

YHDP Coordinated Community Plan



A WAY HOME
for Tulsa

COORDINATED BY HOUSING SOLUTIONS

April 2023

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ACRONYMS

- BIPOC: Black, Indigenous, People of Color
- AWH4T: A Way Home for Tulsa (the Continuum of Care in Tulsa)
- CCP: Coordinated Community Plan
- CES: Coordinated Entry System
- CoC: Continuum of Care
- HMIS: Homeless Management Information System
- HUD: US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- 2SLGBTQ+: Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and/or Questioning, Asexual, Intersex, and other identities
- NOFO: Notice of Funding Opportunity
- PIT: Point in Time Count
- PSH: Permanent Supportive Housing
- RFP: Request for Proposals
- TA: Technical Assistance
- TH: Transitional Housing
- RHY: Runaway and Homeless Youth
- RRH: Rapid Rehousing
- YAB: Youth Action Board
- YHDP: Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program
- YYA: Youth and Young Adults

Definition: For the purposes of YHDP, this group encompasses youth and young adults aged 24 and younger who are unaccompanied by a parent or caregiver over the age of 24. It is inclusive of youth and young adults who are parents or caregivers for children, youth and young adults who are partnered but not parenting, and youth and young adults who are surviving independently.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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YHDP Planning Group

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City of Tulsa City Council
City of Tulsa Mayor's Office of Resilience &
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Domestic Violence Intervention Services Inc.
Family and Children's Services
Gatesway Foundation
Housing Solutions Tulsa
Hunger Free Oklahoma
Mental Health Association of Oklahoma
NewLife 360
Office of Juvenile Affairs
Oklahoma City Youth Action Board
Oklahoma Department of Corrections,
Intervention & Reentry Services
Oklahoma Department of Human Services,
Child Welfare

Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and
Substance Abuse Services, Homeless &
Runaway Youth Services, Housing &
Employment Supports
Oklahoma Commission on Children & Youth
SOAR Partners
Terrance Crutcher Foundation
Tulsa Community College
Tulsa County Family Center for Juvenile Justice,
Phoenix Rising Alternative School
Tulsa Dream Center
Tulsa Health Department
Tulsa Housing Authority
Tulsa Prism Project
Tulsa Public Schools
Tulsa Transit
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COMMUNITY VISION

YAB Mission Statement

The Tulsa YAB strives to build our community through heart (work), integrity, & visionary leadership. We create innovative & mutually respectful spaces for Tulsa's youth and young adults to have transparent, open, and honest communication that reimagines solutions to challenge the status quo & enact change.

As a community, we elected to lift up the mission statement of the Youth Action Board (YAB) to that of our collective effort in the YHDP process. Adopting this statement centers the young leadership of the YAB in our community's approach to ending homelessness and endorses the stated vision of a Tulsa in which young people are embedded throughout the decision-making of our community even beyond our current systems of care.

YHDP Vision Statement

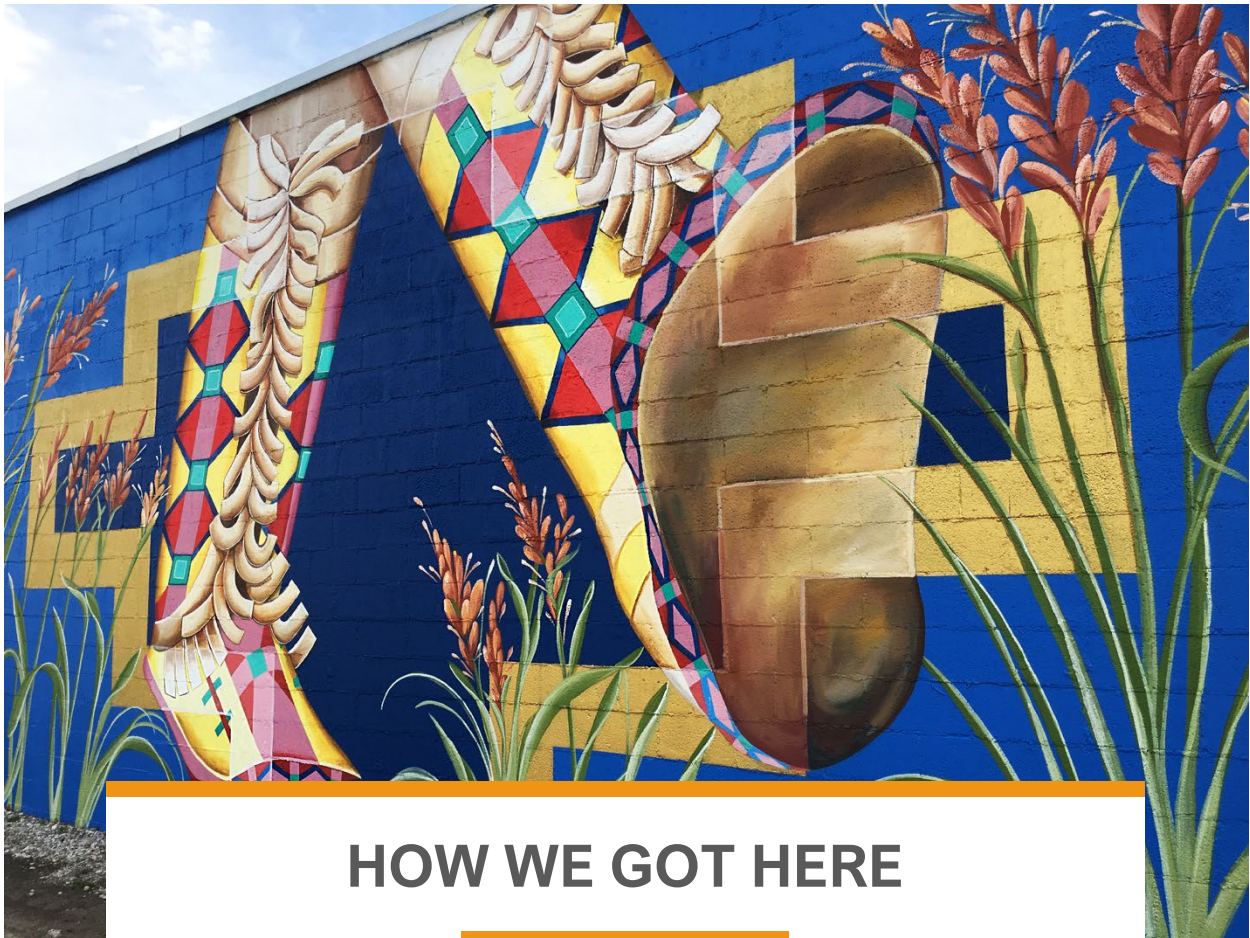
In Tulsa all young people have a home and a voice; they are empowered, exceptional, respected & prosperous.

Our vision is to prevent and end homelessness for all youth and young adults in the city and county of Tulsa, Oklahoma. Through this Coordinated Community Plan, we strive to address what the current system lacks and develop an innovative, unified response to homelessness that acknowledges the unique needs of Tulsa's youth and young adults. We believe that all young people deserve safety, care, a place to call home, and access to the resources needed to thrive. Through strong collaborations and community partnerships, we will generate culturally responsive services and support that are equitably and easily accessible to Tulsa youth.

Key Tenets & Values

The Tulsa YAB and community have agreed upon the following key tenets and values to guide our YHDP processes and are reflected throughout the Coordinated Community Plan (CCP):

- ♥ Foundational Youth Voice
- ♥ Honoring the Current Reality
- ♥ Respect, Equity & Belonging
- ♥ Responsive Services & Permanency
- ♥ Flexibility/Adaptability
- ♥ Sustainability at Every Level
- ♥ Empowerment
- ♥ Accessibility
- ♥ Open-Mindedness



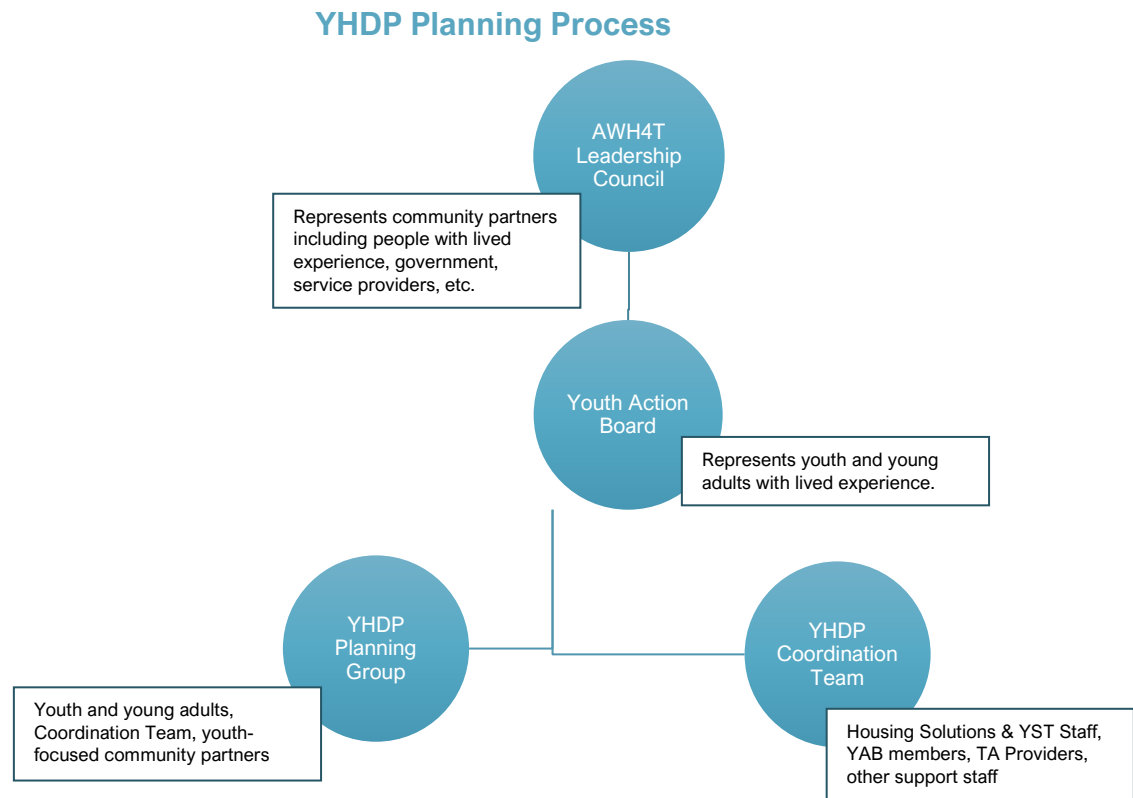
HOW WE GOT HERE

In October of 2022, A Way Home for Tulsa (AWH4T), the Tulsa CoC, was selected to participate in the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) with an award of \$5.38 million grant funding. YHDP is a federal demonstration grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which aims to encourage, and support coordinated community approaches to prevent and end youth homelessness.

As a YHDP community, the AWH4T YAB and a committed YHDP Planning Group engaged in a 6-month community planning process to develop this shared roadmap to ending youth and young adult homelessness. This plan represents our community's dedication not only to prevent and end homelessness, but to honor youth and young adult autonomy and leadership in this work.

Governance Structure

The following governance structure outlines relationships between the main entities involved in the YHDP planning process.



After the YHDP CCP is approved and has moved forward AWH4T will amend their governance structure to ensure and empower youth in strategic, systemic and funding decision making. To this end, the following decision-making bodies will work together to address youth homelessness.

A Way Home for Tulsa Leadership Council – The A Way Home for Tulsa Leadership Council is the Tulsa CoC Board. The Board will work in partnership with the YAB and Youth Homelessness Task Group to support the CCP and other youth-led endeavors. The Leadership Council has a designated seat for a youth or young adult with lived experience of homelessness. The Leadership Council will approve the CCP before submission to HUD, confirm subsequent funding decisions, and support the YAB in its efforts throughout the YHDP process.

YAB – The Youth Action Board is an independent entity composed of YYA with lived experience of homelessness and housing instability. The YAB provides leadership and represents youth voice for AWH4T and will work with AWH4T partners to fulfill the YAB’s mission. For the YHDP Planning Process, the YAB provides feedback to community partners, collaborates with the YHDP Coordination Team and Planning Group on CCP development and updates, and approves the CCP before submission to HUD. The YAB will lead the application and review process for projects funded through the YHDP. This includes developing the request for proposal (RFP), reviewing and scoring project applications and deciding on a final funding list of recommended projects for approval by the AWH4T Leadership Council.

The YAB is compensated with cash at a rate of \$10 per hour attended. AWH4T has been successful in securing private and other dollars to compensate YYA for YHDP processes. AWH4T has elected not to apply for a planning grant and will continue to secure private and other funding to ensure youth are equitably compensated.

