Ending Youth Homelessness: Using the Preliminary Intervention Model in your community’s response

March 18, 2014
Part 2 of 2
Vulnerable Subpopulations of Youth

Implications for Culturally-Appropriate, Effective Interventions

- Higher levels of risk and trauma on average
- Evidence-based interventions are available to:
  - Treat substance abuse and mental health issues
  - Promote healing and recovery from trauma
  - Build key skills and capacities in youth
- Increase the capacity of service providers to:
  - Accurately identify service needs
  - Match those needs to appropriate interventions
Making Meaningful and Measurable Improvements in Outcomes

Anticipating the challenges that youth have when they are at risk of homelessness; will bring with them when they become newly homeless; or struggle with when they are chronically homeless.

Improving the data and rethinking the structure across federal program areas and across services delivered by homeless providers.

Maximize existing federal capacity by scaling back practices that are not achieving desired results while concurrently scaling up evidence-based interventions and practices.
# Federal Priorities for 2014

## Data Strategy

- Prepare for integrating HMIS and RHYMIS data systems
- Exploring how to coordinate data between education and homeless serving agencies
- Designing a study on how to effectively reach, count, and sample youth experiencing homelessness, especially those who have been homeless for an extended period of time or who have risk factors.

## Capacity Strategy

- Exploring ways to align Federal program outcomes with core outcomes of the framework
- Coordinating technical assistance across agencies to support communities
- Identifying assessment tools for use in the field that align with the goals in the framework
Example: Screening & Assessment

Angela Rosales
Corporation for Supportive Housing
Los Angeles, CA
Why is a triage tool for homeless youth needed?

GOAL: **Identify homeless youth with greatest need for supportive housing.**

- Target supportive housing for the most vulnerable youth facing multiple barriers to accessing and retaining housing, and who need supportive services.

- Prevent chronic homelessness as adults. 50% of chronically homeless adults were homeless as transition age youth.

- Current tools that exist to prioritize homeless adults are not appropriate for youth.
How was the TAY Triage Tool developed?

1. Partnered with a local university professor for data collection, analysis, and tool creation.
2. Public and private stakeholders shaped the development of the tool.

**Dr. Eric Rice,**
Associate Professor,
University of Southern California,
School of Social Work

![Photo courtesy of Dr. Eric Rice](image-url)
**TAY Triage Tool Questions**

**Recommendation:** Embed the following questions in broader intake/assessment process. Prioritize SH for youth who score 4+ points.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Odds:</th>
<th>Points:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Have you ever become homeless because:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. There was violence at home between family members</td>
<td>2.23</td>
<td>Yes = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. I had differences in religious beliefs with parents/guardians/caregivers</td>
<td>2.62</td>
<td>Yes = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a. I ran away from my family home</td>
<td>1.65</td>
<td>Yes = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3b. I ran away from a group home or foster home</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. How old were you when you tried marijuana for the first time?</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>If &lt;age12 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Before your 18th birthday, did you spend any time in jail or detention?</td>
<td>1.86</td>
<td>Yes = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Have you ever been pregnant or got someone else pregnant?</td>
<td>1.94</td>
<td>Yes = 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Youth Profile

**Triage Tool Score:** 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Age:</strong></th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Years Homeless:</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sex:</strong></td>
<td>Male to Female Transgender</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ethnicity:</strong></td>
<td>White/Caucasian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sexual Orientation:</strong></td>
<td>Gay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Place of Origin:</strong></td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Education:</strong></td>
<td>Dropped out of high school</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Foster Care History:</strong></td>
<td>Starting at age 4, 10+ placements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Employment:</strong></td>
<td>Not working</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Housing:</strong></td>
<td>Staying with a friend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Biological Children:</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mental Illness:</strong></td>
<td>Depression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Substance Use:</strong></td>
<td>Daily marijuana and methamphetamine use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Traumatic Experiences:</strong></td>
<td>Physical abuse, witnessed family violence, violent death or serious injury of a loved one, has traded sex for money/food/drugs/place to stay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
System-level Application

Areas for Application

- Inform the housing capacity needs and gaps in the system.
  - Inclusion in homeless youth counts
  - Incorporation into housing assessment and referral systems
- Potential for delivering the tool to youth while still in care.
  - Shore up services around youth earlier

Planning Considerations

- How can data be used to inform targeting into interventions?
- What kind of data do you need to have in order to develop targeting and assessment tools?
- Use TAY Triage Tool as a basis for data collection.
  - Full report available at www.csh.org
  - Contact Angela at angela.rosales@csh.org

Photo courtesy of Dr. Eric Rice
Example:
Core Outcome: Employment

Denise Hinds
Good Shepherd Services
New York, NY
CHELSEA FOYER
Program Overview

• Opened in 2004. Based on Foyer model developed in the UK

• Provides 40 homeless, runaway, and foster care youth, ages 18-25, with supported transitional housing

• Funding from multiple public & private contracts

• Residents participate in a personalized program of services for up to 24 months

• Services infused with Good Shepherd Services’ signature strength-based youth and family development practices
CHELSEA FOYER
Core Outcome: Employment

