COORDINATED COMMUNITY PLAN

City of Spokane/Spokane County Continuum of Care
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OUR TEAM

Core Team

Bridget Cannon  Volunteers of America
Gage Spicer  Youth Advisory Board
Finn Rankin  Youth Advisory Board
Ben Stuckart  Continuum of Care Board
Matt Davis  City of Spokane
Julius Henrichsen  United Way
Jennifer Cerecedes  City of Spokane
Melissa Morrison  Better Health Together

Youth Advisory Board

Youth Subcommitte

Continuum of Care and System Partners
MISSION AND VALUES

Our community’s goal is to end youth and young adult (YYA) homelessness (i.e. achieve functional zero) in Spokane County by the end of 202X.

To this end, we envision a community where, when a young person asks for help, we can always respond “Yes” without hesitation.

We believe the following statements to be true and foundational principles to creating a “yes-to-yes” youth homelessness crisis response system:

- Housing is a basic human right and all people deserve a safe place to call home.
- Youth and young adult homelessness cannot be ended without addressing the systemic inequalities that lead to YYA of color, LGBQ YYA, trans/non-binary YYA, YYA with disabilities, and neurodivergent YYA to experience homelessness at disproportionate rates compared to their white, heterosexual, cisgender, and neurotypical peers.
- Meeting the behavioral health needs of YYA is essential to, not only ensuring their long-term housing stability, but also to ensure that young people are thriving not just surviving.
- Every young person deserves the chance to achieve their full potential and communities have a responsibility to help them do so.
- White supremacy and the history of colonization have far reaching impacts on the systems that touch young people’s lives and lead directly to housing instability.
- Young people are the best experts when it comes to resolving their own housing instability.
- Young people should be the primary decision-makers in designing a homeless crisis response system that meets their needs.
- Young people deserve opportunities to develop their skills, interests, and abilities in order to achieve a sense of stability and contentment.
- Young people deserve to have community, a sense of belonging, and to have their identities validated.
BACKGROUND

In 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) selected the Spokane community to participate in the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). This prestigious opportunity provided our community with $2.7 million in project funding, significant technical assistance and required us to complete a Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) according to HUD’s program standards.

In order to demonstrate how a strategic approach to planning and continuous quality improvement will guide the process of ending youth homelessness in our community, we developed this Coordinated Community Plan (CCP). Led by a regularly meeting Core Team of partners, including YYA with lived homelessness experience, service providers, and stakeholders. This Coordinated Community Plan builds on the dedicated planning and advocacy work done by the community’s Youth Subcommittee, Anchor Community Initiative and Youth Action Board over the past several years. This document represents the work of stakeholders from across our community—from YYA with lived experience, government, child welfare, education, workforce development, business, justice, affordable housing, advocacy, and community organizations.

Since receiving YHDP funds, our community partners enthusiastically developed this plan to end youth homelessness, agreed on common goals and objectives, and developed new partnerships to ensure youth homelessness in our community is rare, brief, and nonrecurring. We analyzed local data from multiple sources, held focus groups with youth, and met with community stakeholders and youth service providers. This plan captures the holistic community response needed to prevent and end youth homelessness.
PRINCIPLES

This document is designed to meet both the needs of our community and our HUD partners.

This section outlines the HUD principals that must be integrated into the Coordinated Community Plan to build a shared community understanding of the values imbedded in the planning and implementing of YHDP.

Additional resources on principles can be found in Appendix xxx. Additional information on required principles available at: https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/CPD/documents/Appendix-B.pdf

Four Core Outcomes

The coordinated community plan must demonstrate a commitment to the principles of the USICH Youth Framework to End Youth Homelessness Four Core Outcomes:

- **Stable housing** includes a safe and reliable place to call home;
- **Permanent connections** include ongoing attachments to families, communities, schools, and other positive social networks;
- **Education/employment** includes high performance in and completion of educational and training activities, especially for younger youth, and starting and maintaining adequate and stable employment, particularly for older youth; and
- **Social-emotional well-being** includes the development of key competencies, attitudes, and behaviors that equip a young person to succeed across multiple domains of daily life, including school, work, relationships, and community;
Special Populations

USICH has identified special populations of youth experiencing homelessness that are particularly vulnerable in how they experience homelessness.

The coordinated community plan must identify and address the local impact of homelessness on these special populations and include identification and engagement strategies, infrastructure considerations, and housing and service-delivery approaches that are responsive to the specific needs of:

- youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ)
- youth who are gender non-conforming
- minors (under the age of 18)
- youth involved with juvenile justice and child welfare system
- victims of sexual trafficking and exploitation

Equity

In Spokane County, Black, Indigenous, Hispanic (non-white), and LGBTQ youth experience homelessness at disproportionately higher rates.

The coordinated community plan must address how the City of Spokane/Spokane County CoC will measure and consider racial inequities and other disparities in the risks for, and experiences of YYA experiencing homelessness in Spokane County.
Positive Youth Development

The coordinated community plan must address how Positive Youth Development (PYD) will be incorporated into all aspects of the youth crisis response system, including at the system and project levels.

Positive Youth Development is based on a body of research suggesting that certain “protective factors,” or positive influences, can help young people succeed and keep them from having problems.

PYD favors leadership and skill-building opportunities under the guidance of caring adults. It looks at youth as assets to be developed and gives them the means to build successful futures.

Trauma-Informed Care

The coordinated community plan must address how Trauma-Informed care (TIC) will be incorporated into all aspects of the youth crisis response system, including at the system and project levels. Trauma informed programs will understand the prevalence and impact of trauma among their YYA experiencing homelessness and within the workforce.

• **Safety:** Policy and practice reflect a commitment to provide physical and emotional safety for service recipients and staff.

• **Choice & Empowerment:** to facilitate healing and avoid re-traumatization, choice and empowerment are part of trauma informed service delivery, for both service recipients and staff.

• **Strengths Based:** With a focus on strength and resilience, service recipients and staff build skills that will help them move in a positive direction.
Family Engagement
Coordinated community plans must address family engagement strategies and services designed to strengthen, stabilize, and reunify families.

Potential services includes family counseling, conflict resolution, parenting supports, relative or kinship caregiver resources, targeted substance abuse and mental health treatment, etc.

Unsheltered Homelessness
The coordinated community plan must address how the projects will address and decrease unsheltered youth homelessness in the community.

Youth choice
The capacity for self-determination may be a critical factor in obtaining many positive outcomes for Transition Age Youth. Allowing youth to exercise self determination is a youth centered approach that values youths’ expressed needs, self awareness and community knowledge.

Social and community integration
The goal of youth homelessness services should be a successful transition to adulthood, including the successful integration into a community as a positive contributing community member.

