proposals to HSN for consideration and approval.

If any issues arise with the approval of the proposals by HSN, the slate will be sent back to YAS with accompanying statements referencing why certain applicants were not approved. YAS will then reconsider the slate and make other recommendations to HSN. This process will continue until there is a consensus on the slate of proposals between the YAS and HSN.

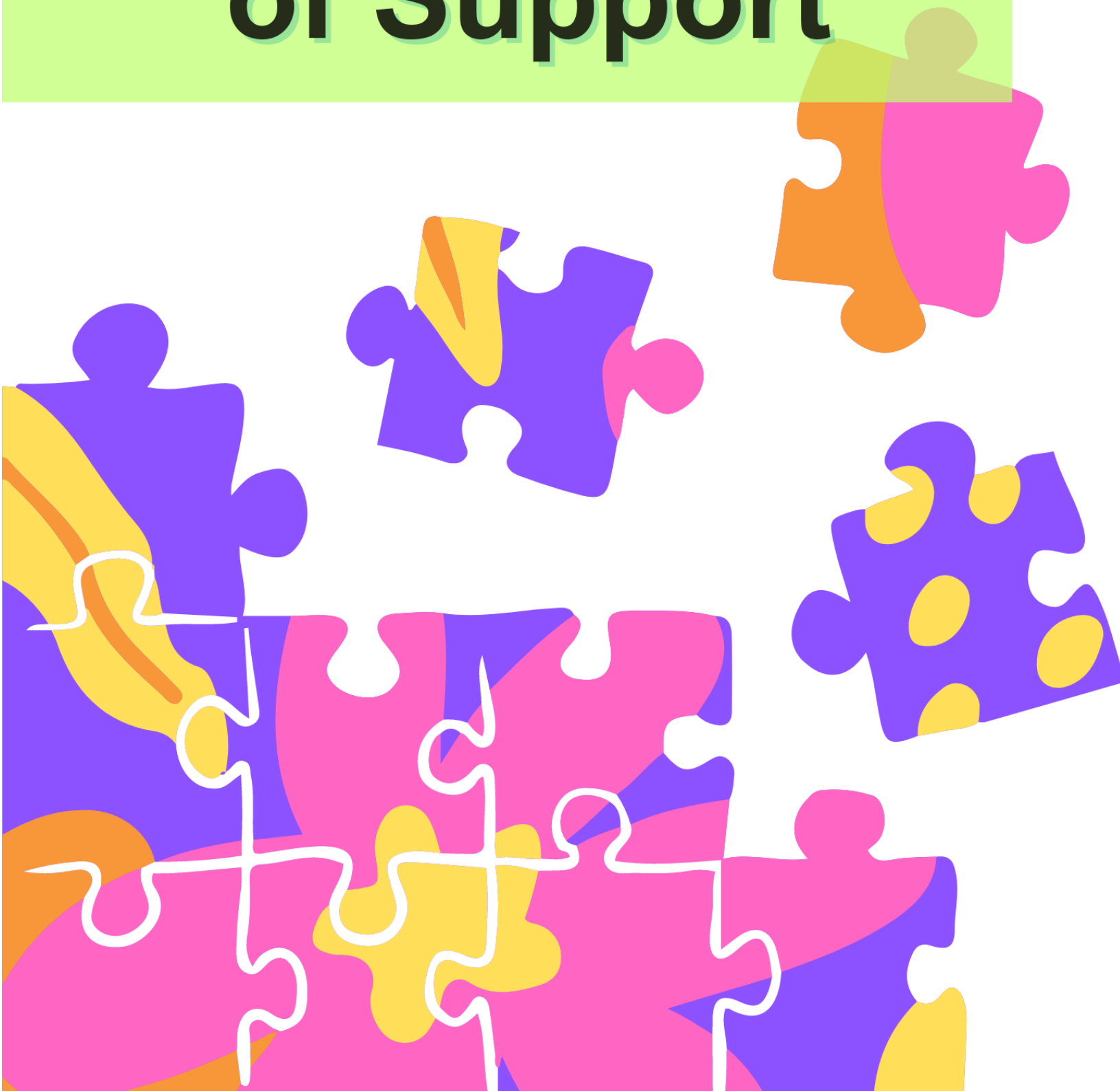
CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT (CQI)

HSN, CoC FL-507, will be responsible for managing and distributing YHDP funds, the training and facilitation of YHDP implementation, and compliance and reporting.