YHDP Coordination Team – The YHDP Coordination Team is composed of YAB members, Housing Solutions (YHDP Collaborative Applicant) & Youth Services Tulsa (YST) staff, technical assistance (TA) providers, and other support staff. The Coordination Team is the initial planning body that identified community partners and organized ways to collect input through virtual convenings, in-person meetings, and written feedback. In addition, this team collected and reviewed data as well as community input from these sessions to draft initial versions of the CCP, YHDP Governance structure, and project application/RFP/scoring materials, in alignment with community and YAB priorities. This team works in collaboration with and supports the YAB throughout the YHDP planning and implementation process and seeks the input of YYA in the community.

YHDP Planning Group – The YHDP Planning Group is composed of YAB members, the YHDP Coordination Team, and community partners who work in youth-serving programs and organizations. Planning Group members represent a diverse range of public sector organizations from areas such as education, the juvenile legal system, service providers serving YYA experiencing homelessness, behavioral health providers, and child welfare. The Planning Group participated in the community planning process and system modeling sessions and will be involved in the development of the YHDP program selection criteria. Once funding selections have been made and the YHDP process transitions into the implementation phase, many Planning Group members will become members of the Youth Homelessness Task Group.

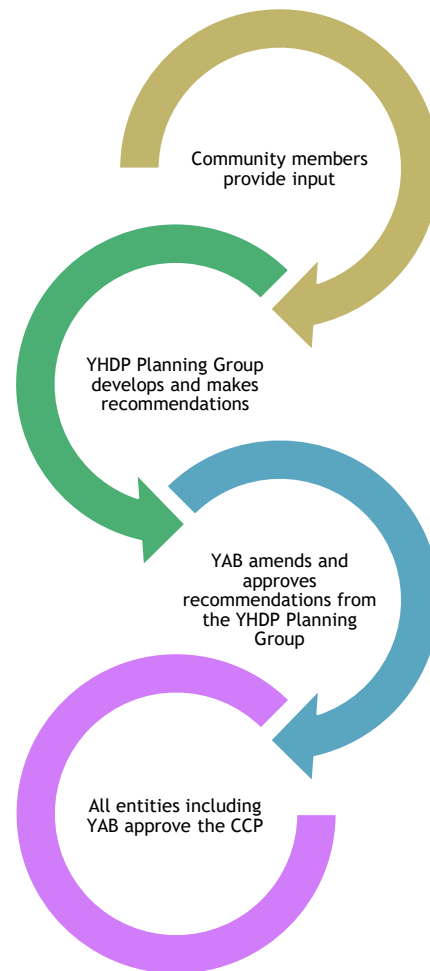
Youth Homelessness Task Group – The Youth Homelessness Task Group (YHTG) was formally created by the AWH4T Leadership Council in April 2023. This will be a standing task group which will lead AWH4T's work to address youth homelessness and YHDP CCP implementation. The majority of YHTG will be YAB members and/or youth with lived experience of homelessness. Remaining members will include youth service providers and community partners focused on ending youth homelessness, including many of the entities that participated in the Planning Group. All matters before the AWH4T Leadership Council relating to youth homelessness or impacting YYA will be reviewed, discussed, and informed by the membership of the YHTG, through the implementation of YHDP programs and beyond. In addition, accountability and data quality reviews of YHDP programs will be regularly addressed by the Task Group to further transparency of program success and outcomes.

YHDP Independent Review Team (IRT) – The YHDP IRT consists of 5 persons who are selected to review, score and rank project applications submitted during the local YHDP NOFO Funding Competition. The composition of the team includes 3 non-conflicted YAB members, 1 non-conflicted Leadership Council member, and 1 non-conflicted community member. IRT members use a scoring rubric approved by the YAB to rate project applications. A preliminary ranking based on scores will be presented to the YAB and Leadership Council for final approval.

Decision Making Flow

The process for decision making regarding approval of the CCP is outlined in the decision-making flow visual. Community members and partners, including YYA, are invited to provide input through various community planning sessions, virtual and in-person convenings, and population-specific partner/YYA meetings.

The YHDP Planning Group develops and makes recommendations for the CCP based on community input and youth leadership from the YAB. The YAB revises recommendations from the YHDP Planning Group to amend CCP content. The Planning Group may add but not take away ideas that youth have proposed to include in the plan. The YAB will engage in an iterative process with the other signatories, AWH4T Leadership Council, the Public Welfare Agency, City of Tulsa, Cherokee and Muscogee Tribes and Youth Services Tulsa (Runaway and Homeless Youth provider), to make any other changes prior to submission and commencement of the project application phase of YHDP. The CCP is approved and signed by each of these entities.



The Youth Action Board and the community have agreed on the following guiding principles and values that will guide AWHT's approach in addressing youth homelessness. When steps have already been taken to incorporate these principles in our system, they are noted below.

Equity

AWH4T acknowledges that social and structural inequities are embedded in our community and systems of care. Our system will act to identify and understand disparities that exist for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC), and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, asexual and two spirit (2SLGBTQ+) youth to ensure no youth is discriminated against based on race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation. Equity includes power sharing for those most impacted by homelessness, and so we have already begun to include adult and YYA individuals with lived experience of homelessness, housing insecurity, and our systems of care in the consideration and reformation of policy and decision-making processes. Housing Solutions Tulsa already employs a Lived Experience Coordinator to manage the integration of these individuals throughout AWH4T, and is currently hiring for a Peer Youth Leadership Coordinator, who will help support youth with lived experience in their contributions to AWH4T. Key to this is ensuring a diverse chorus of voices are present for these conversations, so that those who are disproportionately present in these systems, and have disproportionately negative outcomes, will be empowered to share their expertise and create change.

AWH4T strives for a just world and is committed to utilizing equitable evaluation and improvement strategies to remake our systems. Our HMIS Lead regularly meets with providers to evaluate outcomes along demographic lines, and we will continue to employ this process of evaluation throughout the implementation of YHDP programs and goals. Housing Solutions hosts a public CoC Data Dashboard that measures system and program level data on the performance surrounding equity indicatorsⁱ. Data transparency is an important component toward measuring success and ensuring that continuous quality improvement is at the forefront of our community-wide plan to end and prevent youth homelessness and ensure equitable outcomes for all YYA in Tulsa.

Special Populations

The City and County of Tulsa's YYA population is diverse. AWH4T acknowledges this diversity and has developed the CCP to highlight the impact of homelessness on these YYA subpopulations, which is also highlighted in the Statement of Need (see p. 22-26). Additionally, the AWH4T CCP has developed strategies and will implement new YHDP projects to address the unique needs of the YYA subpopulations in our community.

Positive Youth Development

AWH4T is committed to positive youth development, which is an intentional, prosocial approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths. AWH4T will offer training to community partners and will connect partners to additional technical assistance as needed.

Trauma-Informed Care

AWH4T is focused on ensuring all programs and partners are trauma informed. Trauma-informed care (TIC) is an approach that recognizes the prevalent role trauma plays in people's lives and uses this knowledge to respond in appropriate ways. AWH4T will offer training to community partners and will connect partners to additional technical assistance as needed. In

Tulsa, TIC principles are integrated into the local Coordinated Entry System to ensure that people who need additional assistance accessing housing are not re-traumatized during the assessment process, and that the system is designed to consider the impacts of trauma in accessing services for the first time and ongoing engagement in services. Experiencing homelessness as a YYA can result in complex trauma. Therefore, our community prioritizes creating safe spaces for YYA and rapidly engaging youth in housing-focused case management to quickly end episodes of homelessness or prevent homelessness from ever occurring.

Family Engagement

AWH4T views family engagement as a critical principle for many youth programs. Family engagement is a family-centered, strengths-based approach to strengthening, restoring, and maintaining relationships with youth and their chosen families. A critical element is working with the youth to identify their chosen family. This may include biological family and other positive connections. Family engagement is strengthened through providing conflict resolution when seeking diversion services and/or to prevent housing instability or loss due to conflict with other household members (including roommates).

Housing First

AWH4T is a Housing First community, and ensures all providers are committed to this approach. This includes the right to housing without preconditions and that all people deserve housing. This means there are no sobriety or treatment preconditions, no mandated services, and no requirements around education, income, or employment to access housing. Throughout the AWH4T community, we are committed to reducing barriers in all types of housing including permanent housing, transitional housing, and shelter. Additionally, terminations from programs are rare.

Programs funded through YHDP must not require any additional eligibility criteria outside of HUD requirements; they must provide services that focus on quickly engaging YYA in services that are person-centered and focused on offering housing options that meet their immediate and long-term needs. The AWH4T community will offer a diverse range of immediate crisis housing and permanent housing to ensure youth have low barrier options that ensure they are progressing toward permanent housing when immediate permanent housing entry is not preferred by youth or not available.

Youth Choice

AWH4T is committed to youth choice. Youth choice means youth are able to make their own decisions about their lives and the services they need. At the individual level, this includes decisions about shelter and housing options, services, child welfare case planning, family engagement and more. The local Coordinated Entry System will incorporate youth choice by allowing youth to make informed decisions based on program information and select options that meet their preferences and needs. In addition, housing programs will ensure that youth can determine the location of housing units when possible.

Individualized & Client-Driven Supports

Services from AWH4T providers are individualized and client-driven. This approach recognizes that everyone is unique – and so are their strengths and needs. The range of services available in our community allows youth to select the supports that best align with their goals and needs. These services must be available when youth need them, individualized, culturally appropriate and accessible. They must address an array of needs to support housing stability, health needs,

education, employment and life skills. The local homelessness response system first works to meet basic and immediate needs through offering shelter, homelessness prevention and diversion services. More intensive programming is used for those who are unable to resolve their episode of homelessness without additional supports. Through the local Coordinated Entry System, and through client choice, young people are matched to programs based on their unique needs and preferences (TH, RRH, PSH).

Social & Community integration

AWH4T recognizes that social and community integration are critical in achieving housing stability. Housing alone will not ensure the end of one's experience with homelessness. Social and emotional well-being is another critical element of success. Offering youth meaningful ways to be involved in the community, through school, employment, community engagement, and general social interaction increases social and community integration. Providers are encouraged to use Critical Time Intervention as a program intervention which includes ensuring YYA are building skills, confidence and connections with community-based services. Intensive case management is used to introduce youth to individualized services within the community and to support youth in building a safety net outside of program services.

Unsheltered Homelessness

AWH4T acknowledges that addressing unsheltered homelessness is critical in addressing youth homelessness in our community. 32% of YYA in the 2023 PIT were unsheltered. Through this CCP, AWH4T will develop strategies and new YHDP projects to reduce unsheltered homelessness.

The community currently has several Street Outreach projects offered through a diverse range of agencies who identify and engage persons living in unsheltered locations. Street Outreach providers attend regular community-wide CES By-Name-List case conferencing meetings to ensure that persons living in unsheltered locations have additional supports to successfully coordinate referrals and provide warm-handoffs when referred to other programs. Outreach providers will ensure that YYA are offered CES assessments, educational services, screened for VAWA housing protections, and access shelter options based on needs and preferences.

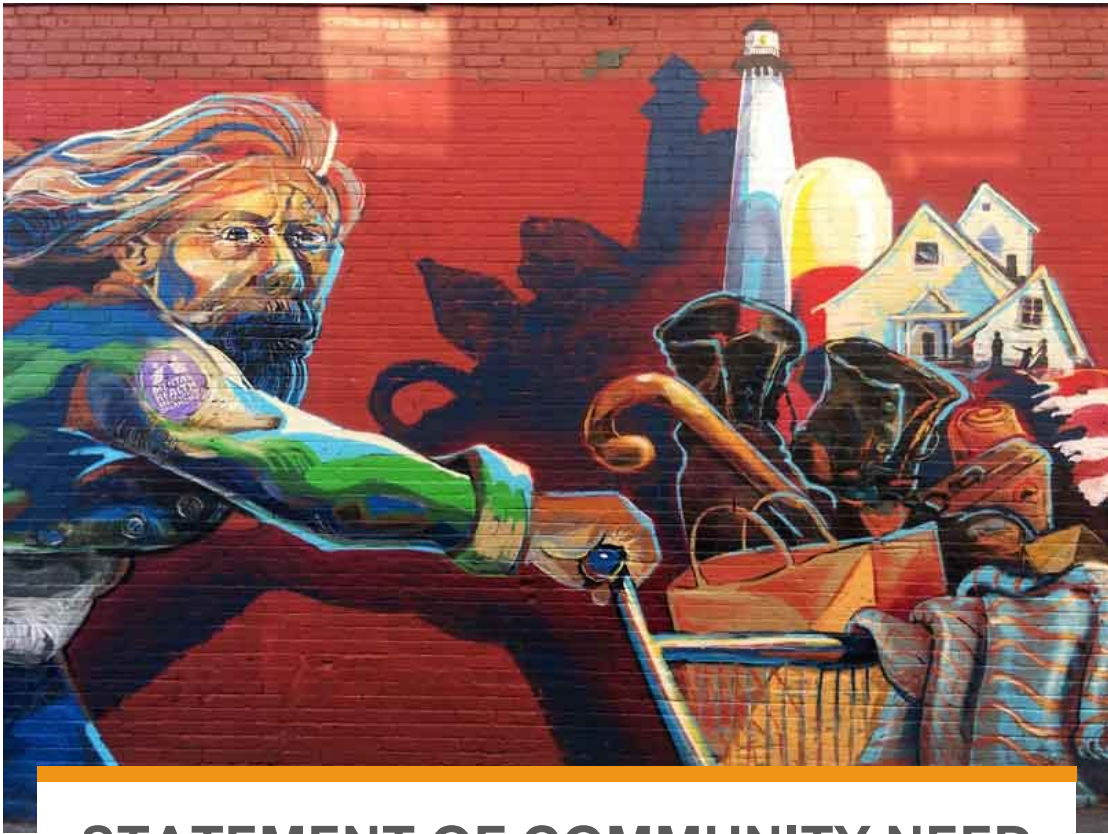
Coordinated Entry

AWH4T's Coordinated Entry System (CES) is intended to increase and streamline access to housing and services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, match appropriate levels of housing and services based on their needs, and prioritize individuals and families with severe service needs for the most intensive interventions. Our CES has the following goals, that the process will:

- be easy for the individual or family and provide quick and seamless entry into homelessness services.
- ensure individuals and families will be referred to the most appropriate resource(s) for their individual situation.
- prevent duplication of services
- reduce length of homelessness
- improve communication among agencies.