This requires the Spokane County community to provide socially supportive engagement and opportunities for youth to participate in meaningful community activities.
Housing First

The Housing First approach focuses on quickly connecting people experiencing a housing crisis to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry (e.g., sobriety, treatment, or service participation requirements) while also providing necessary supports to help maintain housing and prevent a return to homelessness. Supportive services are offered based on assessed need but are not required.

Immediate access to permanent housing with no preconditions: Youth should be provided with access to safe and secure permanent housing that meets their needs as quickly as possible.

Youth choice and self-determination: Housing First is a person-centered approach that promotes choice regarding housing and service options, while maintaining high expectations for youth.

Individualized and youth-driven supports: All youth are different. Once housed, the level of service offered will depend on the unique needs and choices of the youth. Non-time limited supports provide a practical, person centered approach that assist in helping youth maintain their housing independently.

Persistent Engagement: Staff should utilize an assertive style of case management, and continuously attempt to engage youth, even if youth are resistant to services.
Individualized and client-driven supports

The coordinated community plan must acknowledge that the needs of the young people to be served will be unique.

- Housing and support packages that help prevent and end homelessness among youth must recognize and respond to individual differences across individuals to serve them appropriately and efficiently.
- Communities must design the system flexibly to accommodate individuals with both high and low service needs, as well as the need for short-term or long-term supports.
- The coordinated community plan must address how the youth crisis response system will provide individualized and client-driven supports.
GOVERNANCE

The CoC Board is the governing body for the Spokane City/County Continuum of Care and meets all requirements for HUD CoC funding.

The CoC Board will provide oversight and accountability for all CoC responsibilities, including those of the YHDP.

- The Board will be responsible for approval and implementation of all CoC policies and procedures and the CoC’s Plan to End Homelessness.
- CoC Board Members are approved by the CoC Board.

The CoC Board will consist of:

- no fewer than eleven and
- no more than twenty-five members representing the community perspectives listed below

Competencies and representation will be reviewed annually.

The Homeless Youth Sub-Committee co-creates, monitors, and assesses a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate menu of services for youth and young adults who experience homelessness. The YSC proposes changes to CoC policies and procedures related to the continuum of services for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness.

Membership is comprised of all community stakeholders in the work to end youth and young adult homelessness. All members of the Youth Advisory Board and any other young people with lived experience of homelessness or housing instability are encouraged participate in the Homeless Youth Sub-Committee. Chairs and co-chairs will be elected by Committee Members to serve as leaders for the Committee.
The CoC Funding and RFP Committee oversees:
- the ranking and renewal process for CoC funds
- evaluates proposals
- provides funding recommendations to the CoC Board for all procurements initiated by the City of Spokane for homeless housing and service funding

A member of the Youth Advisory Board serves on the Funding and RFP Committee.

The Youth Advisory Board includes:
- at least 3 members, age 24 and younger
- at least 2/3 of whom must have lived experience of homelessness or housing instability

YAB reviews and approves all proposals to change CoC policies and procedures related to the continuum of services for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness, before final approval by the CoC Board. YAB may also generate policy proposals.

An elected member of the Youth Advisory Board will sit on the CoC Board as a voting member, filling the “youth with lived experience” position. General members of the YAB are invited to participate in the Homeless Youth Subcommittee. An elected YAB representative will serve on the Funding and RFP Committee.

Chairs and coordinators will be elected by the Youth Advisory Board members.

The YHDP Core Team consists of community members, the Collaborative Applicant, members of the Homeless Youth Subcommittee, members of the Youth Advisory Board, members of the Anchor Community Initiative, and technical assistance providers.

This team writes the CCP, the RFP, coordinates project implementation, and manages the day-to-day work of the YHDP.
The Anchor Community Initiative Core Team provides strategic and intensive support in the Spokane Region to inform, grow, and sustain change efforts in preventing and ending youth and young adult homelessness.

ACI focuses on prioritizing young people of color and LGBTQ+ young people who experience homelessness at higher rates than their white, straight, cisgender peers.

Working together with Washington’s Office of Homeless Youth, ACI is building a system that is data-informed, performance-based, equity-driven and holds youth and young adult households and individuals at the center.

ACI acts as an advisor to the Youth Advisory Board, serves on the YHDP Core Team, and serves as an advisor to the YHDP Coordinator, and the Collaborative Applicant.

ACI consists of a Team Lead, a Data Lead, a minimum of two youth or young adults with lived experience, an ACI Coordinator, Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, Behavioral Health, homeless service providers, and Schools Representatives.

The Yes-2-Yes Committee is made up of front-line staff and/or program managers serving youth and young adults from the Spokane Region’s By-Name List.

The group meets weekly to coordinate efforts to meet the housing goals of these individual young people. Through this process a unique lens is used to analyze the way in which the regional homeless system functions and brings an additional perspective to identifying gaps and barriers that prevent young people from meeting their housing goals. This team is a by-product of the ACI and collaborates directly with the ACI Core Team on the creation and implementation of improvement ideas.
GOVERNANCE CHART

Spokane City/County Regional YHDP Governance Chart

HUD
Funder: approves CoC and YHDP projects

Continuum of Care (CoC) Board
Locally approves CoC and YHDP projects. And submits to HUD for approval.

Funding and RFP Committee
Evaluates & ranks funding proposals, makes funding recommendations to CoC Board for YHDP. Led by City staff.

Youth Advisory Board (YAB)
YAB representatives serve as members of the YHDP core team, ACI Core Team, and HYSC. YAB also has a voting member of the CoC Board and the RFP & Funding Committee. Estimates CoC Board on youth issues. Led by YAB Chair.

YHDP Core Team
Writes CSP, RFP, coordinates project implementation, manages day-to-day work. Chairs by YHDP Coordinator. Membership includes chairs of the CoC board, YAB, HYSC, the ACI Coordinator.

Homeless Youth Sub-Committee
HYSC representative is a member of the YHDP core team, the RFP Funding Sub-Committee, and a voting member of the Funding and RFP Committee. Educates CoC Board on youth issues. Led by HYSC and YAB Chairs.

City of Spokane
Collaborative applicant and HMIS Admin for WA-502 CoC. Provides administrative and data support. Generates political will to support YHDP.

Anchor Community Initiative (ACI) Core Team
Provide data, best practices, and local needs to all youth homelessness stakeholders. Led by ACI Coordinator.

