

Brighter Days Community Initiative

CoC FL-507 Host Home
RFA Process 2/22/24



Brighter Days Overview

- Welcome & Introductions
- Coordinated Community Plan
- Host Home Project
- Applying for Funding
- Q&A

*Brighter Days for
Brighter Futures*



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

Becoming a YHDP Community

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Acronyms Used in this CCP	
BIPOC	Black, Indigenous and People of Color
CCP	Community Coordinated 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

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

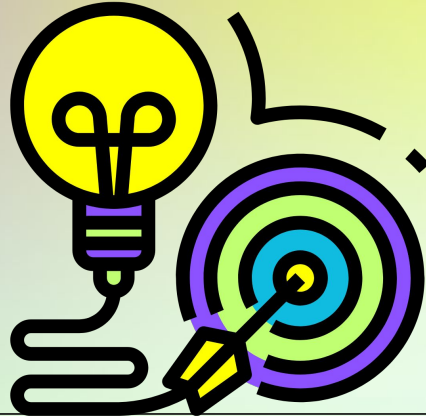


John Bruitt
YAS Member

Vision, Mission, Goals

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, and well-being and interpersonal relationships.



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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



Prioritizing Youth at Highest Risk of Homelessness:

- Undocumented Youth
 - Youth who identify as LGBTQ+
 - Black, indigenous, & youth of color
 - Youth exiting foster care or juvenile justice system
 - Mental Health/Substance Use
 - Youth living w/ disabilities
 - Generational Poverty
 - Abuse/neglect
- ...& any institutionally forgotten youth!



Guiding Principles & Outcomes

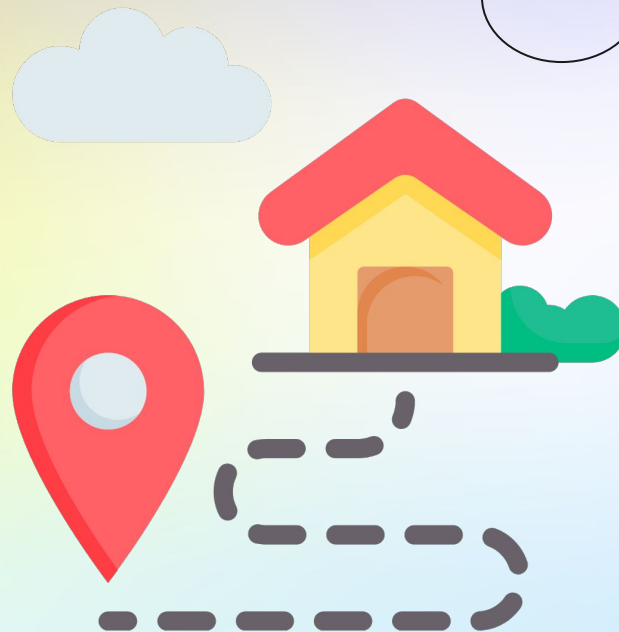
Outcomes

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Youth Framework and the Four Core Outcomes.

- Stable Housing
- Education /Employment
- Permanent Connections
- Social and Emotional Wellbeing

Guiding Principles

- Responding to the needs of special populations
- Equity
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Family Engagement
- Unsheltered Homelessness
- Housing First - Immediate access to housing with no preconditions
- Youth Choice
- Individualized and Client-Driven Supports
- Social and Emotional Wellbeing
- Social and Community Integration
- 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 through 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 homelessness. 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.



Defining Supportive Services

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

Brighter Days: Projects and Partners

SSO Youth System Guides	SSO Drop-In Center	Youth Join TH-RRH	Youth PSH	SSO Host Home
Hope Partnership Rise Community Solutions	SALT Outreach	HSN Zebra Youth IMPOWER Family Promise	HSN Zebra Youth IMPOWER Family Promise	TBD



Host Home Project



Why a host home program?

A housing intervention which leans on the care of family and community members to provide a safe and loving home for someone in need of a safe and stable living environment.


Black, indigenous, and LGBTQIA+ communities have informally created host homes as a safety net to help folks avoid or exit homelessness.



Host Homes Model Components

- Youth-led and Youth-chosen
- Short-term (1 day -6 months)
- Affirming, safe space
- Collaborative Partnership: Well screened and well matched hosts
- Living Agreements
- Support of a caring case manager and program staff

<https://www.pointsourceyouth.org/host-homes/>



Benefits of host homes

- Safe, affirming space to stay.
- Allows youth to focus on school, work, and other goals.
- Mutually beneficial relationships that honor the needs of all involved.
- Cost effective, community-based way to address housing needs.