AWH4T's CES continues to evolve through data analysis and community input. The AWH4T CES Lead will ensure that the CES is evaluated at regular intervals and is youth appropriate. To bolster youth leadership within the CES and to monitor this progress, as of March 2023, a YAB representative is included in the membership of the AWH4T CES Task Group, which meets quarterly to address changes to and maintenance of Tulsa's CES process.

AWH4T has embedded the YDHP Principles throughout this CCP. Please refer to the Community Goals, Objective and Action Steps (p. 28) and the YHDP Projects (p. 36) sections of the CCP to see the incorporation of YHDP Principles in our future actions.



STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY NEED

Sources of Information

Data within this “Statement of Community Need” comes from multiple sources, including the following:

A Way Home for Tulsa Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

AWH4T’s HMIS database houses data collected through the CESⁱⁱ and by all HMIS-participating services, shelter, and housing projects. This analysis relies on HMIS wherever possible, because it provides a relatively large data source that can be easily deduplicated. Where another data source is used, that is in the narrative.

2023 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

Every year, A Way Home for Tulsa conducts the PIT Count to survey and count the number of people experiencing homelessness, both sheltered and unsheltered, throughout Tulsa County. The survey is administered by AWH4T agencies, outreach teams and volunteers, and collects information regarding the individual’s demographics, current experience of homelessness (their situation and needs), as well as what contributed to or caused their lack of a stable place to call home. The most recent PIT count was in January of 2023. (See [AWH4T’s PIT Data Dashboard](#))

US Department of Education

AWH4T’s Education Technical Assistance provider from the National Center for Homeless Education SERVE Center, furnished the YHDP Coordination team with a YHDP Education Data workbook, detailing the number of unaccompanied homeless youth as reported to public school districts within the CoC.

YHDP Planning Group Member Organizations

YHDP Planning Group partners generously provided aggregate data from multiple systems of care and organizational data sources including victims service providers (VSPs). While only some of the data is presented in this section, the full scope of the shared data informed the following analysis of community needs and made it more robust.

Qualitative Sources

To provide additional vital insight into the barriers and challenges faced by unhoused and unstably housed YYA, the YHDP Coordination Team solicited input from community experts through the following means:

- YAB meetings.
- YHDP Planning Group meetings.
- 4 listening sessions with YYA comprised of members from the following groups:
 - Survivors of human trafficking and sexual assault,
 - 2SLGBTQ+ YYA,
 - YYA involved in the child welfare and juvenile justice systems

Homelessness in Tulsa

According to the 2023 PIT count, there are 1,133 individuals experiencing homelessness on any given night in Tulsa. Families with children, seniors, individuals with disabilities, veterans, and YYA are all represented in the county's diverse unhoused population. More than 39% of these individuals are unsheltered: sleeping outside, in cars, or other places not meant for human habitation. This rate is consistent with the percentage of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness nationallyⁱⁱⁱ, but indicates a reality of hundreds living in harsh conditions throughout Tulsa. In 2022, according to HMIS data, 4,842 individuals were served through the homelessness system of care.

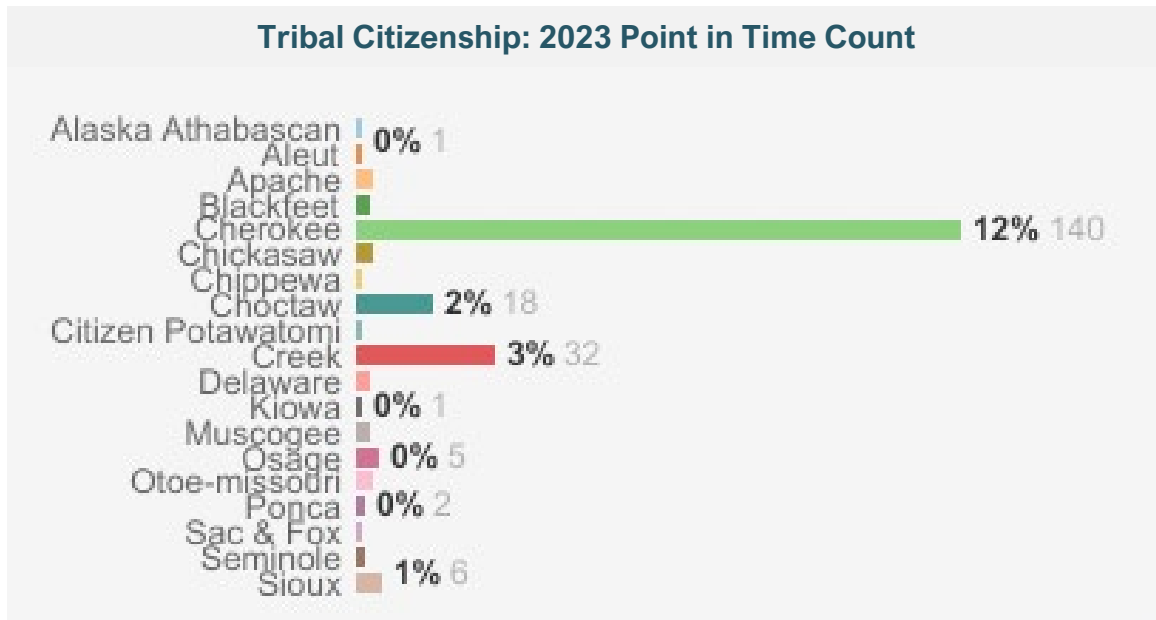
The gap between the rich and the poor in our community, combined with the lack of housing development, particularly at the lowest income levels, is fueling the homelessness crisis. This income inequality has been further exacerbated by the economic slowdown caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, as many low-income households living paycheck-to-paycheck struggled to make rent and pay for other basic needs.

A recent study, "[Tulsa Citywide Housing Assessment](#)," conducted by Development Strategies on behalf of Housing Solutions, illustrates the need for increased renter protections and a massive investment in housing of all levels throughout Tulsa in order to address homelessness and housing insecurity. Tulsa, and Oklahoma more generally, has a high rate of evictions and is seen as a "landlord friendly" environment, where it is relatively easy to evict tenants and tenant rights are weak. This was made clear in 2022 as 1,468 Tulsans sought relief from eviction via the Social Services Hub, operated by Housing Solutions' Landlord Tenant Resource Center^{iv}.

In addition, longstanding and structural racial inequities continue to affect those who experience homelessness in our community. Among the homeless population we see Black (including African American and African ethnicities) and Native American/Indigenous populations overrepresented. Black people represent 15% of the population in the City of Tulsa and 29% of persons experiencing homelessness.

Legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre

The traumatic legacy of the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre is still a healing wound in our community, with the ongoing unearthing of Black victims, and the deliberate dismantling of the once-thriving Greenwood community still being felt throughout the city, particularly in majority-Black north Tulsa. While there has been a concerted effort to revitalize Greenwood in recent years, Tulsa continues to have a deeply ingrained history of racial inequality, as evidenced by the significant discrepancy in wealth and life expectancy between north Tulsa and majority-White south Tulsa, as well as the disproportionate involvement of Tulsans of color in the justice system. This historical trauma, ongoing discrimination, and unequal involvement in the justice system all contribute to a heightened risk of poverty, homelessness, or housing insecurity.

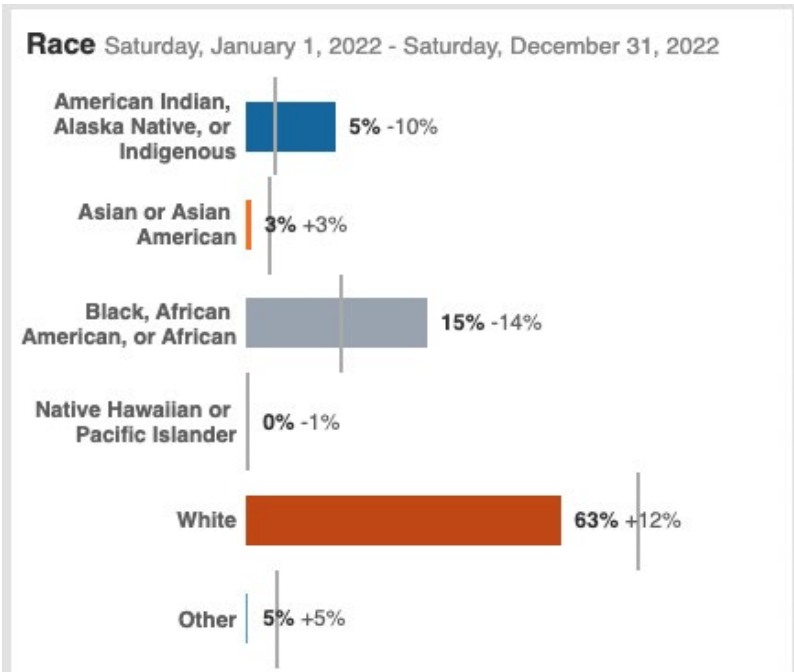


We find the Hispanic/Latino/Latinx people are underrepresented in the homelessness system, where they comprise 7% of the homeless population, but 17% of the population in the City of Tulsa.

Race in homeless system compared to City of Tulsa.

Native American/Indigenous people represent 5% of the population in the City of Tulsa, yet 15% of the homeless population.

In 2022, young adults comprised 13% of people in the homelessness system of care were youth (18-24 years old) and an additional 4% were 13-17 years old. Youth aged 18-24 are overrepresented in the homeless system as they only make up 9% of the metro Tulsa population.



Snapshot of Unhoused YYA in Tulsa

In 2022, young adults comprised 13% of people in the homelessness system of care were youth (18-24 years old) and an additional 4% were 13-17 years old. Youth aged 18-24 are overrepresented in the homeless system as they only make up 9% of the metro Tulsa population.

(<https://www.housingsolutionstulsa.org/reports-data/>)

At least **945** YYA (under age 25) are unhoused.

- **638** are young adults aged 18-24 (67.5%)

- **307** are youth under age 18 (32.4%).
- **81** are pregnant or parenting (8.5%)

Unhoused YYA have high levels of system involvement:

- **524** have experience with the child welfare system (55%)
- **283** have been involved in the juvenile justice system (30%)
- **192** have co-occurring diagnosis including mental illnesses, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS and other communicable diseases. (20%)

288 of unhoused YYA identify as 2SLGBTQ+ + (30%)

- **17** identify as transgender or non-binary

Snapshot to YYA At-Risk of Homelessness

YYA Accessing Prevention Resources

Other At-Risk YYA

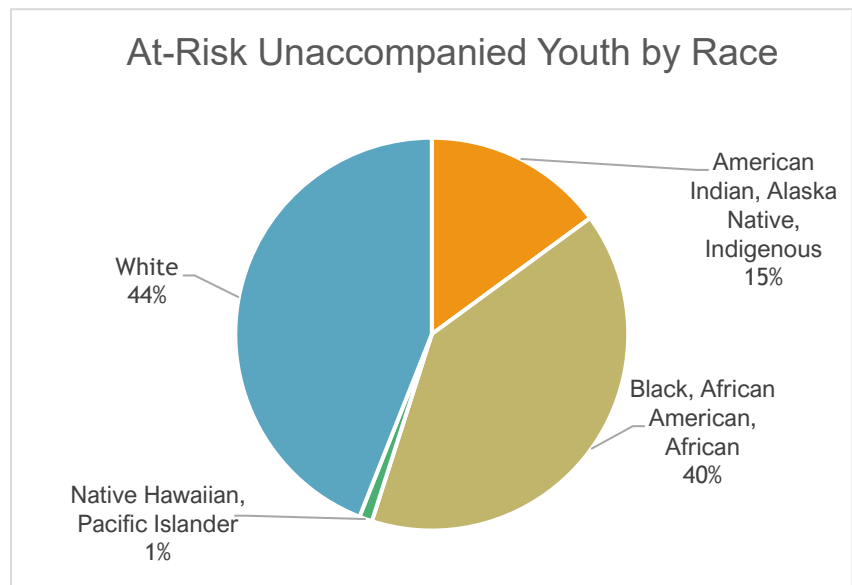
AWH4T recognizes that housing instability is tied to a broad range of economic and social factors, including household income, experience in foster care, interaction with the juvenile justice and legal systems, and experiences of childhood housing instability. There are many YYA in our community who experience these risk factors but may not have come into contact with the homeless system.