Yes-2-Yes Committee
Youth case conferencing team. Provide on-the-ground insights from the by-name list; identify unmet needs/system gaps.
## Stakeholder Chart

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<th>Organization</th>
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<td>Youth Action Board</td>
<td>Spokane Youth Advisory Board</td>
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<td>Public Child Welfare Agencies</td>
<td>Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant Program Recipients</td>
<td>Catholic Charities of Eastern Washington (CCEW)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Spokane Neighborhood Action Partners (SNAP)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local and State Government</td>
<td>City of Spokane</td>
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<td>City of Spokane Valley</td>
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<td>Spokane County</td>
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<tr>
<td>Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Providers</td>
<td>Volunteers of America Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho (VOA)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Agencies</td>
<td>Excelsior Youth Center</td>
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<td>Daybreak Youth Services</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Seven Nations Healing Lodge</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NATIVE Project</td>
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<td>Spokane Regional Health District MCO's</td>
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<td>Juvenile and Adult Corrections and Probation</td>
<td>WA State Office of Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR)</td>
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<td>Spokane County Juvenile Court Services (SCJCL)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local and State Law Enforcement and Judges</td>
<td>Spokane Police Department</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Housing Authorities</td>
<td>Spokane Housing Authority (SHA)</td>
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<td>Early Childhood Development and Child Care Providers</td>
<td>Transitions</td>
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<td>ECEAP</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Headstart</td>
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<td></td>
<td>CV ECEAP Director</td>
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<tr>
<td>Partner</td>
<td>Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>Local and State Educational Agencies</td>
<td>Northeast Washington Education Service District 101 (NEWESD101) Mead School</td>
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<td></td>
<td>District Treehouse Central Valley School District Spokane Public Schools</td>
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<td>Workforce</td>
<td>Spokane Workforce Council Next Generation Zone DVR WorkSource</td>
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<td>Institutions of Higher Education</td>
<td>Community Colleges of Spokane Gonzaga University Whitworth University Eastern</td>
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<td>WA University</td>
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<td>Non-Profit Youth Organizations</td>
<td>YFA Connections</td>
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<td>Landlord Association of Inland Northwest</td>
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<td>Privately Funded Homeless Organizations</td>
<td>Cup of Cool Water</td>
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<td>Local Advocacy, Research, and Philanthropic Organizations</td>
<td>Spokane County United Way A Way Home Washington (AWHWA) Better Health Together</td>
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<td>Empire Health</td>
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<td>Legal Services</td>
<td>Team Child</td>
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<td>Spokane County Public Defense</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Northwest Justice Project</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gonzaga Law School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organizations that serve culturally specific (Black, Latino, Indigenous</td>
<td>Carl Maxey Center Spectrum Odyssey Youth Center INDex</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>communities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Continuum of Care Board</td>
<td>CoC Chair and YAB Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>VA/SSVF</td>
<td>Goodwill</td>
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STATEMENT OF NEED

Since 2018 the Spokane City/County CoC has participated in the Anchor Community Initiative (ACI), a statewide movement to end youth and young adult homelessness sponsored by A Way Home Washington (AWHWA).

The ACI methodology is an adaptation of the Community Solutions’s Built for Zero model:

1. Establish quality data through a comprehensive, real-time list of every unaccompanied young person in the community experiencing homelessness or housing instability

2. Test systems change ideas to reduce the number of young people actively experiencing homelessness each month

3. Achieve and sustain “functional zero”

What do Functional Zero and Yes to Yes mean?

A set of measures communities across the country used to determine whether a community has functionally ended homelessness.

Communities know they have reached functional zero when they have the capacity to:
- prevent most homelessness
- quickly identify all the unaccompanied young people who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability at any given time
- quickly resolve homelessness with connections to safe and stable housing

Young people experiencing housing instability can access services they need and want quickly without leaving their home community and are no longer homeless in the process. When a young person says “Yes, I need help,” a community is able to say “Yes” back – Yes to Yes!
Throughout 2019 and 2020, the Spokane’s ACI Core Team worked with local stakeholders to complete a **Youth and Young Adult By-Name List (BNL) Scorecard**.

Establishing the BNL required community partnerships, quality data and resulted in increased community buy-in and collaboration.

Aggregate data from the YYA BNL is used each month to identify:

- **System inflow**
  - the number of young people that have newly become homeless or returned to homelessness

- **Active homeless number**
  - the number of young people who are currently experiencing homelessness/housing instability and are either unsheltered, sheltered, or doubled-up/couch-surfing

- **System outflow**
  - the number of young people who were permanently housed, moved from homelessness to time-limited, institutional, or unknown destinations

To achieve quality data, community stakeholders partnered with AWHWA to create a data transformation protocol. This protocol evaluates client-level exported from the regional Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) and assigns each YYA household a BNL status of:

- **Actively homeless** - unsheltered, sheltered, doubled-up/couch-surfing, or indeterminate
- **Inactive** - moved to permanently housed, institutional/time-limited settings, or unknown

Understanding the overrepresentation of subpopulations in the YYA homelessness population is crucial for identifying and testing strategies to eliminate disproportionality in housing outcomes for:

- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Queer (LGBQ) young people
- Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) young people
- Black, Indigenous, and other young People of Color (BIPOC)
While HMIS data is considered to be the most reliable source of data regarding young people experiencing homelessness, there were gaps in the data. **To achieve quality data, it was essential to coordinate with privately funded, non-HMIS participating homeless service providers; publicly funded systems of care, including child welfare, juvenile justice, and behavioral health; and the public education system.**

The ACI Core Team worked with each stakeholder to draft policies to connect a young person experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness to a case manager providing tailored housing navigation resources. The case manager serves as the dedicated point of contact between that provider or system of care and the youth homelessness crisis response system.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>System</th>
<th>Referral Point</th>
<th>Services Available</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child Welfare</td>
<td>Independent Living Program (ILP) team with VOA</td>
<td>Former foster youth in need of housing supports may access the Independent Youth Housing Program (IYHP) to receive rental assistance and other housing supports.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juvenile Justice</td>
<td>Office of Juvenile Rehabilitation (JR) partners with VOA to host case manager</td>
<td>For JR-involved youth who exit to Spokane County without stable housing available, DCYF funds two transitional housing beds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Districts, Juvenile Court, Behavioral Health</td>
<td>InREACH team</td>
<td>The InREACH team receives from referrals from these community partners when they identify a young person experiencing or at-risk of homelessness upon exiting county juvenile detention or in-patient treatment as well as unaccompanied students identified as eligible for McKinney-Vento services by homeless education staff. The InREACH offers a client centered, diversion-first approach.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-HMIS participating shelters, drop-in centers, or other</td>
<td>VOA's YouthREACH and SNAP</td>
<td>Ensure YYA Have access to CE assessment. SNAP and YouthREACH also partner with the Spokane Homeless Outreach Huddle to improve geographic coverage of Spokane County and more rapidly identify young people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.</td>
</tr>
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None of these referral pathways constitutes a direct information sharing agreement, but each program offers opportunities to connect young people with critical services and to be included on the YYA BNL. Many of these YYA would not have typically been
Unaccompanied Minors

Unaccompanied Minors refers to households where every member of the household is a youth under the age of 18 and where no member of the household has a relationship to the head of household designated "son", "daughter", or "dependent child".