But I think that they should.

◆ ◆ ◆
◆ ◆ ◆
◆ ◆ ◆

Making it work!



Host Home Frame Work

Community Engagement

Raise community awareness and recruit Hosts and YYA.

Training

Develop comprehensive training for community, host, and YYA .

Match (CE referrals)

Facilitate matching process ensuring youth choice. (naturally occurring and program selected)

Host Stipends

Create sliding scale and administer funds to host.

Collaboration

McKinney Vento liaisons, Child Welfare, HSN, Case Managers, ect.

Data Collection & Evaluation

Collaborate with HSN to create the standards and process.

Application

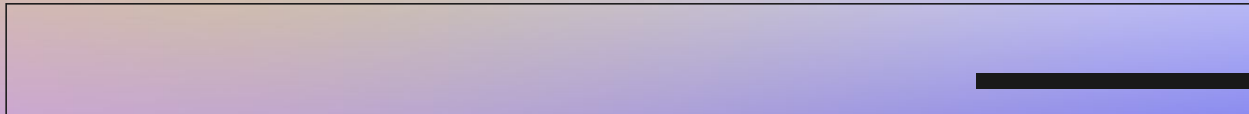
Create an application and a background check process.

Interview

Create an interview process for the host, YYA, and for home visits.

Check in

Check in regularly with host, YYA, and Case Manager.



Projects for RFA - Host Homes & Other Housing Innovations

Project Description

Host Homes are one innovative housing solution for our community and will serve as a short term, alternative housing option for YYA between the ages of 16-24 who are:

- Hud Cat 1, 2, & 4
- Unaccompanied
- Unwilling or unable to access traditional shelters
- Enrolled in postsecondary education and need somewhere to stay during extended breaks.

The host home matching process will be facilitated by the contractor or subrecipient and honor YYA choice and voice throughout the process.

Youth seeking host homes who are minors, pregnant or parenting, exiting foster care or LGBTQ+ will be prioritized for placement.

Counties Served:

- Osceola
- Seminole
- Orange

How Many Subrecipients: 1

Positions and Salaries: 2 FTEs

- Host Home Project Manager, 1 FTE
- Host Home Trainer/Coach, 1 FTE

Projected Youth Served: 30-40

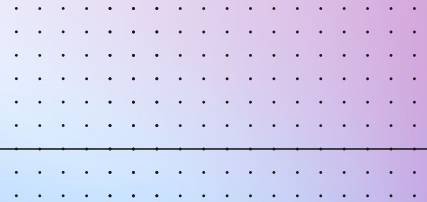
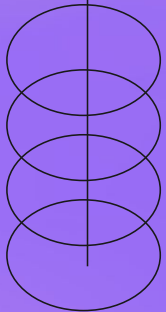
Budget: \$290,850.00

- Staff: \$160,000
- Supportive Services: \$117,000
- Admin: \$13,850

**The selected contractor or subrecipient will also be versed in other innovative housing solutions and educate/ train community members and partners in these solutions.*



Applying for Funding



Minimum Requirements

To be considered for funding through this RFA, programs must meet or be prepared to meet the following requirements.

- Be located and/or able to provide services to youth and young adults who are experiencing houselessness in CoC FL- 507 geographic area (Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties)
- If awarded funding, agree to utilize any recommendations of the YHDP Committee, YAS, Sub-committees and HSN's YHDP staff on program design, including assessment tools, and implementation
- Adhere to Housing First practices while serving households experiencing houselessness



Housing First: Core Components



Housing

Choice

Recovery

Support

Community

Immediate access to housing with no readiness conditions

Participant Choice and self-determination

Recovery is possible for everyone

Individualized and person-centered supports

Social and community integration

Minimum Requirements cont.

- Participate in, and accept, all new program participants referrals from the CoC FL-507 Coordinated Entry System as outlined in the CES Policy and Procedures Manual
- Have a process to link YYA to certified mental health professionals
- Provide services or case management to support stable housing, permanent connections, education/employment, and social emotional well-being
- Have or define a process of establishing a Youth Advisory Board consisting of a minimum of 3 members, ages 16-24



Minimum Requirements cont.

- Incorporate all YHDP values and guiding principles outlined in this document and the CCP into programs being implemented
- Participate in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)
- Provide Federal Certification regarding Debarment and Suspension Form
- Provide Federal Disclosure of Lobbying Activities Certification
- Proof of most recent financial statement
- Proof of outcome data (If in HMIS, we will pull the data. If not, you will need to provide your outcome data.)