1773 public & charter school students were living doubled-up or in hotels during the 2021 school year.

67 at-risk pregnant and parenting YYA.

376 unaccompanied YYA are at risk of experiencing homelessness, according to HMIS data:

- **107** are 18-24 years old; and
- **269** are under 18 years old.



125 youth aged 18-24 received homelessness prevention services from the Landlord Tenant Resource Center^v in 2022.

695 youth aged 18-24 were survivors of domestic violence in 2022.

140 youth aged 18-24 were survivors of sexual assault in 2022.

Community Strengths



“Be true to yourself.”

Q, YAB Member

Youth have positive experiences when they feel heard by provider staff and are supported by partners in the system of care.

During listening sessions and in YAB meetings, YYA identified certain community resources as helpful and safe spaces. Services that youth prioritized and returned to for assistance shared the following common characteristics:

- Specifically designed for YYA and addressed the individual needs of each youth in a holistic manner (e.g., youth-specific housing programs, career support with paid work experience)
- Respected the autonomy and agency of YYA through building trust and rapport before assessing them for services.
- Staff refrained from questioning YYA or asking invasive questions when not required or immediately necessary.
- Provided access to services that addressed YYA’s basic needs after regular work hours (e.g., late evening or nights)
- Supportive staff who did not assume what YYA would need based on preconceived notions.
- Staff did not judge YYA’s character or ability to succeed based on prior involvement with the juvenile legal system, disabilities, or mental health challenges.

Young people felt encouraged to access services that prioritized their voice and safety. YYA also reported that they appreciated being in a role to consult providers and community leaders in the CCP process and through listening sessions. Safe spaces to offer experiences and opinions, access peer support, exchange ideas, and seek out resources without judgment were highly valued by young people and something that they would like to see continued in order to incorporate their feedback into the system of care.

Institutional & Societal Barriers

YYA who are unhoused face diverse barriers to housing stability and social-emotional well-being. These barriers are rooted in economic and social causes and shaped by personal experiences. The following data points exhibit the institutional and structural barriers that youth in Tulsa and Oklahoma face.

20.3% of youth under age 18 in Tulsa live below the poverty level.

- **9.6%** live in extreme poverty.
- **46%** live in predominately Black North Tulsa, and below the poverty level, with 25% of those living in extreme poverty^{vi}

Community data, as well as input from youth and other system community partners, highlights the ways that specific identities and experiences can shape the unique institutional and societal obstacles to housing stability and well-being that YYA face.

Child Welfare System Involvement

524 of unhoused YYA have experience in child welfare/foster care (55%)

Current and former foster youth who participated in listening sessions and YHDP planning meetings identified numerous barriers and challenges unique to their experiences, including:

- 1) Placements with resource families can be positive and supportive, but they can also be unsafe, transactional, and temporary in ways that further destabilize youth.
- 2) Supports that are offered in the community are often limited resources, meaning that systems and staff can be over-burdened, and that some resources are hard for some youth to access.
- 3) Youth in foster care often lack stable, permanent relationships with affirming adults, or their primary relationships lack the means to provide material support as youth transition into independence.
- 4) Many youths exiting foster care have not had the support to learn life skills such as financial management, budgeting, grocery shopping, cooking, and tenancy skills; and
- 5) As young adults reach 25 years of age, when they age out of the housing supports offered to former foster youth, they face a “services cliff” that can be destabilizing.

Juvenile & Criminal Legal System Involvement

283 of unhoused YYA have been involved in the juvenile justice system (30%).

Youth and other system community partners in YHDP planning meetings and listening sessions highlighted the impacts of experience in the juvenile justice and/or legal systems that contribute to youth and young adult homelessness and housing instability, including:

- 1) There is unique trauma inherent in the experience of incarceration, in either the juvenile justice or legal systems.
- 2) Stigma related to experience in the legal system, and particularly to convictions, makes it harder to find a place to stay.
- 3) Fines and fees accrued during involvement with the legal system often prevent young people from establishing a financial footing which would support their housing search and/or stability.
- 4) YYA involved with the justice and legal system are not offered support or resources to address stability barriers; and
- 5) People with experience in the juvenile justice or legal system are sometimes seen as “too much to handle” within youth and young adult systems of care.

Pregnant and Parenting Youth & Young Adults

Oklahoma has high rates of teen pregnancy with 25 births per 1,000^{vii}

- 9% of young adults 18-24 are pregnant or parenting.
- 17% of minors are pregnant or parenting.

In YHDP planning meetings and listening sessions, YYA and community partners shared their perspectives of existing and needed services for pregnant and/or parenting YYA:

- 1) Housing and shelter do not always accommodate children and unwed parents.
- 2) Parenting support groups typically lack participants with in the same age range with lived experience of homelessness or housing instability.
- 3) YYA need parenting skills training and supports to help raise their children and avoid child welfare system involvement.
- 4) YYA would benefit from in-school supports such as mental health care and childcare to encourage completion of education.
- 5) YYA need access to affordable childcare to expand employment options; and
- 6) YYA need access to mental health care and counselling to support their transition to parenthood.

Young People with Experience of Domestic Violence

Oklahoma has the most people in the United States who report experiencing domestic violence in their lifetime. Oklahoma also has the **2nd** highest rate in the United States of women murdered by men^{viii}.

Domestic violence includes dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and other dangerous or life-threatening conditions that relate to violence against the individual or family member that either takes place in, or makes the individual afraid to return to, their primary nighttime residence (including human trafficking). Input from young people and from service providers who specialize in supporting survivors identified the following unique barriers faced by YYA with experience of domestic violence:

- 1) Service providers that do not specialize in serving this population often do not understand the impacts of the trauma YYA have experienced.
- 2) There is a lack of resource families for foster youth who are trauma-informed and understand the impact of domestic violence.
- 3) Current shelter and housing options sometimes do not feel safe for YYA with experience of exploitation and violence, and a safe space is necessary before they can focus on other needs; and
- 4) Community stigma of homelessness and exclusion from public spaces can reinforce existing trauma.

In the 2023 PIT, **23%** of youth reported domestic violence as a key factor leading to their homelessness.

- **45%** reported relationship breakdown as a key factor. **51%** of BIPOC youth listed this as a key factor.

2SLGBTQ+ Youth & Young Adults

“It’s like playing homelessness on hard mode.”

Tulsa Youth Leader

Based on the testimonies of YYA in our systems of care and providers that specifically serve them, our data of how many YYA are 2SLGBTQ+ is likely not the full picture. According to the Prism Project^{ix}, a study conducted to gauge the needs of queer people in Tulsa County and released in late 2019, nearly **9 in 10** 2SLGBTQ+ people experiencing homelessness did not utilize emergency shelter. Of those who stayed at a shelter, over 30% reported negative experiences as a Sexual Gender Minority person, and 30% cited concerns for safety and fear of mistreatment.

288 of unhoused YYA identify as 2SLGBTQ+ (30%)

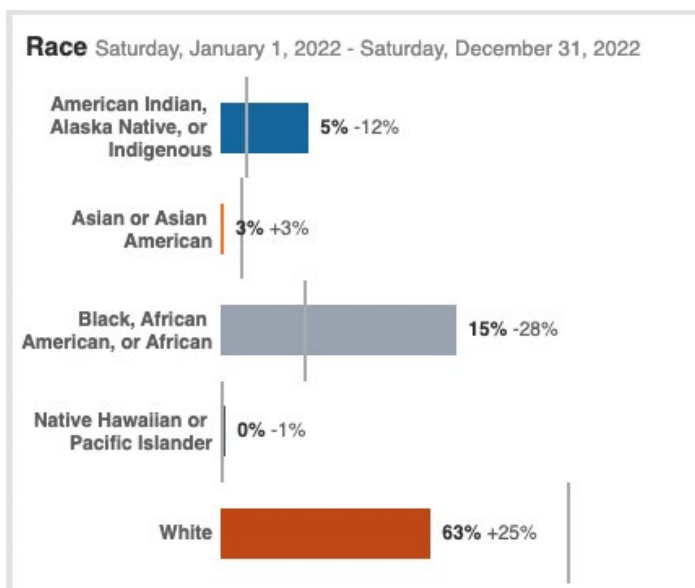
- **17** of unhoused YYA identify as transgender or non-binary.

Moreover, in the CCP development process YYA expressed safety concerns in presenting as their true selves and/or disclosing their identities to service providers. Thereby, alienating queer young people from the services they need and our community's data collection efforts.

Input from queer YYA and 2SLGBTQ+ affirming service providers identified the following unique institutional and societal barriers that exist both outside of and within youth systems of care:

- 1) 2SLGBTQ+ YYA are often disconnected from family and other social support systems because of their queer identity.
- 2) Queer YYA do not feel safe in current service spaces or programs that are not explicitly affirming of and designed for 2SLGBTQ+ youth.
- 3) Many transgender, non-binary, and other gender expansive YYA experience the lack of safe and affirming spaces vary acutely, and access to safe and supportive medical and behavioral health care is particularly vital.
- 4) 2SLGBTQ+ YYA often feel further isolation, because services and housing programs are not designed to build community for 2SLGBTQ+ youth or lack substantive connections to affirming medical or behavioral health care; and
- 5) Youth leadership, peer support and deep training in cultural humility are essential to creating a safe, affirming space for 2SLGBTQ+ YYA.

Race in homeless system for youth and minors compared to City of Tulsa.



Youth & Young Adults Who Are Black, Indigenous, & People of Color

The chart below reflects the racial disparities between the YYA population experiencing homelessness compared to the Tulsa Metro population.

YYA who are BIPOC face additional barriers related to prejudice, discrimination and stigma. BIPOC YYA who do access services report feeling mistreated or overlooked by caseworkers and feeling treated as a low priority by the system. Young people feel the impacts of profiling and implicit bias and report

feeling sidelined, unwelcome and unworthy of basic rights.

Tulsa acknowledges that the experiences of Black YYA are different than those of Native American / Indigenous YYA. The chart below shows differences in service needs through the 2023 PIT based on race of each group's top 5 service needs.

All Races	All BIPOC	Black	Native /Indigenous	White
Housing Placement	Housing Placement	Housing Placement	Food Services	Housing Placement
Food Services	Food Services	Job Training	Housing Placement	Case Management
Transportation	Dental Services	Life Skills	Healthcare	Transportation
Case Management	Job Training	Food Services	Dental Services	Food Services
Dental Services	Transportation	Dental Services	Transportation	Emergency Shelter

All YYA in Tulsa stated a high need for access to housing and food. However, BIPOC YYA had higher needs stated for health care and dental services than white YYA. This is further reflected in healthcare utilization on the 2023 PIT, where BIPOC YYA had twice as many hospital admissions than white YYA (1.1 for BIPOC and 0.5 for white) and 60% more emergency room visits (3.1 for BIPOC and 1.9 for white). Essentially, there is a high need for and access to basic needs such as housing, food, transportation and health care.

- 1) BIPOC youth reported the following barriers to housing access, participation in community supports, and housing stability:
- 2) BIPOC young people are often missing positive social and recreational experiences needed to build community safety nets.
- 3) YYA need financial literacy resources and low barrier banking to help them toward financial independence and entrepreneurship.
- 4) Young people of color with intersectional identities face ignorance or resistance from service providers not versed in their unique needs.
- 5) BIPOC YYA want access to comprehensive healthcare that utilizes a Harm Reduction approach, including preventative care, substance use treatment, and reproductive care; and
- 6) Services are not always available in areas relevant to those in need of programmatic assistance.

System Gaps and Needs

“Ending homelessness is not just about housing – it is about getting someone on the right path to take care of themselves.”

Tulsa Youth Leader

Education and Career Development are Essential to Long-Term Housing Stability for Many YYA

Young people in every listening session identified education and career development as core supports for long-term housing stability. They report several interconnected barriers to success in education and living-wage employment, including:

- 1) A degree is helpful to access higher-paying employment, but YYA struggle to support themselves financially through multiple years in a degree program.
- 2) Maintaining employment and succeeding in school are both challenging without a stable place to live.
- 3) Even once housed, pursuing education and employment to ensure housing stability can be logistically difficult when services (housing, shelter, transportation, etc.) are isolated geographically.
- 4) There is a lack of career development resources that provide career planning, networking, and connections as pathways to long-term career growth for YYA experiencing homelessness; and
- 5) YYA often have not had an opportunity to learn the life skills necessary to obtain or maintain employment or succeed academically.