Unaccompanied minors experiencing homelessness

- **84**

System-involved unaccompanied minors with unknown housing status

- **34**

At-risk unaccompanied minors

- **37**

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Unaccompanied minors experiencing homelessness

- **White Young People:** 44
- **Young People of Color:** 26
- **Cisgender Young People:** 12
- **Transgender & Non-binary Young People:** 3
- **Heterosexual Young People:** 1
- **Unknown Race/Ethnicity:** 2
- **LGBQ+ Young People:** 1

System-involved unaccompanied minors with unknown housing status

- **White Young People:** 18
- **Young People of Color:** 13
- **Cisgender Young People:** 3
- **Transgender & Non-binary Young People:** 2
- **Heterosexual Young People:** 1
- **Unknown Race/Ethnicity:** 2
- **LGBQ+ Young People:** 2

At-risk unaccompanied minors

- **White Young People:** 19
- **Young People of Color:** 8
- **Cisgender Young People:** 5
- **Transgender & Non-binary Young People:** 2
- **Heterosexual Young People:** 2
- **Unknown Race/Ethnicity:** 8
- **LGBQ+ Young People:** 12
Pregnant or Parenting Youth and Young Adults

Pregnant or Parenting Youth/Young Adults are households where one or more youth or young adults has a dependent child in their care or is otherwise being served by a 'families project' due to pregnancy status.

- Pregnant or parenting YYA experiencing homelessness: 67
- System-involved pregnant or parenting YYA with unknown housing status: 28
- At-risk pregnant or parenting YYA: 34

Legend:
- White Young People
- Young People of Color
- Unknown Race/Ethnicity
- Cisgender Young People
- Transgender & Non-binary Young People
- Unknown Gender Identity
- Heterosexual Young People
Young Adult

Young Adult households are households where every member of the household is between the ages of 18 and 24.
Deeper understanding of YYA experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness

YHDP funding was allocated based on the gaps identified in the current homelessness response system. **YYA experiencing unsheltered homelessness** were prioritized in projects.
Shelter vs. Unsheltered Disaggregated Data - Unaccompanied Minors

- **White**: Sheltered 40, Unsheltered 19
- **POC**: Sheltered 21, Unsheltered 4
- **Unknown racial identity**: Sheltered 4, Unsheltered 7
- **Cisgender**: Sheltered 48, Unsheltered 15
- **Transgender and non-binary**: Sheltered 1, Unsheltered 6
- **Unknown gender identity**: Sheltered 16, Unsheltered 4
- **Heterosexual**: Sheltered 33, Unsheltered 6
- **LGBQ+**: Sheltered 10, Unsheltered 2
- **Unknown sexual identity**: Sheltered 22, Unsheltered 11
Shelter vs. Unsheltered Disaggregated Data - Pregnant and Parenting YYA

- Sheltered (50)  Unsheltered (17)

- White: 32 Sheltered, 11 Unsheltered
- POC: 18 Sheltered, 6 Unsheltered
- Unknown racial identity: 42 Sheltered, 15 Unsheltered
- Cisgender: 32 Sheltered, 11 Unsheltered
- Transgender and non-binary: 8 Sheltered, 2 Unsheltered
- Unknown gender identity: 2 Sheltered, 2 Unsheltered
- Heterosexual: 2 Sheltered, 2 Unsheltered
- LGBTQ+: 2 Sheltered, 2 Unsheltered
- Unknown sexual identity: 47 Sheltered, 16 Unsheltered

Categories: Sheltered, Unsheltered
Shelter vs. Unsheltered Disaggregated Data - Young Adults

- **White**: 152 Sheltered, 39 Unsheltered
- **POC**: 101 Sheltered, 30 Unsheltered
- **Unknown racial identity**: Not specified
- **Cisgender**: 215 Sheltered, 62 Unsheltered
- **Transgender and non-binary**: Not specified
- **Unknown gender identity**: 39 Sheltered, 9 Unsheltered
- **Heterosexual**: 82 Sheltered, 26 Unsheltered
- **LGBQ+**: 32 Sheltered, 9 Unsheltered
- **Unknown sexual identity**: 151 Sheltered, 44 Unsheltered

- **Legend**:
  - Orange: Sheltered (265)
  - Pink: Unsheltered (74)
YYA Identified Needs

The YAB held a series of focus groups with YYA with lived experience of housing instability and/or homelessness. Recognizing that YYA with lived experience are the experts, they were asked for feedback on:
1. Housing Needs
2. Education Needs
3. Employment Needs
4. Health Needs
5. Community Needs

What would have helped stabilize?
- Finances
- Family reunification services
- Ethical landlords
- Eviction prevention resources
- SUD treatment
- Family stability
- Good paying job

What are you looking for in housing?
- Apartment
- House to rent
- Home ownership
- Privacy and independence
- Affordable housing
- Good amenities
- Good area
- Away from crime
- Tranquility and privacy
- Safe with a garden
How has homelessness impacted your housing and employment?

**Education experience**
- Couldn't afford fees
- No friends
- Bullying/intimidation from peers
- Developmental delays made it difficult
- Poor relationships with teachers
- Good experience, felt like people understood what they were going through
- Skipped school
- Parents wanted them to study topic that doesn't interest them

**Devastated academics**

**Family responsibilities made it hard to prioritize school**

**Missing busses**

**Transportation - couldn't get to school on time**

**Cannot comfortably go to school where there is not good or safe place and study**

**Current employment**
- Not working
- Working part time
- Working full time
- Looking for better job
- Looking for job
- Working multiple jobs

**Education goals**
- Finish school
- Get GED
- Vocational training
- Become a business owner
- Collage that will allow students to focus on interests
- Back to school to make more money
- Want to extend school but need to find stable housing
- After college they will get a job

**Career goals**
- Childcare
- Own business
- YAB stipend/SSI
- Touring magic show
- Construction
- Law enforcement
- Environmental engineer
- Fashion
- Music
what health services need to be readily available?

How do you figure out services?

- I don’t know
- Ask family members
- Talk to friends

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>transportation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>More counselors available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>First aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Affordable health care services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Accessible professionals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Mental health and SUD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Pharmacy/prescriptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Street outreach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>In home care services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Nurse practitioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Consultant services for cancer patients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are you interested in or passionate about?