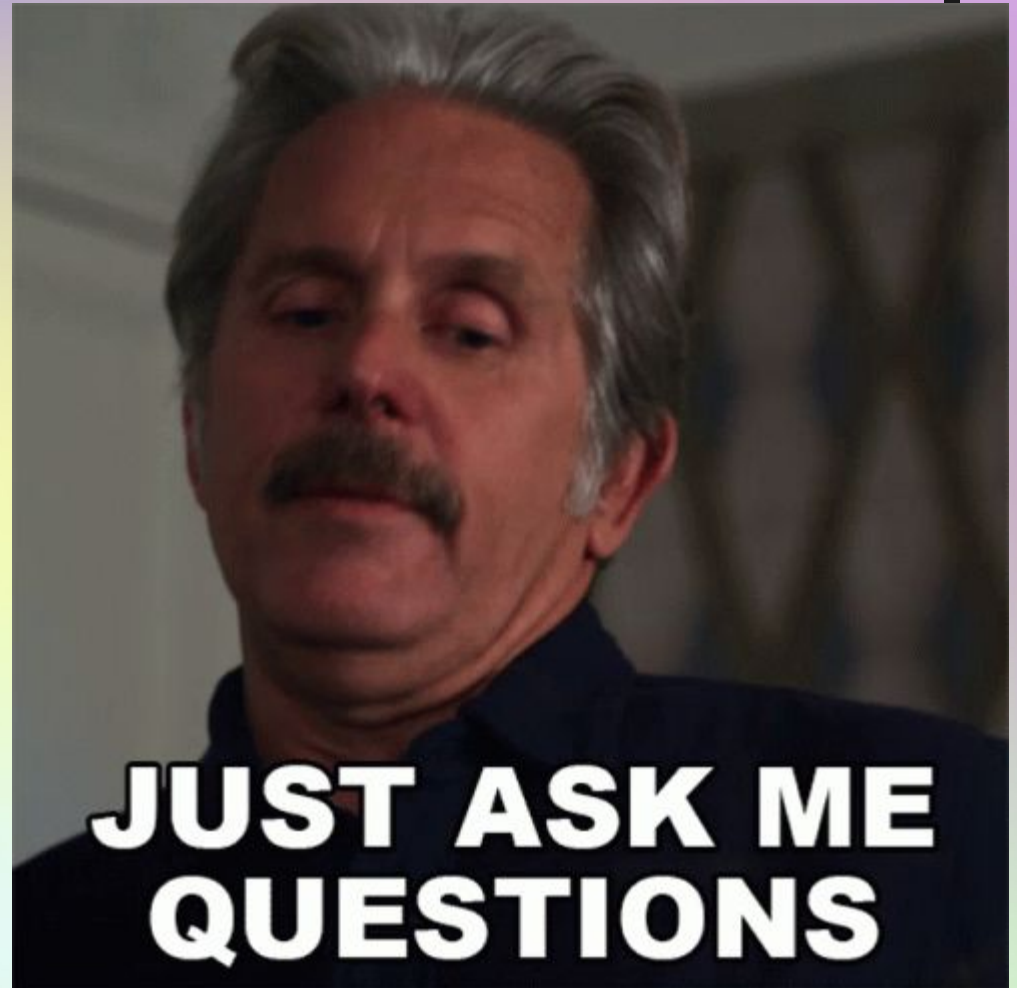
RFA Timeline - Brian

- ★ Application Announcements and Q&A: Feb 22, 2024
- ★ RFA Released: Feb 22, 2024

March 15th	March 18th	March 22nd	March 27th	April 1st	April 2nd
YHDP RFA Applications Due @ 11:59pm EST	Project applications distributed to the Review and Rank Committee	Review and Rank Committee & YAS submit scores to Aja and Brian by 5pm	Consensus meeting to review program scores and develop final prioritized list for funding.	Final decisions made regarding programs to be funded.	Applicants are notified of decision.

***Scoring and Review timeframe: March 18th- 22nd**

Q&A



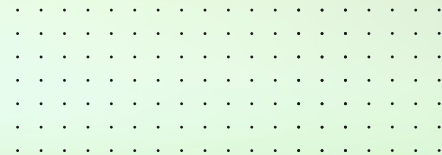
RFA Interest Form

****Please complete by Feb 29th***

Links to all sites are located at:
linktr.ee/brighterdayscfl



[Let us know how we did!](#)



Contact Information:

Aja Hunter, Youth Project Director
aja.hunter@hsncfl.org

Brian Postlewait,
Chief Operating Officer
Brian.Postlewait@hsncfl.org