COMMUNITY GOALS, OBJECTIVES & ACTION STEPS

AWH4T has developed goals for the youth homelessness system of care through community planning sessions. The following goals were developed by community partners and youth with lived experience of homelessness. The goals have been approved by the YAB and the YHDP Planning Group and will be used to guide the Coordinated Community Plan (CCP)

The community has identified the following goals:

- 1) Rapid Identification and Seamless Access
- 2) Safe and Sustainable Housing
- 3) Foundational Youth Voice
- 4) Transformative Connections & Opportunity

The community has identified the following common objectives across goal areas:

- Create and expand programs;
- Create relationship-centered partnerships and collaborative supportive services;
- Increase accessibility of services through outreach and consistent communication; and
- Ensure that YYA are not only included, but central to every system which impacts YYA in Tulsa.

Each goal is directly linked to one of the overarching priorities for Tulsa, Oklahoma. Objectives to support each goal are identified below. Action items reflect initial steps to be taken toward each objective. Additional action items will be identified as needed throughout the implementation phase.

Goal #1: Rapid Identification & Seamless Access

To ensure YYA have easy access to and are served quickly within the CoC, the community will create a simple, streamlined experience for YYA in their contact with providers, from initial connection to successful transition from program assistance.

Objective #1: The community will identify all unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness through YYA-specific access points that are available in racially and culturally diverse areas and agencies.			
Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review current access points to identify opportunities for integration of YYA service providers who are already serving populations underserved by AWH4T, to ensure collaboration, coordinated entry system participation, and expand access to AWH4T programs.• Develop training materials on accessing program information.• Incorporate technology to target communication to YYA.			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
YST OK Dept. Of Rehabilitation Services (OKDRS) Tulsa AWH4T Housing Solutions Education Partners		Medium term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Objective #2: Increase outreach efforts specifically focused on YYA to ensure young people are rapidly connected with racially and culturally diverse services as they need them.

Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build peer support and navigation into programs and access points. • Establish mobile outreach to education outposts. • Advocate to make bus rides free for all YYA and provide access to reliable public transit 			

schedules.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure that YYA are leading or advising outreach efforts to YYA and potential service partners.			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
YST Education Partners Metropolitan Tulsa Transit Authority (MTTA) City of Tulsa		Long-term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Objective #3: Establish clear eligibility guidelines and intake processes to ensure youth can make informed decisions on housing and service options.			
Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a stable and accessible portal for program information.• Revise service standards to have accessible language and formatting.• Develop and revise project intake and assessment tools to ensure youth are presented with options, able to make informed decisions, and select programs based on their needs/preferences.• Ensure consistent youth representation in the Coordinated Entry System (CES) work groups to make sure youth choice is incorporated in CES referrals and prioritization.• Integrate youth choice into Coordinated Entry System referrals and prioritization process to allow for transfers specific to YYA needs/preferences.			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
AWH4T Service Standards Task Group Housing Solutions		Medium-term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Goal #2: Safe & Sustainable Housing

“Everybody’s got their own definition of sustainability.”
Ray, YAB Member

Each program in AWH4T will direct its resources toward the attainment of permanent, stable, and safe housing for YYA. Here we seek to actualize the YHDP Principle of Housing First, where youth will have immediate access to safe, secure, and stable housing without preconditions. This approach will be maintained across all forms of service provision, from rapid and temporary interventions like emergency shelter and drop-in services, to the housing programs themselves.

Objective #1: Create and expand youth housing programs that meet the specific needs of YYA as outlined in the Statement of Community Need and include youth choice.			
Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create a training curriculum for staff, particularly case managers, to understand the complex needs of subpopulations especially youth with complex needs such as severe mental health challenges or permanent disabilities to ensure youth are treated fairly and equitably and are connected to appropriate resources.• Ensure all staff including case managers receive and share the most current information with YYA about the diverse array of community resources available for YYA, including specific resources for subpopulations such as those with physical disabilities, and other complex needs such as severe mental health challenges, and other complex needs.• Create safe and affordable income-driven housing options for different ages and income levels.• Establish a community definition of “safe and affordable housing.”			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
Family and Children’s Services Tulsa Community Foundation Housing Solutions AWH4T YST Affordable housing developers Tulsa Housing Authority Tulsa Health Department (Safe Housing Certification) UniteUs YAB		Long term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Objective #2: Create and/or expand youth specific services (diversion, housing, etc.) that are safe, and racially/culturally reflective of all identities.	
Action Steps:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce reliance on faith-based services and promote services that serve all well. • Recruit providers that are 2SLGBTQ+ focused. • Regularly train staff on working with a variety of identities. • Create a landlord-tenant education program for young people and integrate youth voice into community/property owner-facing education programs. 	
Partner(s) Responsible	Timeframe
Oklahomans for Equality (OKEQ) Prism Project YST AWH4T Housing First for Youth YAB Tulsa Health Department (THD)	Long term

Landlord Tenant Resource Center (LTRC)			
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Objective #3: Create inclusive, racially and culturally diverse spaces and services specifically to address the unique needs of YYA.

Action Steps:

- Create programs for job/career support and/or vocational rehabilitation services for long-term economic stability.
- Incorporate a financial literacy and wealth-building component into housing programs and services.
- Create pathways to homeownership

Partner(s) Responsible	Timeframe
YST AWH4T Tulsa Financial Empowerment Center Justice Link OK Alliance for Recovery Residences (OKARR) OK Department of Rehabilitative Services (OKDRS) YAB	Long term

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

Goal #3: Foundational Youth Voice

“People should understand more of what we’re saying”

Adam, YAB Member

We are committed to a systems revitalization which embraces youth and young adults (YYA) at the very core of our decision-making and accountability processes: welcoming YYA insights, providing space and support for YYA to develop as leaders, creating meaningful opportunities for YYA engagement in community/AWH4T activities, and ensuring that YYA are not only included but central to every system which impacts YYA in Tulsa. This value will be built into and throughout our community’s youth homelessness response system.



Objective #1: Increase YYA representation, voice, and vote at local and state level decision-making bodies.

Action Steps:

- Encourage and support YYA to serve on all existing task forces and committees for

AWH4T. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise current compensation policy to ensure equity for YYA. • Establish a Youth-Led Continuous Quality Improvement process for programs. • Embed YYA in HUD NOFO Review and Rank Panel 			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
YST Housing Solutions AWH4T Leadership Council YAB		Medium term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Objective #2: Increase participation of underrepresented identities (pregnant/parenting youth, women, 2SLGBTQ+ people, Black young people, Native/Indigenous young people, English Language Learners) in the YHDP Coordination Group and Youth Homelessness Task Group			
Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop system-wide norms and policies to ensure participation is equitably supported with suitable compensation and/or additional services, as needed. • Create partnerships between youth leaders and trusted identifiers in the community (education partners, community organizations, etc.) to allow for recruiting of new and diverse youth voices into decision-making spaces. 			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
YST AWH4T Youth Homelessness Task Group Housing Solutions YAB Education Partners		Medium term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Goal #4: Transformative Connections & Opportunity

“My version of success is making a change in everyone’s life, not just mine”

Joshua, YAB Chair



At every point in service provision to YYA, opportunities to engage in community activities and build community among peers, kinfolk, and other supportive groups should be considered a priority, alongside that of housing achievement/sustainability. Moreover, as YYA find themselves ready to seek income or employment, programs will provide support to aid in that pursuit. This structural support for finding community and opportunity will be individualized and flexible, built around the needs of the young person, and ultimately enable YYA to feel connected and invested in their larger community.

Objective #1: Create pathways to employment/income in all YYA-specific programs			
Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure programs include access to or have embedded in their structure Income/Employment Navigators.• Provide logistical support for young people to seek/access employment & income (transportation, clothing, etc.).• Provide regular trainings on available income pathways to youth leaders and program staff.• Develop financial literacy services as an available service in all housing and service projects for YYA.			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
YST Housing Solutions AWH4T Leadership Council		Long term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	

Objective #2: Provide support to young people as they forge new supportive connections or revitalize old ones.			
Action Steps:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide regular trainings on Family & Natural Supports (FNS)• Ensure program staff and youth leaders are trained in FNS to support YYA in building independent relationships.• Provide easily accessible information on and support programs in adopting expansive definitions of supportive connections, including space for young people to define a concept of “family” that suits their support needs.			
Partner(s) Responsible		Timeframe	
YST Housing Solutions AWH4T Leadership Council OK Department of Mental Health & Substance Use Services (ODMHSAS)		Long term	
HUD Key Principles			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equity	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing First	<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subpopulations	



NEW YHDP PROJECTS

AWH4T received a two-year Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) award of \$5.3 million. This funding will be allocated to high priority housing projects through a local funding process in 2022. Projects selected in this process will receive two-year grants, with the possibility to renew those grants through the community's annual CoC Program application process.

To further the goals and objectives of this plan and support long-term housing stability for YYA, the YAB and the YHDP Planning Group identified the following project priorities for YHDP funding:

USICH Key Outcomes

The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) framework and core principles will guide the planning and development of YHDP-funded projects and the Community Coordinated Plan (CCP). During the CCP planning sessions, YAB and community members were in support of adopting the USICH criteria and benchmarks to address homelessness in our community.

The 4 USICH Key Outcomes:

- 1 Stable housing includes safe housing and a reliable place to call home.
- 2 Permanent Connections include an ongoing attachment to families, communities, schools and other positive social networks.
- 3 Education/Employment includes high performance in and completion of education and training activities, especially for younger youth and starting and maintaining adequate and stable employment particularly for older youth.
- 4 Social-emotional well-being includes the development of key competencies, attitudes, and behaviors that equip youth to succeed across multiple domains of daily life, including school, work, relationships and community.

Project Types

The YHDP award funding will be allocated to high priority housing projects through a local funding process in 2023. Projects selected in this process will receive two-year grants, with the possibility to renew those grants through the community's annual CoC Program application process.

To achieve YHDP Principles, YHDP projects will address them in the following ways:

Equity

All new YHDP projects will address equity by engaging in regular data review ensuring their data is disaggregated and inequities are addressed. Housing and service projects will ensure they are developing and implementing racially and culturally diverse services and housing YYA in racially and culturally diverse areas of the community. New YHDP projects will regularly solicit youth feedback through surveys, listening sessions, etc. to ensure fair and equitable service delivery for all youth.

Positive Youth Development

New YHDP projects will show an understanding of positive youth development principles, which will be reflected in their policies and procedures. New projects will commit to ensuring that the strengths and abilities of each youth are incorporated into all aspects of the youth's services.

Trauma-Informed Care

New YHDP projects will provide a safe, secure, and affirming environment for all youth and operate services with a trauma-informed lens. Projects will understand the historical trauma related to subpopulations, especially for specific racial and cultural groups. Projects will have policies,

procedures and practices that address underlying trauma and its impact on young people.

Family Engagement

New YHDP projects will operate services from a lens that acknowledges historic trauma and will work to stabilize youth where they feel safe and supported with their chosen family and community. Projects will provide support for friends and family who are helping and housing youth, and will engage with community partners to ensure services and supports are available to engage families, when appropriate.

Housing First

AWH4T and new YHDP projects will implement Housing First and ensure immediate access to housing by involving youth in the development and staffing of new housing programs. AWH4T will utilize data—both qualitative and quantitative—to analyze and determine alignment with Housing First principles.

Youth Choice

New YHDP projects will work alongside youth to set their goals and offer processes that validate youth identity and support them in their housing and service choices. Projects will provide additional services such as education, employment, financial literacy and others that are based on the youth's individual interests. These services will be available when the youth choose to engage in them.

Individualized & Client-Driven Supports

New YHDP projects will commit to developing client-driven services that include access without pre-conditions and reflect their diverse racial and cultural needs. Services will be able to work with youth with both high and low needs. Short and long-term supports will be available. Youth will be encouraged to create their own options.

Social & Community Integration

New YHDP projects will develop opportunities for youth to engage in community activities and build community among peers, kinfolk, and other supportive groups; support and strengthen youth-driven relationships with their chosen family, and aid youth in resources to develop and maintain social and community connections.

Coordinated Entry

All new YHDP projects will utilize the coordinated entry system (CES) and participate in any committees, work groups, and/or listening sessions to give insight into and participate in, youth-specific case conferencing and assist in the improvement of the CES for youth in Tulsa.