What kind of things make you feel like you belong?

- Friends
- Aware of autism traits
- Identity - in terms of race
- Seniors
- Participating in community activities
- Feeling welcomed and wanted
- Video games
- Volunteering
- Music
- Diversity in communities and outward support for minorities
- Sexuality - gives sense of belonging
Living skills
Stable housing
Continuous care and consistent care providers
Developmentally appropriate policy considerations
Supportive housing, employment, & educations
Transitional living and independent living
Warm handoffs
Stable natural supports
Peer-driven programming


needs of special populations

Strategies for addressing racial inequity
Partner with and support BIPOC young people to co-create new programs, services, and strategies to reduce housing insecurity and prevent youth homelessness.

Develop street outreach programs around young people’s fluid housing situations over time—not just based on where they were last.

Design programs and deliver services that center the experiences of youth of color with intersecting marginalized identities to meet immediate needs and support appropriate services.

Build in opportunities to better understand past familial traumas and adversities to inform a more tailored approach to service delivery.

https://www.chapinhall.org/research/youth-of-color-disproportionately-impacted-by-housing-instability/

Serving LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness

Provide enhanced training to providers to identify and respond to the trauma and hardship faced by this population.

Engage LGBTQ youth as full partners in strengthening systems and services.

Encourage community organizations working with runaway and homeless youth to initiate more sensitive data collection about sexual orientation and gender identity.

Enhance guidance in federal grants that serve young people so these resources can better support LGBTQ and minority LGBTQ youth.

Locate LGBTQ-sensitive outreach, services, and housing options in or near predominantly black and multiracial communities equitably.

Evaluate the most promising interventions to determine their effectiveness for LGBTQ youth. The federal government can take the lead by providing evaluation funding for core interventions.


Needs of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth

Safe Housing
Therapeutic Homes
Transitional Housing
Specialized Residential Home
Culturally & Holistic services
Supporting the development of self-regulating skills so they can build on their resiliency and strength
Positive support systems such as mentors that are trauma informed and culturally responsive
Job training
Paid apprenticeships
Trade jobs
Increase awareness and training for staff on CSEC indicators and risk factors
ALLOWABLE PROJECTS

Permanent Supportive Housing
PSH is a non-time-limited, permanent housing subsidy combined with a high level of supportive services. It is a model that is most effective when combined with a Housing First approach and is typically designed for folks with the highest needs, long experiences with homelessness and a household member with a disability.

Rapid Rehousing (RRH)
RRH is a permanent housing program where a youth may receive up to 36 months of rental assistance and supportive services, with up to six months of aftercare once the rental assistance ends. Supportive services often focus on income maximization and stability planning. The participant enters into a lease directly with the landlord.

Joint Transitional Housing - Rapid Rehousing
TH-RRH provides short-term crisis housing for youth who enter the TH portion of the program. It also provides medium/long-term permanent housing for youth who transition directly from TH into RRH or from homelessness into RRH. A youth has a choice of which program they wish to access and both TH and RRH portions must be available.

Supportive Services Only (SSO)
SSOs are a project type where YHDP funds only pay for services, not housing assistance. Examples are outreach services, diversion services, drop-in centers and community-wide or specific partnerships between services. SSO projects can also be used to improve or increase the capacity of a community’s Youth Coordinated Entry System.


**PROJECT PRIORITIES**

To develop the project priorities to be funded with YHDP grant money, stakeholders, YYA and YHDP Core Team completed an intentional process to identify gaps in the youth homeless response system and overall coordinated community response to youth homelessness.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Develop youth specific coordinated entry system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Host Homes Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Street Outreach, Diversion, Housing Navigation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The community identified the priority of increasing the availability of responsive services and housing options for YYA experiencing unsheltered and sheltered homelessness.

This includes the need for holistic and culturally responsive wrap around services, a robust coordinated entry system and housing choices to meet the needs of all youth.

A joint RFP process for youth funding streams will provide the community with a competitive bidding process to ensure best practices and youth centered programs and projects are implemented. This joint process will also include state Office of Homeless Youth funds.

Other potential funding opportunities include ARPA funds, business and philanthropic community.
Develop Coordinated Entry for YYA

Coordinated Entry specific to YYA would effectively and efficiently target resources to Spokane County’s YYA at risk or experiencing homelessness, and work with Spokane County’s YYA to identify housing and resources best suited for their needs. HUD recognizes a YYA focused CE process to be a crucial component of homelessness response to prioritize resources to the most vulnerable youth.

**HUD's Four Core Elements of Coordinated Entry System**

**Access**
Access points of a coordinated entry process, either virtual or physical, must cover the entire geographic area of the CoC, be easily accessed by youth seeking assistance, and be well advertised so that those who need it are aware of the coordinated entry process.

**Assessment**
Standardized assessment tools will document the needs and preferences of those seeking housing and services in a way that is uniform and consistent throughout the entire CoC.

**Prioritization**
Prioritization is based on a person’s level of vulnerability and need as documented in an assessment. This process should be applied consistently across the CoC and be based on specific criteria that are publicly available.

**Referral**
Referrals should consider the youth’s developmental stage, needs, and strengths. The final decision about enrollment in a project will be made by the youth, as participant choice and autonomy is of utmost importance. Youth participants need to know exactly which project they are being referred to, what will be expected of them, what they should expect from the project, and what happens if they reject the referral.

The youth-inclusive CE should be youth focused, system wide approach developed to address the service and developmental needs of unaccompanied homeless youth and young adults in partnership with YYA and community stakeholders.
Centralized CE System providing holistic case management

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Elements of Project</th>
<th>Coordinated Entry specific to YYA would effectively and efficiently target resources to Spokane County’s YYA at risk or experiencing homelessness, and work with Spokane County’s YYA to identify housing and resources best suited for their needs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target Population</td>
<td>YYA experiencing unsheltered homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive Services Description</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired Outcomes</td>
<td>All YYA experiencing a housing crisis have fair and equal access and are quickly identified, assessed for, referred, and connected to housing and assistance based on their strengths and needs</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| YHDP Principles to be Addressed | Special Populations   
|                           | Equity                  
|                           | Individualized and client-driven supports |
| USICH Outcomes Addressed | Stable Housing   
|                           | Social and emotional well being |
|                           | Permanent connections |
| Innovative Strategies to be built into implementation | Prioritization using community By name List   
|                           | Disaggregated data for special populations to understand disproportionality |
|                           | InReach team coordination |
| Is the project anticipated to be funded with YHDP funds? | Yes |
| Projected cost for 1 year | $125,000 |
Host Homes Program

Host homes are a flexible and cost-effective model for providing stable housing and supports for youth and young adults. Host homes offer a home-like, non-institutional environment rooted in the community. RCW 74.15.020 (o) provides the legal guidelines for host home operations for youth under 18 years old. A host home program would provide a potential opportunity for unaccompanied youth under the age of 18 who are not currently served by child welfare system or crisis residential center.