The CoC is currently working with the YAS and YHDP planning team to develop a CQI plan. The CQI plan will include details on how the projects and data will be evaluated and monitored to ensure they are operating in alignment with the mission, vision, guiding principles and goals.


The youth project manager, YAS, YHDP planning team and youth-focused HMIS staff will be a part of the continuous quality process. We will analyze quarterly data reports for trends, equity and improvements. CQI will operate through a consensus while collaborating on project implementation. In the event of conflict during CQI meetings, the youth project manager will mediate with the goal of reaching a resolution.


Signatures of Support




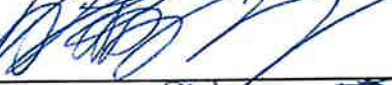
SUPPORT FROM YOUTH ACTION BOARD MEMBERS- YOUTH ACTION SOCIETY


The signature(s) below attests to the approval and support of the Central Florida, CoC FL-507, Coordinated Community Plan to End Youth Homelessness. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to implement a comprehensive system to prevent and end youth houselessness, including the goals and objectives outlined in the plan.

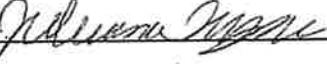
Signature  Date 04.14.23
Print Name and Title Jada Blocker, YAS member + peer specialist

Signature  Date 4/14/23
Print Name and Title Ellease Cabrera, YAS Member

Signature  Date 4/14/23
Print Name and Title Mackayla Jones, YAS member


Signature  Date 4/14/23
Print Name and Title Anthony Roberts, YAS member / peer specialist

Signature  Date 04/14/23
Print Name and Title Brianna Bernthal, YAS Member

Signature  Date 04/14/23
Print Name and Title Juliana Meyer - Peer specialist + YAS Member

Signature  Date 04/14/23
Print Name and Title Joseph Hampton, YAS member

Signature  Date 4/19/2023
Print Name and Title Valerie Perez, Youth Coordinator

Signature  Date 04/19/2023
Print Name and Title John Bruitt, YAS Member

SIGNATURES OF SUPPORT

The signature(s) below attests to the approval and support of the Central Florida, CoC FL-507, Coordinated Community Plan to End Youth Houselessness. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to implement a comprehensive system to prevent and end youth houselessness, including the goals and objectives outlined in the plan.

Signature Martha Are Date 4/24/23

Print Name and Title Martha Are, CEO

Agency Homes Services Network of Central Florida, Inc.
and Central Florida Commission on Homelessness

Continuum of Care FL-507

SIGNATURES OF SUPPORT

The signature(s) below attests to the approval and support of the Central Florida, CoC FL-507, Coordinated Community Plan to End Youth Houselessness. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to implement a comprehensive system to prevent and end youth houselessness, including the goals and objectives outlined in the plan.

Signature  _____ Date 4/17/2023

Print Name and Title Glen Casel, Chief Executive Officer

Agency Embrace Families

Public Child Welfare Agency

SIGNATURES OF SUPPORT

The signature(s) below attests to the approval and support of the Central Florida, CoC FL-507, Coordinated Community Plan to End Youth Houselessness. We agree to work collaboratively with our partners to implement a comprehensive system to prevent and end youth houselessness, including the goals and objectives outlined in the plan.

Signature Buddy Dyer Date 4/18/23

Print Name and Title Buddy Dyer, Mayor

Agency City of Orlando

Local Government Agency