To further the goals and objectives of this plan and support long-term housing stability for YYA, the YAB and the YHDP Planning Group identified the following project priorities for YHDP funding

Rapid Rehousing (RRH) for Young Adults (18-24)	
Overview / Summary:	<i>Rapid rehousing projects support young adults to identify and secure rental housing in the community. Rapid rehousing provides rental assistance, housing search and location support, and case management. RRH projects that can serve YYA for up to 24 months or 36 months, with HUD approval. Length of time in the program may vary but should be targeted to the individual needs of the young adult participants. The goal of rapid rehousing is long-term housing stability, which requires connections to a rich array of services and resources</i>

			<i>in the community to support young adults in their personal, health and wellness, education, employment, and community goals.</i>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice	
USICH Core Outcome(s):		Stable Housing Permanent Connections Education/Employment Social-Emotional Well-Being	
Target Population(s) & Special Populations		HUD Eligibility	
Unaccompanied Young Adults (age 18-24) Pregnant / Parenting Young Adults (age 18-24) Includes all special populations: LGBTQIA2S+, justice involved, pregnant and/or parenting, Young Adults of color, youth fleeing violence, and child welfare involved YYA.		Categories 1 & 4	
Timeframe:	Medium-term		
Project Type Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is designed to address the unique experiences and barriers faced by YYA. • Every housed participant must have a lease in a housing unit not controlled by the project. • Rental assistance level is based on participant need and steps down over time (progressive engagement). • Case management support should be responsive to participant need but will be intensive for many participants. • Length of assistance is responsive to participant need, up to 36 months. 		
Program Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to YHDP/YAB principles, participation in Youth Homelessness Task Group, and supporting the YAB. • Utilize Coordinated Entry for program referrals and to fill available housing opportunities. • Programs will follow fair housing requirements and serve all genders. • Creation of authentic youth engagement and supports built into the program. • Transportation built into the program. • Supports and education around tenancy. • Landlord incentives are encouraged. • Connections to resources for financial literacy, employment, education, mental health and health • Assistance for obtaining mainstream benefits must be integrated (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education). • 15:1 or 20:1 staff to youth ratio. • At least 2-3 staff will be added per funded project. 		

Expected Outcomes & Data Collection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of Young Adults who exit to stable housing. • Decrease the length of time Young Adults wait for housing. • Increase the number of Young Adults in stable housing for 12 months or more. • Decrease the number of Young Adults returning to homelessness after 12 months. • Development of qualitative indicators for success and stability • Increase income (employment, benefits, etc.) 	
Expected Equity Outcomes & Data Collections:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase equitable access and outcomes through data collection and de-aggregated analysis based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other subpopulation factors. • Develop fair and equitable services and housing by collecting regular Young Adults feedback through surveys, listening sessions, etc. and/or integrating youth voice into program-level decision-making. 	
Innovation Opportunities:		
Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)	Projected Number of Units (annual)	Projected Cost (1 year)
Estimate 40 or more individuals annually	Estimate 32 or more units annually	\$600,000 - \$950,000
HUD Project Type	RRH	

Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing (TH-RRH) for Young Adults (18-24)	
Overview / Summary:	<p><i>A joint transitional housing-rapid rehousing project combines transitional housing and rapid rehousing components (see “Rapid Rehousing for Young Adults (18-24),”) and supports into one project.</i></p> <p><i>In transitional housing (TH), young adults typically live in temporary housing that is leased or owned by the project, and have access to case management, support, and resources for stability and well-being. Transitional housing may be located in a single building, or in multiple or scattered sites within the community; and participants have an occupancy agreement.</i></p> <p><i>In a Joint TH-RRH project, length of participation in the transitional housing component must be determined by the young adult, who is also able to decide when they are ready to enter into permanent housing through the RRH component. The TH component will have flexibilities to ensure immediate access to housing to stabilize during emergencies and will serve primarily as crisis housing with a typical time frame of 3-6 months. TH will be a service-rich environment with access to financial literacy, employment, education and other support. Programs may provide resources and services on-site or off-site.</i></p>

<p><i>When a young adult determines that they are ready to transition to their own housing in the community, the joint TH-RRH project must provide the full scope of rapid rehousing assistance described above under "Rapid Rehousing for Young Adults (18-24)."</i></p> <p><i>Young adults may choose to remain in the TH component before locating and securing a unit with rapid rehousing assistance, or they may choose to bypass the TH component and participate in the RRH component from the beginning. This project type provides flexibility and participant choice within a single project, to ensure continuity of support. The total length of time allowed in both the TH and RRH components combined is 36 months, with HUD approval.</i></p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
USICH Core Outcome(s):		Stable Housing Permanent Connections Education/Employment Social-Emotional Well-Being
Target Population(s) & Special Populations		HUD Eligibility
Unaccompanied Young Adults (age 18-24) Pregnant / Parenting Young Adults (age 18-24) Includes all special populations: LBGTQIA2S+, justice involved, pregnant and/or parenting, youth of color, youth fleeing violence, and child welfare involved YYA.		Categories 1 & 4
Timeframe:	Medium-term	
Project Type Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is designed to address the unique experiences and barriers faced by YYA. Project must be able to provide transitional housing, rapid rehousing, or both, as selected by each youth participant. Length of assistance is responsive to participant need, up to 36 months.* Transitional housing assistance is low-barrier and client-centered and focused on providing quick access to stabilizing, crisis housing. Rapid rehousing services must match the full scope described under "Rapid Rehousing for Young Adults (18-24)." There must be twice as many RRH beds as TH beds in the project. 	
Program Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to YHDP/YAB principles, participation in Youth Homelessness Task Group, and supporting the YAB. Utilize Coordinated Entry for program referrals and to fill available housing opportunities. Programs will follow fair housing requirements and serve 	

	<p>all genders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation of authentic youth engagement and supports built into the program. • Transportation built into the program. • Supports and education around tenancy. • Landlord incentives are encouraged. • Connections to resources for financial literacy, employment, education, mental health and physical health • Assistance for obtaining mainstream benefits must be integrated (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education). • 15:1 or 20:1 staff to youth ratio. • At least 2-3 new staff will be added per funded project 	
Expected Outcomes & Data Collection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of young adults who exit to stable housing. • Decrease the length of time youth wait for housing. • Increase the number of young adults in stable housing for 12 months or more. • Decrease the number of young adults returning to homelessness after 12 months. • Development of qualitative indicators for success and stability. • Increase income (employment, benefits, etc.) 	
Expected Equity Outcomes & Data Collections:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase equitable access and outcomes through data collection and de-aggregated analysis based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other subpopulation factors. • Develop fair and equitable services and housing by collecting regular youth feedback through surveys, listening sessions, etc., and/or integrating youth voice into program-level decision-making. 	
Innovation Opportunities:		
Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)	Projected Number of Units (annual)	Projected Cost (1 year)
Estimate 15 or more individuals annually	Estimate 10 or more units annually	\$200,000 - \$250,000
HUD Project Type	Joint TH PH-RRH	

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) for Young Adults (18-24)	
Overview / Summary:	<i>Permanent Supportive Housing projects support young adults to identify and secure rental housing in the community. Permanent supportive housing provides ongoing rental subsidy and case management and is not time limited. PSH is designed to provide intensive supports and affordable housing to persons with a disabling condition and should be targeted to the individual needs of the young adult participants. Services are designed for young adults with various</i>

<p><i>challenges such as mental health, physical health, substance use disorders, HIV/AIDS who identify needed comprehensive supportive services. PSH participants pay no more than 30% of their income toward rent. The goal of permanent supportive housing is to provide the time and flexibility to stabilize in permanent housing and achieve long-term housing stability. Permanent supportive housing will include connections to a rich array of services and resources in the community to support young adults in their personal, health and wellness, education, employment, and community goals.</i></p>		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate access	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care	<input type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice
USICH Core Outcome(s):		Stable Housing Permanent Connections Education/Employment Social-Emotional Well-Being
Target Population(s) & Special Populations		HUD Eligibility
Unaccompanied Young Adults (age 18-24) Pregnant / Parenting Young Adults (age 18-24) Includes all special populations: LBGTQIA2S+, justice involved, pregnant and/or parenting, youth of color, youth fleeing violence, and child welfare involved YYA.		Categories 1 & 4
Timeframe:	Long-term	
Project Type Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is designed to address the unique experiences and barriers faced by YYA. • Length of assistance has no time limit. • Case management has integrated and individualized supports. Case management is more intensive than other intervention types. • Housing and supportive services are separate. • Housing units can be offered through Leasing or Rental Assistance • Units can be offered through single-site structures or as scattered site units. 	
Program Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to YHDP/YAB principles, participation in Youth Homelessness Task Group, and supporting the YAB. • Utilize Coordinated Entry for program referrals and to fill available housing opportunities. • Programs will serve all genders. • Creation of authentic youth engagement and supports built into the program. • Transportation built into the program. • Supports and education around tenancy. • Landlord incentives are encouraged. • Connections to resources for financial literacy, employment, education, mental health and health 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assistance for obtaining mainstream benefits must be integrated (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education). 15:1 staff to youth ratio. At least 2-3 staff will be added per new funded project. Specific assistance for special populations 	
Expected Outcomes & Data Collection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the number of young adults who exit to stable housing. Decrease the length of time youth wait for housing. Increase the number of young adults in stable housing for 12 months or more. Decrease the number of young adults returning to homelessness after 12 months. Development of qualitative indicators for success and stability. Increase income (employment, benefits, etc.) 	
Expected Equity Outcomes & Data Collections:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase equitable access and outcomes through data collection and de-aggregated analysis based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other subpopulation factors. Develop fair and equitable services and housing by collecting regular youth feedback through surveys, listening sessions, etc., and/or integrating youth voice into program-level decision-making. 	
Innovation Opportunities:		
Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)	Projected Number of Units (annual)	Projected Cost (1 year)
Estimate 20 or more individuals annually	Estimate 15 or more units annually	\$400,000 - \$600,000
HUD Project Type	PSH	

Diversion for Youth & Young Adults	
Overview / Summary:	<p><i>Diversion programs will help youth avoid literal homelessness by providing problem solving services that focus on housing crisis resolution and housing stabilization. The goal is to connect or assist youth in retaining safe and stable housing. Diversion programs will provide support to connect youth experiencing housing instability and crisis to permanent housing quickly or self-resolve existing barriers to stable housing. Diversion programs can include services and flexible fund assistance that aim to divert youth into supportive environments, which may include reunification with their chosen family, host homes, short-term shallow subsidies and connections to services including mental health counseling, transportation and food assistance.</i></p> <p><i>Diversion programs will include extended availability beyond 9-5 hours and coverage throughout the geography of AWH4T, in other words the entire city of Tulsa and surrounding county. They will also</i></p>

			<i>have strategies and staff to assist all youth subpopulations.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate access		<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unsheltered Homelessness	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Family Engagement	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Youth Choice	
USICH Core Outcome(s):			Stable Housing Permanent Connections		
Target Population(s) & Special Populations			HUD Eligibility		
Unaccompanied Youth (under 18) Unaccompanied Young Adults (age 18-24) Pregnant / Parenting Young Adults (age 18-24) Includes all special population: LBGTQIA2S+, justice involved, pregnant and/or parenting, youth of color, youth fleeing violence, and child welfare involved YYA.			Categories 1, 2 & 4		
Timeframe:		Short-term			
Project Type Details:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project is designed to address the unique experiences and barriers faced by YYA. • Length of assistance is up to 3 months. • Services focused on connecting youth to resources and stable housing. • Follow up assistance post exit 			
Program Requirements:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to YHDP/YAB principles, participation in Youth Homelessness Task Group, and supporting the YAB. • Programs will serve all-genders. • Creation of authentic youth engagement and supports built into the program. • Transportation built into the program. • Connections to resources for financial literacy, employment, education, mental health and health • Assistance for obtaining mainstream benefits must be integrated (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education). • 30:1 staff to youth ratio. • At least 4-5 new staff members will be added per funded new project. • Specific assistance for special populations 			
Expected Outcomes & Data Collection:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease the number of YYA becoming homeless. • Decrease the length of episode of homelessness, if an episode cannot be avoided. • Develop a plan to determine what interventions are successful. • Increase access to community resources 			
Expected Equity Outcomes & Data Collections:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase equitable access and outcomes through data collection and de-aggregated analysis based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other subpopulation factors. 			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop fair and equitable services by collecting regular youth feedback through surveys, listening sessions, etc.	
Innovation Opportunities:		
Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)	Projected Number of Units (annual)	Projected Cost (1 year)
Estimate 160-240 or more individuals annually	40-60 caseload slots	\$400,000 - \$600,000
HUD Project Type	SSO (Non-CE or Outreach)	