**HUD's Key Elements and Promising Practices for Host Homes**

**Host Recruitment**
The service provider offers program coordination, host support, and case management services. Informal community networks (such as faith-based and LGBTQ networks) or a community advisory council can support host recruitment. Hosts may receive financial assistance to defray the costs of hosting the youth or to compensate for loss of rental income.

**Supporting Hosts**
Hosts are screened (background check, 2-3 interviews and references) and receive training and ongoing support, especially with boundary-setting, managing expectations, conflict mediation, and cultural competency.

**Positive Youth Development**
Case management and services are individualized and focus on problem-solving, skill-building, communication, and goal-setting. Setbacks and mistakes are tolerated. Youth participate voluntarily and are never “placed” in a home.

**Flexible Models**
Host homes are effective in urban, suburban, and rural settings. Host homes may be used as short-term emergency shelter allowing youth to remain in their community, as respite care combined with family engagement services or as transitional housing. This model may work especially for unaccompanied youth who can build long-term and authentic relationships with caring adults.

**Formal Partnerships**
Successful programs involve formal partnerships with schools, child welfare, justice, and behavioral and mental health service providers in order to collaboratively support youth.
# Host Homes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Elements of Project</th>
<th>Community members who allow YYA to reside in their home with the intention of allowing the YYA the space and support needed to stabilize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target Population</td>
<td>Unaccompanied minors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)</td>
<td>10 - 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive Services Description</td>
<td>Provide family like environment to YYA – shelter, food, transportation, day-to-day support, mentoring, and coordination with host home program services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired Outcomes</td>
<td>Stable, supportive, affirming home for youth who do not qualify for services in other child serving systems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YHDP Principles to be Addressed</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Youth Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special populations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth choice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social and community integration</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Individualized and client driven supports</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trauma Informed Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USICH Outcomes Addressed</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stable housing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanent connections</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education/employment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social-emotional well-being</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovative Strategies to be built into implementation</td>
<td>Partnering with host home volunteers to serve special populations, such as youth of color or LGBQ+, trans, non-binary youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Possible linkage to schools since they are often utilizing families in their communities without resources or education to housing YYA experiencing trauma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the project anticipated to be funded with YHDP funds?</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected cost for 1 year</td>
<td>$75,000 - $100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing

Joint Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) Component Project was designed to help communities provide crisis housing with financial assistance and wrap around supportive services needed by program participants to quickly move into permanent housing. The joint component provides a tool for youth to develop projects specially tailored to meet their unique developmental needs and help them move quickly into permanent housing with available supportive services to help them maintain that housing.

Minimum Components to Joint Transitional Housing/Rapid Rehousing

**Housing First**
Use a Housing First approach with client-driven service models and a focus on helping people move to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Participants cannot be required to participate in treatment or services to receive assistance.

**Low Barrier**
Have low-barriers to entry and accommodate people with possessions, partners, pets, or other needs.

**Client Choice**
Incorporate client-choice by helping participants find permanent housing based on their unique strengths, needs, preferences, and financial resources. Participants will choose when they are ready to exit the crisis housing portion of the project and move to permanent housing, with providers assisting participants with this move.

**Resources**
Provide or connect participants to resources that help them improve their safety and well-being and achieve their goals.

**Prioritization**
Target and prioritize people experiencing homelessness with higher needs and who are most vulnerable.

https://www.hudexchange.info/news/snaps-in-focus-the-new-joint-transitional-housing-and-rapid-re-housing-component/?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=119e7c0f9e-SNAPS+Focus%3A+2017+CoC+Comp+in+Context%3A+F22%2F2017&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-119e7c0f9e-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Elements of Project</th>
<th>Short stays in the TH component, with guaranteed RRH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Access to RRH regardless of stay in TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Master lease or scattered site TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The services will be determined by the participants and focused on moving the young adult quickly to permanent housing with available supportive services to help them maintain the housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Target Population</td>
<td>Sheltered and Unsheltered Youth 18 - 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive Services Description</td>
<td>Strongly embed behavioral services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired Outcomes</td>
<td>Exit to permanent housing (or maintain lease without subsidy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YHDP Principles to be Addressed</td>
<td>Housing First</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive Youth Development</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Choice</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Individualized and client-driven supports</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Special Populations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Equity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stable Housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USICH Outcomes Addressed</td>
<td>Social and emotional well being</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Permanent connections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Education and employment</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth led development of programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>创新性的策略 to be built into implementation</td>
<td>Paid YYA with lived experience staffing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Partnering with culturally responsive organizations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prioritize placement using By Name List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Multi-disciplinary case conferencing use ACI model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the project anticipated to be funded with YHDP funds?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected cost for 1 year</td>
<td>$672,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supportive Services Only

The Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP) has created an opportunity for communities to develop new Supportive Service Only (SSO) projects dedicated to meeting the needs of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. SSO projects provide critical supports within the homeless response system and YHDP communities have developed innovative SSO projects that directly respond to the needs of their local communities. These services should be closely connected with the youth specific Coordinated Entry system.

Supportive Services Identified

Street Outreach
An opportunity to engage youth who are unsheltered, providing basic needs assistance, and connections to necessary resources, including shelter & housing.

Diversion
Supports offered at the front door of the system to assist youth in finding or maintaining safe & appropriate housing before entering an episode of homelessness. Diversion is a Housing Problem Solving technique that focuses on strategies to help young people identify housing options and avoid an episode of homelessness.

Housing Navigation
Supports offered to assist young people who are at risk of or experiencing literal homelessness, navigate complex systems, and provide direct support to youth in crisis as they engage with the coordinated entry system.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Elements of Project</th>
<th>Strong connection with Coordinated Entry system to identify YYA in need of supportive services to support YYA in identifying stable housing and remain housed long term.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Target Population</td>
<td>YYA experiencing unsheltered and sheltered homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)</td>
<td>339</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supportive Services Description</td>
<td>Street outreach to unsheltered YYA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diversion programs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Housing navigation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desired Outcomes</td>
<td>Increase stable housing rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Connect YYA with community supports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identify YYA not connected to homeless crisis system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YHDP Principles to be Addressed</td>
<td>Housing First</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive Youth Development</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth Choice</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stable Housing</td>
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<tr>
<td>USICH Outcomes Addressed</td>
<td>Social and emotional wellbeing</td>
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<td>Permanent connections</td>
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<td>Education and employment</td>
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<td>Stable housing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Innovative Strategies to be built into implementation</td>
<td>Peer support</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Youth led development of programs</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paid YYA with lived experience staffing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Culturally responsive service providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prioritization using By Name List</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Youth InReach team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is the project anticipated to be</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND ACTION STEPS

The YHDP Core Team, YAB, and Youth Homelessness Subcommittee agreed to the following four goals to prevent and end homelessness in Spokane County.

