



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

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IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

2012 – 2017 Veterans and Human Services Levy:

Activity 2.7: Youth and Young Adult Private Fund Match

1. Goal

The primary goal of this activity is create a community-wide response to prevent and end homelessness among young people in King County.

2. Strategy

The Veterans and Human Services Levy Service Improvement Plan (SIP) set a goal of ending homelessness.

3. Activity 2.7: Youth and Young Adult Private Fund Match

The Youth and Young Adult Private Fund Match Activity is a new activity funded for 2013 and 2014 by Supplemental Budget Ordinance 17407 and described in Attachment A of the ordinance.

4. Service Needs, Populations to be Served, and Promotion of Equity and Social Justice

a) *Service Needs*

National studies report that 1.6-1.7 million youth under the age of 18 are homeless in the United States each year. Adding young adults aged 18 to 24, this estimate reaches 2.1 million. In 2012, over 5,000 unique youth and young adults (YYA) participated in homeless housing, shelter or services programs in King County. In January of 2013, 776 homeless or unstably housed YYA were identified through our communities Count Us In. Of those, 114 were literally homeless. Resources to prevent YYA homelessness or to intervene quickly with developmentally appropriate resources are critical to ending homelessness for this population.

b) *Populations to be Served*

The Homeless Youth and Young Adult Initiative focuses on youth and young adults (ages 12 to 25) who are homeless, unstably housed, or at-risk of becoming homeless.

c) *Promotion of Equity and Social Justice*

The Equity and Social Justice Ordinance requires King County to consider the impacts of its policies and activities on its efforts to achieve fairness and opportunity for all people, particularly for people of color, low-income communities, and people with limited English proficiency.

i) *Will your activity have an impact on equity?*

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ) youth and youth of color are overrepresented in the homeless system, both nationally and locally. The Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County by 2020 (the Comprehensive Plan) identifies system disproportionality as one of the key areas of focus. One of the core recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan states that we will address this system disproportionality by implementing national standards on serving LGBTQ YYA and ensure that all outreach and housing services appropriately engage and serve all YYA, including transgender young people. Additionally, our continuum of services must include locations in and leadership from communities of color, where young people can be as connected as possible to natural supports.

ii) *What population groups are likely to be affected by the proposal? How will communities of color, low-income communities, or limited English proficiency communities be impacted?*

All homeless YYA will be affected by the activity however there will be a particular focus on disproportionality of LBGTQ and people of color in the homeless YYA continuum. The Comprehensive Plan identifies a specific recommendation that “*All interventions for homeless YYA must respond effectively and safely to youth of color and LGBTQ YYA. Likewise, our continuum of services must include locations in and leadership from communities of color, where YYA can be as connected as possible to natural supports.*”

iii) *What actions will be taken to enhance likely positive impacts on these communities and mitigate possible negative impacts?*

Implementing the priority activity recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan are an important step in positively affecting these communities. In addition to robust support for youth of color and LGBTQ culturally specific programs (the current promising practice), all interventions in our continuum of care must ensure that they are appropriate and approachable for all young people. The Comprehensive Plan recommends that local youth of color and LGBTQ culturally specific programs should be supported to expand their reach and impact in providing technical assistance in the King County region. The Homeless Youth and Young Adult Initiative will support needed capacity building to programs so they can provide the most appropriate services to homeless YYA in their community, which will include input from homeless young people themselves.

5. Activity Description

Effective collaboration and partnerships are the cornerstones of any initiative to reduce fragmentation, braid resources, and integrate services, and as such, these funds will be

used to support the development of regional strategies to prevent and end youth and young adult homelessness. Levy funds will provide staffing for the regional Homeless Youth and Young Adult (YYA) Initiative, a regional effort to prevent and end youth and young adult homelessness. In addition, Levy funds will be used to compile a Comprehensive Plan to Prevent and End Youth and Young Adult Homelessness in King County by 2020 and the subsequent implementation of the priority activities recommended in the Comprehensive Plan, which will include broad stakeholder input and support throughout the planning and implementation phase of the work.

6. Funds Available

Human Services Levy funding has been allocated through the 2012 Supplemental Budget Ordinance 17407 and 2012-2013 Budget Ordinance 17493.

	2013	2014
Veterans Levy	\$0	\$0
Human Services Levy	136,000	144,000
Total	\$136,000	\$144,000

7. Evidence-based or Promising Practices

One of the priority areas of focus called out in the Comprehensive Plan is data and evaluation. The framework for our initiative in King County is in alignment with the 2012 United States Interagency Council on Homelessness Opening Doors Amendment, which identifies recommended national promising practice and evidence-based practice in addressing the needs of homeless young people. The Homeless YYA Initiative used this framework to guide our community’s theory of change and our plan for measuring impact (our Logic Model). This framework was informed by national research and best practice and developed through a community process.

8. Service Partnerships

Effective collaboration and partnerships are the cornerstones of any initiative to reduce fragmentation, braid resources, and integrate services. The Homeless YYA Initiative work will do this through broad stakeholder input and support. The work of the Homeless YYA Initiative is guided by an advisory group made up of members of the community, including community stakeholders, funders, and providers. In addition, the Comprehensive Plan was informed by homeless youth themselves. As we move in to the implementation phase of the Initiative, building community partnerships will be key in moving the work forward. In particular, developing partnerships with the child welfare, juvenile justice, education, employment, and health care systems will be prioritized.

9. Performance Measures

The following performance measures were identified by the Levy’s Evaluation Team. Performance measures are reviewed and, if needed, updated annually. Current performance measures and targets can be found in the Levy Evaluation Plan Implementation Plan and Activity Levy Evaluation Templates on the [levy website](#). (2012 - 2017 Levy Evaluation Plan Implementation Plan and Activity Level Evaluation Templates)

Objectives	Service Outputs/ Measures	Most Recent Performance	2013 Target(s)	Data Source
System Improvements/Capacity Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hire staff to implement the regional Homeless YYA Initiative 	Not applicable	Staff person hired by 4/15/13	Report Card – Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene monthly meetings with stakeholders on the plan to end YYA homelessness in King County 	Not applicable	9	Report Card – Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit draft plan of Comprehensive Plan to End YYA Homelessness in King County by 2020 	Not applicable	Draft plan created	Report Card – Services
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit final plan of Comprehensive Plan to End YYA Homelessness in King County by 2020 	Not applicable	Final plan submitted	Annual Progress and Evaluation Report