Access Point for Youth and Young Adults		
Overview / Summary:	<p><i>Youth experiencing homelessness in Tulsa will have seamless access to resources to meet their housing and service needs. Three core program elements of the access point model will be:</i></p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><i>Street Outreach</i> <i>Youth Navigation</i> <i>Drop-in Center</i></p> <p><i>Street Outreach and Youth Navigation both seek to assist youth in accessing safe, temporary housing with the goal of permanent housing, including reunification with their chosen family. Staff will also assist in connecting youth to other basic needs such as food, transportation and health care. Staff will build trusting relationships and develop rapport with youth. Street outreach will engage youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Youth navigators may be placed at a location such as a shelter, local jail or school or connected to a system such as child welfare to assist those without a housing plan, ideally the housing plan is developed before youth leave the system or location.</i></p> <p><i>Drop-in Centers are physical spaces designed to cover basic needs assistance, connection to community resources including housing and diversion programs. Services are designed to be housing focused.</i></p> <p><i>All Access Point elements will include extended availability beyond 9-5 hours and coverage throughout the geography of AWH4T, in other words the entire city of Tulsa and surrounding county. They will also have strategies and staff to assist all youth subpopulations.</i></p>	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate access	<input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Entry
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Positive Youth Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trauma Informed Care
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Individualized & Client-Driven Support	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social & Community Integration
USICH Core Outcome(s):		Stable Housing Education/Employment Social-Emotional Well-Being
Target Population(s) & Special Populations		HUD Eligibility
Unaccompanied Youth (under 18)		Categories 1, 2 & 4

Unaccompanied Young Adults (age 18-24) Pregnant / Parenting Young Adults (age 18-24) Includes all special population: LBGTQIA2S+, justice involved, pregnant and/or parenting, youth of color, youth fleeing violence, and child welfare involved YYA.		
Timeframe:	Short-term	
Project Type Details:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project is designed to address the unique experiences and barriers faced by YYA. Length of assistance has up to 3 months Services focused on connecting youth to resources and stable housing. Follow up assistance post exit 	
Program Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment to YHDP/YAB principles, CQI, participation in Youth homelessness Task Group, and supporting the YAB. Programs will serve all -genders. Creation of authentic youth engagement and supports built into the program. Transportation built into the program. Connections to resources for financial literacy, employment, education, mental health and health Assistance for obtaining mainstream benefits must be integrated (e.g., Medicare, Medicaid, SSI/SSDI, Food Stamps, local Workforce office, early childhood education). 30:1 staff to youth ratio. Specific assistance for special populations 	
Expected Outcomes & Data Collection:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decrease the number of youth and young adults becoming homeless. Decrease the length of episode of homelessness, if an episode cannot be avoided. Decrease the length of time youth wait for housing. Increase access to community resources and income/benefits. 	
Expected Equity Outcomes & Data Collections:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase equitable access and outcomes through data collection and de-aggregated analysis based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and other subpopulation factors. Develop fair and equitable services by collecting regular youth feedback through surveys, listening sessions, etc.; and/or integrating youth voice into program-level decision-making. 	
Innovation Opportunities:		
Projected Number of Youth to be Served (annual)	Projected Number of Units (annual)	Projected Cost (1 year)
Estimate 200-300 or more individuals annually	50-75 caseload slots	\$400,000 - \$600,000
HUD Project Type	SSO (Street Outreach OR Non-CES or Outreach depending on project applications received.)	

Program Design Expectations

YYA who are unhoused face diverse barriers to housing stability and social-emotional well-being rooted in economic and social causes and shaped by personal experiences. Each young adult participant YHDP projects must have access to support and resources targeted to the specific barriers and needs they identify.

YHDP projects must be prepared to identify and provide support and resources as needed, based on participant-identified housing barriers. These supports may be provided by the YHDP project itself, or they may be provided through partnership or referral.

Key areas of support include:

- Housing location
- Housing stability case management and supports
- Life skills for independent living
- Peer support & community building
- Education
- Career development for long-term economic stability
- Financial Literacy
- Social-emotional well-being
- Behavioral health care
- Medical care
- Legal services
- Childcare
- Transportation

YHDP projects **must** include the following key design elements:

- Services and design are tailored to the unique experiences and barriers of young adults.
- Young adult leadership is centered in design and implementation.
- Hiring prioritizes peer support, including young adults with experience of homelessness/housing insecurity.
- Case management and services are client-centered and strengths-based.
- Project staff support participants with respect, authenticity, and a focus on relationship building.
- Staff to participant ratio is low.
- Staff receive ongoing training and support to best support young adult participants.
- Resources and strategies are in place for landlord identification, engagement, and mediation for housing programs.
- Design and implementation align with Housing First principles.
- Design and implementation align with Positive Youth Development principles.
- Project design and services are trauma-informed, which is supported by ongoing staff training.
- Project actively recruits and hires staff who are youth with lived experience of homelessness.

Addressing Institutional and Societal Barriers

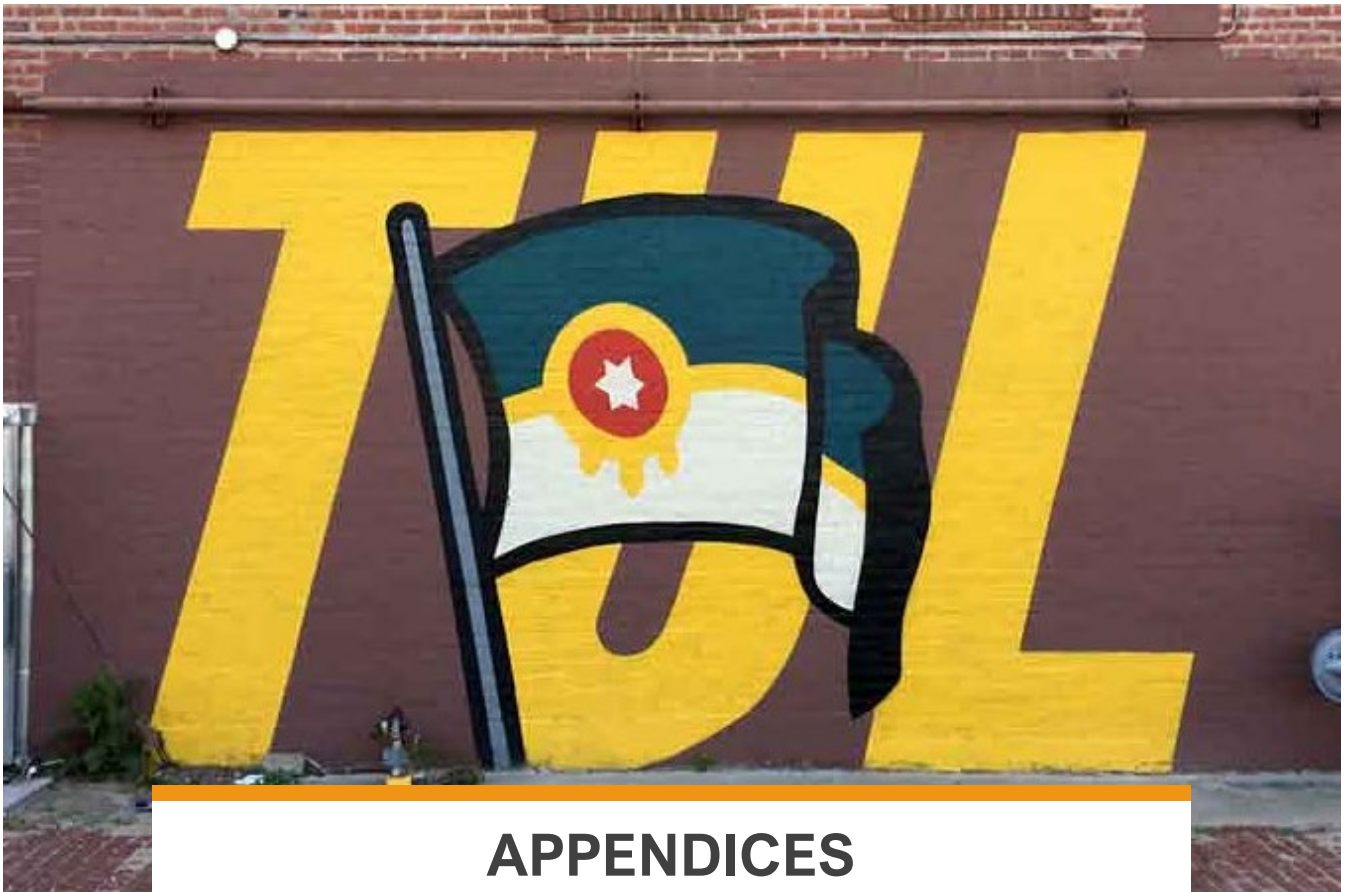
As described in the Statement of Community Need, specific identities and experiences can shape the unique institutional and societal obstacles to housing stability and well-being that YYA face. The YAB and the YHDP Planning Group have identified the following identities and experiences as being underserved within the current system and/or as benefitting from targeted or explicitly affirming project design:

- YYA who are BIPOC especially Black and Indigenous
- 2SLGBTQ+ YYA
- YYA with disabilities
- YYA with experience in foster care
- YYA with experience in the juvenile legal system
- YYA with experience of domestic violence

YHDP-funded projects must be prepared and equipped to assist all YYA with respect, cultural humility, and appropriate resources.

YHDP projects that are targeted to or explicitly affirming of a specific subpopulation must reflect that capacity in the design and implementation of the project. Examples of targeted design include:

- Staff with lived experience of houselessness that reflects the subpopulation, including both peer support and other staff roles;
- Staff training specific to the barriers, experiences, and potential unique challenges faced by the subpopulation;
- Specific language capacity; and
- Internal capacity or partnerships to provide population-specific services (e.g., gender-affirming medical care, targeted legal services, trauma recovery, etc.)



APPENDICES

Appendix A: YHDP Partner List

PARTNER TYPE	ORGANIZATION	INVOLVEMENT
CoC Board (required)	A Way Home for Tulsa (AWH4T) Leadership Council	The governing body for AWH4T is the Leadership Council, which is the CoC Board, and is representative of the geography and composition of the CoC. As the governing body, the leadership council is the lead decision-making group responsible for managing community planning, coordination and evaluation to ensure that the homeless response system rapidly ends homelessness permanently.
YAB (required)	Youth Action Board	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; YHDP Coordination Team; final decision-maker in the YHDP Coordinated Community Planning process; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions. Provides the voice and platform for unhoused youth and youth with unstable housing in the CoC and a thought leading group that builds leadership power for housing and economic justice. YAB has a maximum of 18 members.
Local and State Government (required)	City of Tulsa City Council	Participant in YHDP Planning Group
	City of Tulsa Mayor's Office of Resilience and Equity	Coordinates efforts to achieve equality for all Tulsans through partnership building, education, cultural awareness, and advocacy.
Public Housing Authority	Tulsa Housing Authority (THA)	Participant in YHDP Planning Group THA provides publicly assisted housing comprised of traditional public housing, mixed-finance sites and housing vouchers.
Public Child Welfare Agency/State Government (required)	Oklahoma Department of Human Services (OKDHS), Child Welfare	See University of Oklahoma (OU), National Resource Center for Youth Services (NRCYS) listing for participation details.
CoC Lead Agency	Housing Solutions Tulsa	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; YHDP Coordination Team; final decision-maker in the YHDP Coordinated Community Planning process; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions. Collaborates with Youth Action Committee to oversee, govern, and advance YHDP initiative and Coordinated Community Plan. Coordinates and manages funding for programs providing shelter, housing, and services to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Provider	Youth Services of Tulsa (YST)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions.</p> <p>Offers a wide array of innovative and proven programs focused on counseling, runaway and homeless youth services, delinquency prevention, and youth development.</p>
Tribal Government	Cherokee Nation Human Services	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions.</p> <p>The range of direct services includes vehicle registration, health care, educational assistance, housing programs, social services, childcare, food subsidies, property services and career assistance. The Cherokee Nation also provides indirect services that benefit entire communities or regions in northeast Oklahoma, such as road construction, water and sanitation, law enforcement and emergency assistance.</p>
Juvenile and Adult Corrections and Probation/State Government	Oklahoma Office of Juvenile Affairs (OJA)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group</p> <p>State of Oklahoma's juvenile justice agency, tasked with creating pathways for success through prevention and treatment for all Oklahoma youth.</p>
Local Education Agency/Local Government	Tulsa Public Schools	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group</p> <p>Local public school district; largest public education provider within Tulsa County.</p>
Local Education Agency/Local Government	Union Public Schools	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group</p> <p>Local public school district.</p>
Institution of Higher Education	Tulsa Community College (TCC)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; AWH4T Partner Agency to assist in CCP implementation.</p> <p>Local community college; provides quality, affordable higher education to Tulsa high-schoolers, including seamless pathways to local 4-year colleges and universities.</p>
State Government	Oklahoma Commission on Children & Youth (OCCY), Office of Planning & Coordination	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; to assist in CCP implementation</p> <p>Coordinates state-wide efforts to reduce childhood homelessness through cross-system collaborations, joint planning, and service coordination. Provides leadership development opportunities and support to Youth Action Board</p>

		(YAB) members and other youth leaders throughout Oklahoma.
Higher Education Organization	Tulsa Higher Education Consortium (THE Consortium)	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; to assist in CCP implementation. A partnership of local higher education institutions, devoted to advancing student success and achieving equitable, quality educational outcomes.
Non-Profit Youth Organization	University of Oklahoma (OU), National Resource Center for Youth Services (NRCYS)	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; YHDP Coordination Team; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions. Contracts with the State of Oklahoma to administer services like the Oklahoma Successful Adulthood Program (OKSA), which serves youth in and exiting foster care. Partner of the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Child Welfare.
Non-Profit/ Homelessness Service Provider/Mental Health Service Provider	Family and Children's Services (FCS)	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; YHDP Coordination Team. Provider of a diverse catalogue of case management and mental health services for individuals in Tulsa, including in-patient and out-patient behavioral health treatment, crisis intervention, parenting/pregnancy resources, and more.
Non-Profit	Gatesway Foundation, SOAR Partners	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions. Operates group homes and provides up to 24-hour assistance to individuals with intellectual disabilities living in independent homes and apartments in the community.
Non-Profit	A New Leaf	Participant in YHDP Planning Group and YHDP Coordination Team. Provides job training, life skills, and residential services to elevate confident independence and self-sufficiency for people with developmental disabilities and autism.
Non-Profit/Advocacy Organization	Hunger Free Oklahoma (HFO)	Participant in YHDP Planning Group; AWH4T Partner Agency to assist in CCP implementation. Works to bring a unified, statewide voice to the issue and solutions surrounding hunger, with a goal to ensure all Oklahomans have access to affordable, nutritious food.