- **Eliminate Disproportionality** in youth and young adult homelessness
- **Achieve Functional Zero** for youth and young adult homelessness
- **Achieve the ACI Gold Standard** in centering youth voice
- Young people are **supported as Whole Humans** by the youth homelessness crisis response system

The following section provides a deeper look at how the community will move forward in meeting these goals with objectives, action steps and timeframes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 1.1</th>
<th>Young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people are returning to homelessness at the same rate or lesser than the general population of YYA experiencing homelessness.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.1.1</td>
<td>Partner with community organizations to create responsive support systems and independent life skills development for young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people in housing programs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.1.2</td>
<td>Analyze characteristics of YYA who return to homelessness. Determine whether the results of structural racism (such as family configuration, criminal records, or undiagnosed disabilities, etc.) are contributing to housing instability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUD Key Elements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Partners Responsible</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Equity</td>
<td>Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, School Districts, Legal Advocates, YAB, CoC, and Service Providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Positive Youth Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Trauma-Informed Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1.2</td>
<td>Young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people are returning to homelessness at the same rate or lesser than the general population of YYA experiencing homelessness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.2.1</td>
<td>Partner with community organizations to create responsive support systems and independent life skills development for young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people in housing programs.</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HUD Key Elements</strong></td>
<td><strong>Partners Responsible</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Equity</td>
<td>Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, DVR, FCS providers, MCOs, community organizations, school districts, service providers, City of Spokane, CoC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Positive Youth Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>✔ Trauma-Informed Care</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective 1.3</td>
<td>The average length of time young people of color, LGBQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people experience homelessness is the same or lesser than the general population of YYA experiencing homelessness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.3.1</td>
<td>Prioritizing young people of color, LGBQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people experiencing homelessness in housing program placement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.3.2</td>
<td>Educate the Continuum of Care and the wider community about disproportionalities by creating data dashboards or visualizations that show the percentage of young people of color, LGBQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people who are entering your homeless system, in comparison to the percentage of young people of color, LGBQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people overall. Make them widely and regularly available.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.3.3</td>
<td>Prioritize funding for projects with lived experience staff and young adult staff providing direct service to YYA experiencing homelessness.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- [ ] Equity
- [ ] Positive Youth Development
- [ ] Trauma-Informed Care

**Partners Responsible**
- CoC, City of Spokane, housing service providers

**Timeframe**
- June 2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 1.4</th>
<th>The feedback that the CoC receives indicates that the majority of young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people that access the youth homelessness crisis response system describe that system as safe, affirming, and accessible.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.4.1</td>
<td>Expanding the YAB membership of young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, and trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited youth and young adults by collaborating with youth and young adults in community organizations, school districts, and other service providers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.4.2</td>
<td>Develop professional development program for YYA experiencing homelessness to empower YYA to contribute and feel prepared to present at CoC, facilitate conversations and participate in planning and implementation meetings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.4.3</td>
<td>Quarterly report to the CoC by YAB on the needs and experiences of YYA experiencing homelessness, and especially needs of young people of color, LGBTQ young people, young people with disabilities, trans &amp; gender nonconforming young people, child welfare involved, juvenile justice involved and sexually exploited young people experiencing homelessness.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 1.4.4</td>
<td>Secure increased and sustainable funding for YYA consulting stipends to support YYA involvement in CoC, YHDP and other planning activities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**

- ✔ Equity
- ✔ Positive Youth Development
- ✔ Trauma-Informed Care
- ✔ Youth Choice

**Partners Responsible**

- School districts, YAB, CoC, Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, community organizations, legal advocates, United Way, service providers

**Timeframe**

- August 2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 2.1</th>
<th>Zero young people are experiencing unsheltered homelessness</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 2.1.1</strong></td>
<td>Conduct youth street outreach needs assessment to identify gaps in collaboration, capacity, training, geographic coverage, technology, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 2.1.2</strong></td>
<td>Develop targeted outreach strategy for all unsheltered young adults on the By-Name List to identify barriers to accessing Young Adult Shelter beds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- Housing First
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care

| **Partners Responsible** | CoC, City of Spokane, outreach teams, United Way |
| **Timeframe** | December 2022 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 2.2</th>
<th>The average length of time young people experience homelessness is less than or equal to 30 days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 2.2.1</strong></td>
<td>Develop custom data element in HMIS to track when young people in transitional housing requesting permanent housing assistance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 2.2.2</strong></td>
<td>Build out new data tracking protocol to accurately track length of time on the Active Homeless part of the By-Name List</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- Coordinated Entry
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First

| **Partners Responsible** | United Way, City of Spokane, CoC |
| **Timeframe** | August 2022 |
### Objective 2.3
The number of young people who become homeless or return to homelessness is decreased by at least 60 YYA (10%) 120 YYA (20%) on a yearly basis.

| Action Step 2.3.1 | CoC will develop partnerships with school district and community organizations to identify and develop community resources to prevent and/or divert YYA from entering homelessness system. |
| Action Step 2.3.2 | Community will identify and develop programs to increase household stability in homes where youth under 18 may be at risk for homelessness due to financial insecurity, housing insecurity or household conflict. |

#### HUD Key Elements
- Coordinated Entry
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First
- Family Engagement

#### Partners Responsible
- School district, DSHS, Child Welfare, Juvenile Justice, BHT, CoC, City of Spokane

#### Timeframe
- June 2023

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### Objective 2.4
The number young people experiencing homelessness achieving safe, stable, and permanent housing is increased by 20 to 30% on a yearly basis.

| Action Step 2.4.1 | 10 additional units of safe and affordable housing are available to YYA experiencing homelessness on a yearly basis. |
| Action Step 2.4.2 | 90% YYA youth experiencing homelessness are connected with independent living skills or supportive community organizations on a yearly basis to support their housing stability |
| Action Step 2.4.3 | YYA experiencing homelessness will be connected to financial safety net resources to support their ability to achieve housing stability |