Frameworks (Overarching philosophy)
Youth and Family Development
The Sanctuary Model: Trauma-Informed Model

Example of Interventions (Set of activities aimed at specific outcome)
Logic Model Outcome:
Participants will develop Career Planning Skills

Intervention
WORC Model: Work Opportunities for Rewarding Careers (Columbia University School of Social Work)
– WORC Assessment Tool
– Career Club
– Labor Market Development

Assessments Include:
Ansell Casey Life Skills Assessment
Trauma Symptom Inventory
PTSD Index
Example: Trauma-Informed Care

Kendall Rames
Urban Peak
Denver, CO
Core Outcomes

On-going data analysis/Strategic Planning

Culturally Responsive Interventions

Service Plans
Youth driven, individualized, SMART goals

Identify/Implement Age-Appropriate & Encompassing Screening and Assessment Tools

Data Driven Organization
HMIS + additional youth/client data points

Youth Outcome Based Logic Models
Trauma Informed Care & Positive Youth Development
Urban Peak helps youth experiencing homelessness and youth at risk of becoming homeless overcome real life challenges by providing essential services and a safe community, empowering them to become self-sufficient adults.

Assumptions: Youth will have their basic needs met at Urban Peak; Urban Peak is a safe environment for youth; Youth will experience progress and relapses on their journey to self-sufficiency.
Urban Peak Infusion of Trauma-Informed Care

- TIC focus and philosophy embraced and supported by all levels of agency including: CEO, Board of Directors, and staff in all roles
- Member of National Council on Behavioral Health TIC Learning Community
- Conducted TIC Organizational Self-Assessment to inform implementation priorities
- TIC philosophy infused in program delivery, trainings, staff meetings, self-care, job descriptions, employee evaluations, etc.
- Just thinking about being trauma-informed being trauma-formed
Example: Cross-System Collaboration

Cheryl Pooler
Waco Independent School District
Waco, TX
Community Collaboration

“If we don’t know, we can’t help”

10 Year Plan and Homeless Coalition

- Community Information System (CMIS)
- Prosper Waco
- Low Income Families in Transition (LIFT)
- Recovery Oriented Systems of Care (ROSC)
- Education Alliance
- Texas Hunger Initiative
- STARRY Counseling/MHMR
- Greater Waco Manufacturing Academy
- College/University Partnerships

www.waco-texas.com
Waco ISD Homeless Outreach
Cheryl Pooler, LCSW Homeless Liaison

- MHMR
- Starry Counseling Center
- Baylor University, McLennan Community College
- Habitat for Humanity/Waco Community Development Corporation
- Waco City Transit
- Texas Hunger Initiative/Local Hunger Coalition
- Methodist Children’s Home
- Waco Kiwanis Club
- Unbound (Antioch Community Church)
- Waco Community Health Center
- Family Housing Collaborative

Cheryl Pooler, LCSW Homeless Liaison
Cheryl.pooler@wacoisd.org
254-755-9433
Moving Forward: Recommendations

- Commit to preventing and ending youth homelessness by 2020
- Improve youth Point-in-Time counts in all CoCs starting in 2014
- Facilitate cross-system dialogue, coordination, and data sharing – child welfare, education, foster care, juvenile justice, homelessness services systems – at state and local levels
Moving Forward: Requests

- Contribute to national dialogue to help shape the most effective interventions for all youth who experience homelessness;
- Tell us what’s working - and what’s not – as it relates to federal policy and strategy;
- Connect with your local USICH Regional Coordinator; and RHY and CoC coordinators
- Connect with your peers; LEAs, CoCs, RHY providers.
Available Resources

**Housing**
- ESG
- CoC
- FUP Vouchers
- CDBG

**Services**
- RHYA
- Fostering Connections
- Medicaid EPSDT
- LGBTQ Planning Grants
- CB Planning Grants
- Head Starts and Child Care Grants

**Education**
- McKinney Vento Homeless Education Liaisons
- Title 1A
- FAFSA

**Employment**
- Job Corp
- Youth Grants

**Justice**
- Disconnected Youth
Resources to Improve Youth Capacity

– Preliminary Youth Intervention Model Resources (Coming Soon!)
  ▪ Screening & Assessment – risk/protective factors; mental/ behavioral health
  ▪ Evidence-based Interventions

– Youth Framework
  ▪ King County’s Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County
    – [http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/Housing/ServicesAndPrograms/Programs/Homeless/HomelessYouthandYoungAdults.aspx](http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/Housing/ServicesAndPrograms/Programs/Homeless/HomelessYouthandYoungAdults.aspx)
  ▪ National Child Traumatic Stress Network
Find More Resources!

Federal Partners

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH)
  - usich.gov
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)
  - acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - hud.gov
U.S. Department of Labor (DOL)
  - dol.gov
National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)
  - ftp.serve.org/nche/

Community Panelists

• Corporation for Supportive Housing
  - csh.org
• Good Shepherd Services
  - goodshepherds.org
• Urban Peak
  - urbanpeak.org
• Waco Independent School District
  - wacoisd.org