Philanthropic Organization	Zarrow Family Foundations	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions.</p> <p>Funder of nonprofit organizations who work to lift people out of poverty by supporting housing and shelter resources, social services and basic human needs, accessible health and mental healthcare, and programs that empower and inspire community members to improve their lives.</p>
Philanthropic Organization	Charles & Lynn Schusterman Family Philanthropies	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions.</p> <p>Funder of organizations who invest in youth and families, helping them gain the agency, knowledge and resources needed to overcome systemic barriers and design their own futures.</p>
Non-Profit/Advocacy Organization	Tulsa Prism Project	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions.</p> <p>Provides advocacy and informational support to agencies serving the 2SLGBTQ+ community.</p>
Non-Profit/Homelessness Service Provider	Tulsa Day Center	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group.</p> <p>Offers emergency shelter, case management, and housing services to those experiencing homelessness in Tulsa.</p>
Non-Profit/Advocacy Organization	Black Queer Tulsa	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; AWH4T Partner Agency to assist in CCP implementation.</p> <p>Advocates for and organizes community efforts in support of Black queer Tulsans, including access to 2SLGBTQ+ health care, name/gender-marker change support, and other services.</p>
Non-Profit/Advocacy Organization	Terrence Crutcher Foundation	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; AWH4T Partner Agency to assist in CCP implementation.</p> <p>Works to create a just and liberated community free from racial violence and harm; advocates for policy change, builds community connection, and provides education/support services to ensure currently oppressed communities have autonomy over their lives and their futures.</p>

Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Agency/ Homelessness Service Provider	Mental Health Association Oklahoma (MHAOK)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; YHDP Coordination Team; and a central participant in YHDP scoring and funding decisions.</p> <p>Provides housing, mental health education, support groups, counseling referrals and mental health screening, suicide prevention, peer-to-peer recovery services to individuals who have experienced mental illness, homelessness and substance use disorders.</p>
Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Agency/ Homelessness Service Provider	Oklahoma Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (ODMHSAS), Homeless & Runaway Youth Services, Housing & Employment Supports	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group</p> <p>Provides support and guidance to youth and youth adults in need of housing/recovery support, including connections to housing programs, empowerment through youth leadership opportunities, and more.</p>
Community Organization	NewLife 360	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; AWH4T Partner Agency to assist in CCP implementation.</p> <p>Religiously affiliated organization which provides youth and young adults with re-entry supports when exiting incarceration, encouragement/support of leadership and entrepreneurship, and more.</p>
Local Health Agency	Tulsa Health Department (THD)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; AWH4T Partner Agency to assist in CCP implementation</p> <p>Local health agency; provides Fair Housing compliance training to landlords and tenants in Tulsa.</p>
Victim Services Provider	Domestic Violence Intervention Services (DVIS)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group; Contributed data to statement of need.</p> <p>Serves individuals dealing with domestic and sexual violence; provides shelter, intervention services, and other supports.</p>
Juvenile and Adult Corrections and Probation/State Government	Oklahoma Department of Corrections, Intervention & Reentry Services	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group.</p> <p>Provides Oklahomans exiting incarceration with support in obtaining employment, housing, education, substance abuse treatment, aftercare and transitional service needs.</p>
Youth-Led Organization	Oklahoma City Youth Action Board (YAB)	<p>Participant in YHDP Planning Group.</p> <p>Youth-led advocacy and decision-making body in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.</p>

Non-Profit & Community Organizations	BeHeard Movement City Lights Foundation Downtown Partnership Tulsa GRAND Mental Health Impact Tulsa Iron Gate Leadership Tulsa Legal Aid Services of OK Lindsey House Salvation Army – Tulsa Sanford & Irene Burnstein Foundation The Spring Tulsa CARES Tulsa Changemakers Tulsa Dream Center Volunteers of America Youth Villages	AWH4T Partner Agencies to assist in CCP implementation Services offered by these partners include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community-building • case management • recovery support • food/clothing/hygiene assistance • domestic violence resources • housing programs • funding/advocacy • legal services/support • youth empowerment & advocacy • HIV/AIDS and/or other communicable disease care & support
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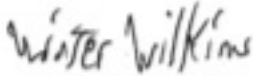
Appendix B: Signature Pages

The Tulsa, Oklahoma Coordinated Community Plan to End Youth Homelessness provides a shared vision and roadmap for the community's collective work to support youth and young adults as whole people, and to prevent and end homelessness for our youth and young adults.

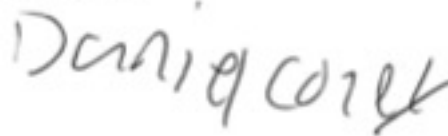
This plan is approved and adopted by the Youth Action Board and by the Continuum of Care Board.

Youth Action Board Members

Winter Wilkins



Daniel Coley




Destiny Gresham



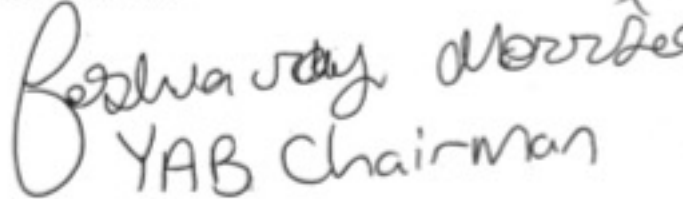
Quinton Sweeny



Adam Streater

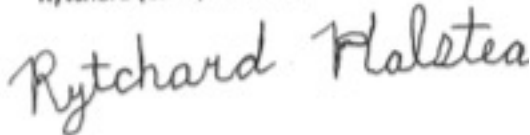


Joshua Morrison

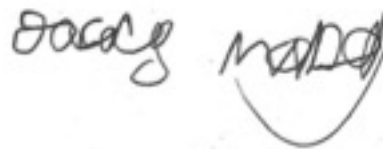


YAB Chairman

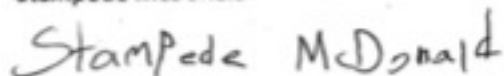
Rytchard (Luna) Halstead



Jacarius Monday

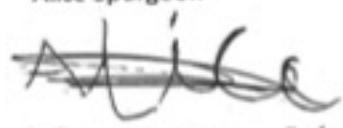



Stampede McDonald




TeeTee Rande'y



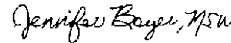
<p>Alice Spurgeon</p>  <p>Alice Spurgeon</p>	<p>Nate Barber</p> 
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Chair of A Way Home for Tulsa Leadership Council (CoC Board)

<p>Mack Haltom</p> <p><i>Name</i></p>	<p>Tulsa Day Center</p> <p><i>Company/Organization</i></p>	<p>Executive Director</p> <p><i>Title</i></p>
<p>CoC Board Representative</p> <p><i>Representing</i></p>	<p> Mack Haltom (Apr 19, 2023 12:09 CDT)</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p>	<p>Apr 19, 2023</p> <p><i>Date</i></p>

The following partners affirm that this plan represents our community's shared vision and goals to prevent and end youth and young adult homelessness:

<p>Nadie Beauty</p> <p><i>Name</i></p>	<p>MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION</p> <p><i>Company/Organization</i></p>	<p>Secretary of Housing</p> <p><i>Title</i></p>
<p>Tribal Representative</p> <p><i>Representing</i></p>	<p> <i>Signature</i></p>	<p>Apr 20, 2023</p> <p><i>Date</i></p>

<p>Jennifer Boyer</p> <p><i>Name</i></p>	<p>Oklahoma Department of Human Resources</p> <p><i>Company/Organization</i></p>	<p>Programs Administrator</p> <p><i>Title</i></p>
<p>Child Welfare Representative</p> <p><i>Representing</i></p>	<p> <i>Signature</i></p>	<p>Apr 20, 2023</p> <p><i>Date</i></p>

<p>Rhonda Clemons</p> <p><i>Name</i></p>	<p>Cherokee Nation Web Group</p> <p><i>Company/Organization</i></p>	<p>Director, Grant Services</p> <p><i>Title</i></p>
<p>Tribal Representative</p> <p><i>Representing</i></p>	<p> Rhonda Clemons (Apr 20, 2023 17:47 CDT)</p> <p><i>Signature</i></p>	<p>Apr 20, 2023</p> <p><i>Date</i></p>

Rebecca Gigo

Name

Housing Solutions

Company/Organization

Executive Director

Title

Lead Agency Representative

Representing

Rebecca Gigo

Signature

Apr 19, 2023

Date

Travis Hulse

Name

City of Tulsa

Company/Organization

Housing Policy Director

Title

Local Government Representative

Representing

Travis Hulse
Travis Hulse (Apr 20, 2023 13:15 CDT)
Signature

Apr 20, 2023

Date

Beth Svetlic

Name

Youth Services of Tulsa

Company/Organization

Assistant Executive Director

Title

RHY Provider Representative

Representing

Beth Svetlic
Beth Svetlic (Apr 20, 2023 09:22 CDT)
Signature

Apr 20, 2023

Date

Credits:

- Title Page: Tulsa Postcard Mural. Artist: Billy Brahkage. (Source: <https://www.travelok.com/listings/view.profile/id.23536>)
- p. 6: Unlimited Opportunity Mural. Artist: Tulsa School of Arts and Sciences. (Source: <https://www.tulsa.tours/murals-tour>)
- p. 8: Connected Pathways Mural. Diné artist: Nanibah Chacon. (Source: <https://www.tulsa.tours/murals-tour>)
- p. 12: Black Wall Street Mural. Artist: Donald “SCRIBE” Ross. (Source: <https://www.visittulsa.com/blog/post/must-see-tulsa-murals/>)
- p. 16: Homeless Vet. Artist: Josh Butts. (Source: <https://www.tulsa.tours/murals-tour>)
- p. 28: Astral. Artist: Ghazal Ghazi. (Source: <https://www.ghazalghazi.com/murals/sjr4erc4vd7tmokvsamr2fmzzm5pnp>)
- p. 35: Shoot for the Moon. Artist: Unknown. (Source: <https://www.tulsa.tours/murals-tour>)
- p. 49: Tulsa Flag Mural. Artist: Unknown. (Source: <https://www.tulsa.tours/murals-tour>)

Notes & References

ⁱ <https://www.housingsolutionstulsa.org/reports-data/>

ⁱⁱ The All Doors Open Coordinated Entry System is a community-wide referral system that acts as the front door to the community’s housing resources for people experiencing houselessness. It operates with a no-wrong-door access model, engaging a broad network of service providers and community resources to identify, assess, and connect people experiencing houselessness to a centralized By-Name-List (BNL). Referrals to permanent supportive housing, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing are made from the BNL.

ⁱⁱⁱ [*HUD 2022 Annual Homeless Assessment Report Finds Unsheltered Homelessness on the Rise*](#). National Low Income Housing Coalition.

^{iv} Landlord Tenant Resource Center dashboard <https://tulsaltrc.org/>

^v The Landlord Tenant Resource Center provides free services in legal information, pro bono referrals, “know your rights” information for both landlords and tenants, and referrals to housing-supportive social services through the UniteUS Network. LTRC is part of Housing Solutions, a nonprofit organization dedicated to making homelessness in Tulsa rare, brief, and non-recurring. The LTRC operates the Social Services HUB (Eviction Diversion Program). <https://tulsaltrc.org/>

^{vi} U.S. Census Bureau

^{vii} 2022 Kids Count Data Book. <https://www.aecf.org/>

^{viii} <https://vpc.org/studies/wmmw2020.pdf>

^{ix} [*The Prism Project Report*](#)