#### HUD Key Elements
- Coordinated Entry
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First
- Family Engagement

#### Partners Responsible
- Community organizations, DSHS, SSA, youth homelessness service providers, school districts

#### Timeframe
- June 2023
## ACI Youth Voice Gold Standard Principles

**Set Youth and Young Adults up for success**

**Reduce Barriers to Participation**

**Set Clear and Realistic Expectations**

**Highlight the Impact of YYA Voice**

**Diversity in Voices at the Table**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 3.1</th>
<th>The average number of young people that participate in Youth Advisory Board (YAB) monthly activities is 7 YYA or greater, that reflects the population of YYA experiencing homelessness in Spokane County.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 3.1.1</td>
<td>Recruitment and Outreach: develop plan for community partners to do specific outreach for the YAB (system of care, specific programs, etc.). YAS hosting YAB as an example (duplicate this method in other spaces).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 3.1.2</td>
<td>Determine stipend funding needs for 7 active YAB members per month. Advocate for closing the funding gap.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 3.1.3</td>
<td>Connect with Spectrum, Odyssey, Carl Maxey, Native Project, Inland NW Disability Experience, etc. to host YAB meetings in these spaces.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 3.1.4</td>
<td>Ensuring clear opportunities for YAB engagement at all “front porch” and program access points. Referral pathway directly to YAB and engagement incentives.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### HUD Key Elements

- Community Integration
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First
- Family Engagement

### Partners Responsible

Stakeholders in Spokane community make specific introductions between YAB Leadership and organizations listed above, to describe importance of collaboration and opportunity to partner

### Timeframe

June 2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 3.2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.2.1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.2.2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.2.3</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.2.4</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- Community Intergration
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First
- Equity

**Partners Responsible**
- HMIS Administrator, YAB Coordinator, YAB Chair, Community Stakeholders

**Timeframe**
- June 2022

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 3.3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.3.1</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.3.2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Action Step 3.3.3</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- Community Intergration
- Positive Youth Development
- Equity

**Partners Responsible**
- CoC Board Chair, CoC Board, YAB Coordinator, YAB Chair, YHDP Core team, YYA Subcommittee, City of Spokane, Spokane County

**Timeframe**
- June 2022
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 4.1</th>
<th>The majority of young people that access the youth homelessness crisis response system are having all their health (physical and behavioral) needs met.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.1.1</td>
<td>Include BH and medical specialists in staffing structures for all site-based projects. Modeling after “home/community-based” services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.1.2</td>
<td>Partner with medical teams and BH crisis teams for expedient access. Access to a single point of contact, understanding referral process, and including medication accessibility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.1.3</td>
<td>Monthly review of YYA BNL to ensure all identified youth are current with medical coverage (private, Medicaid, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.1.4</td>
<td>Service providers will regularly verify YYA health coverage and connect with health navigator as needed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.1.5</td>
<td>Service providers will partner with community health workers to help connect YYA experiencing homelessness with medical resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.1.6</td>
<td>Develop medical advocacy partnerships for advocates to accompany YYA to medical and behavioral health appointments for advocacy and support.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- Community Intergration
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First

**Partners Responsible**
CoC Board Chair, CoC Board, YAB Coordinator, YAB Chair, YHDP Core team, YYA Subcommittee, City of Spokane, Spokane County

**Timeframe**
October 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objective 4.2</th>
<th>The majority of young people that access the youth homelessness crisis response system feel like they have meaningful opportunities (education, employment, recreation, etc.) to explore and develop their skills, interests, and abilities.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.2.1</td>
<td>Partner with CCS, EWU, Gonzaga, Whitworth/Next Generation Zone/Community Centers/DVR/Job Corps, School Districts, municipalities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Action Step 4.2.2</td>
<td>Expand InReach program model to ensure that services and referrals are shared between entities named above and the homeless crisis response system.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**HUD Key Elements**
- Community Intergration
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First

**Partners Responsible**
Community Partners, CoC funded homelessness service projects, DVR, WorkSource, Juvenile Justice, Child Welfare, School Districts, CoC, City of Spokane. City of Spokane Valley

**Timeframe**
October 2023
### Objective 4.3
The majority of young people that access the youth homelessness crisis response system feel like they have meaningful relationships/permanent connections that provide them with a sense of community and belonging.

| Action Step 4.3.1 | Partnership among diverse/by and for community organizations ensuring culturally competent connection opportunities. |
| Action Step 4.3.2 | Family reunification services built out to leverage relationships already established. |
| Action Step 4.3.3 | Identify and develop opportunities and programs to support YYA experiencing homelessness to participate in community activities (sports, arts, etc.) |

#### HUD Key Elements
- Community Intergration
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First
- Family Engagement

#### Partners Responsible
- City of Spokane, community organizations, CoC, Spokane County Parks and Recreation, School Districts, community centers

#### Timeframe
October 2023

### Objective 4.4
The majority of young people that access the youth homelessness crisis response system feel like their legal needs are met.

| Action Step 4.4.1 | Assisting trans and nonbinary YYA change name and gender markers to avoid discrimination in their day to day life and housing opportunities |
| Action Step 4.4.2 | Collaborate with legal offices to expunge prior evictions or other charges that would be a barrier for YYA experiencing homelessness in accessing housing |
| Action Step 4.4.3 | Develop Know Your Rights trainings specific to YYA experiencing homelessness. Collaborate with YAB, community organizations and youth serving service providers to schedule trainings in variety of spaces. |
| Action Step 4.4.4 | Action Step 4.4.4: Connect YYA experiencing homelessness to education and legal advocates to ensure their educational needs are being met. |

#### HUD Key Elements
- Community Intergration
- Positive Youth Development
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Housing First

#### Partners Responsible
- Northwest Justice Project, ACLU, Spokane Police Ombuds, YAB, Spokane County Bar Association, Gonzaga Law School, Team Child

#### Timeframe
October 2023
Signatures

The signatures below attests to the approval and support of the City of Spokane/Spokane County 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 homelessness, including the goals and objectives outlined in the plan.

Name: Ben Stuckart  
Title: Chair  
Organization: City of Spokane  
Spokane County Continuum of Care  
Signature:  
Date: 4/6/2022  
Continuum of Care

Name: Jennifer Cerecides  
Title: Director, CHHS  
Organization: City of Spokane  
Signature:  
Date: 4/25/2022  
Local Government

Name: Stephen Cotter  
Title: Contracts and Procurement Office Chief  
Organization: DCYF  
Signature:  
Date: 4/6/2022  
Public Child Welfare

Name: Gage Spicer  
Title: YAB Chair  
Organization: Youth Advisory Board/VOA  
Signature:  
Date: 4/6/2022  
Youth Advisory Board

Name: Bridget Cannon  
Title: Senior Vice President of Youth Services  
Organization: Volunteers of America  
Signature:  
Date: 4/6/2022  
Runaway Youth and Homeless Youth Provider