Using RHY-HMIS Data to Support Youth Experiencing Homelessness

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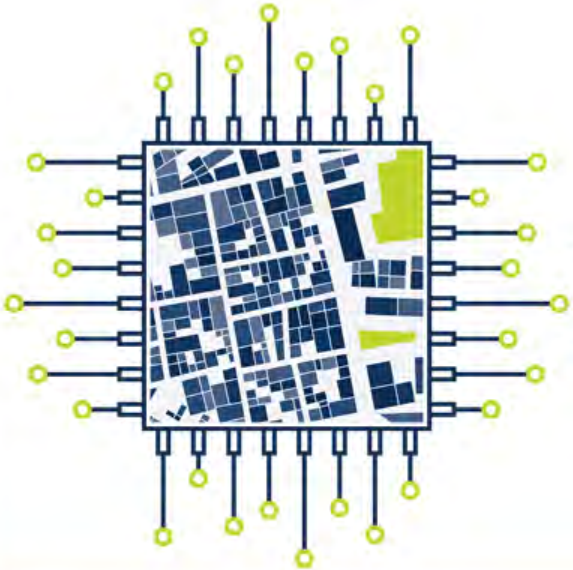

Solving Problems &
Impacting Communities
With Data

Presenters

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Agenda

1. What is the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program?
2. How We Use RHY Data
3. RHY Data Elements
4. RHY Demographic Data
5. Provider Perspective: LifeWorks Austin
6. The RHY-HMIS Dashboard
7. Q & A

Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Tenets

- Young people, because of their age and situation, are urgently in need of shelter/housing and services that are trauma-informed, developmentally and age appropriate and culturally sensitive
- Services to young people should be developed and provided using a positive youth development approach
- Services and linkages for youth to make that successful transition to adulthood and obtain self sufficiency
- Services include life skills, interpersonal skill building, educational advancement, job attainment skills, mental and physical health care, parenting skills, financial planning, and referrals to other needed services

RHY Funding Streams

- **Street Outreach Program-Provides** street-based aid and prevention services to street youth who have been subjected to or are at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse.
- **Basic Center Program**-Addresses the immediate needs of runaway and homeless youth under age 18 by providing an array of services including shelter, food, medical care, and counseling.
- **Transitional Living/Maternity Group Home Program**-Provides longer-term residential services to homeless youth ages 16 through 21, including shelter, life skills, educational opportunities, and career counseling.

Uses of RHY-HMIS Data

- Legislative requirement (see RHY Act)
- FYSB uses RHY-HMIS data to measure the effectiveness of RHY programs, inform the design of future changes, ensure grantees have access to their data, inform funding decisions, and provide information to FYSB Federal Project Officers as part of their grantee monitoring process. As required by the Runaway and Youth Homeless Act, FYSB also uses RHY-HMIS data to report on performance measures for the Congressional Justification budget and inform its biennial Report to Congress.
- Data upload periods occur twice each year (spring and fall)

Data Collection-Consent

- RHY Grantees must also safeguard youth's privacy and confidentiality.
- **RHY-HMIS Data Collection** does not require consent.
- **RHY-HMIS Data Submission** to FYSB does not require consent
- **Data Sharing (of PII)** requires consent:
  of parent/guardian for youth < 18
  of youth 18 and older

Number	Element	BCP –es	BCP - p	MGH	SOP	TLP
UDE	All Universal Data Elements	x	x	x	x	x
4.2	Income and Sources			x		x
4.3	Non-Cash Benefits	x	x	x		x
4.4	Health Insurance	x	x	x	x	x
4.5	Physical Disability	x	x	x	x	x
4.6	Developmental Disability	x	x	x	x	x
4.7	Chronic Health Condition	x	x	x	x	x
4.9	Mental Health Problem	x	x	x	x	x
4.10	Substance Abuse	x	x	x	x	x
4.12	Contact				x	
4.13	Date of Engagement				x	
R1	Referral Source	x	x	x		x
R2	RHY:BCP Status	x	x			
R3	Sexual Orientation	x	x	x	x	x
R4	Last Grade Completed	x	x	x		x
R5	School Status	x	x	x		x
R6	Employment Status	x	x	x		x
R7	General Health Status	x	x	x		x
R8	Dental Health Status	x	x	x		x
R9	Mental Health Status	x	x	x		x
R10	Pregnancy Status	x	x	x	x	x
R11	Formerly a Ward of Child Welfare/Foster Care Agency	x	x	x		x
R12	Formerly a Ward of Juvenile Justice System	x	x	x		x
R13	Critical Issues of Youth's Family	x	x	x		x
R14	RHY Service Connections	x	x	x		x
R15	Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Sex Trafficking	x	x	x	x	x
R16	Labor Trafficking	x	x	x	x	x
R17	Project Completion Status	x	x	x		x
R18	Counseling	x	x	x		x
R19	Safe and Appropriate Exit	x	x	x	x	x
R20	Aftercare	x	x	x		x

RHY Program-Specific Data Elements

Number	Element	BCP - es	BCP - p	MGH	SOP	TLP	DEMO
4.2	Income and Sources			x		x	x
4.3	Non-Cash Benefits	x	x	x		x	x
4.4	Health Insurance	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.5	Physical Disability	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.6	Developmental Disability	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.7	Chronic Health Condition	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.9	Mental Health Problem	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.10	Substance Abuse	x	x	x	x	x	x
4.12	Contact				x		
4.13	Date of Engagement				x		
R1	Referral Source	x	x	x		x	x
R2	RHY: BCP Status	x	x				
R3	Sexual Orientation	x	x	x	x	x	x
R4	Last Grade Completed	x	x	x		x	x

RHY Program-Specific Data Elements

R5	School Status	x	x	x		x	x
R6	Employment Status	x	x	x		x	x
R7	General Health Status	x	x	x		x	x
R8	Dental Health Status	x	x	x		x	x
R9	Mental Health Status	x	x	x		x	x
R10	Pregnancy Status	x	x	x	x	x	x
R11	Formerly a Ward of Child Welfare/Foster Care Agency	x	x	x		x	x
R12	Formerly a Ward of Juvenile Justice System	x	x	x		x	x
R13	Family Critical Issues	x	x	x		x	x
R14	RHY Service Connections	x	x	x		x	x
R15	Commercial Sexual Exploitation/Sex Trafficking	x	x	x	x	x	x
R16	Labor Trafficking	x	x	x	x	x	x
R17	Project Completion Status	x		x		x	x
R18	Counseling	x	x	x		x	x
R19	Safe and Appropriate Exit	x		x		x	x
R20	Aftercare	x	x	x		x	x

X = data collection is required

BCP: Two Types of Projects

Emergency Shelter

Required for all BCP grantees
Up to 21 days funded by FYSB
Additional days may be supplemented by other funding streams
HMIS Project Type: Emergency Shelter
Youth included: All sheltered youth.
Focus: Reunifying with family or finding a safe and appropriate living situation.

Prevention Services

- Optional for BCP grantees
- No specified time limit
- Includes home-based services and other services that prevent a youth from running away.

HMIS Project Type: Homelessness Prevention

Youth included: All out of shelter youth served face-to-face.

Focus: Preventing homelessness; Diverting from shelter; finding a safe and appropriate living situation.

RHY-HMIS Data- Demographics

	Basic Center Program Demographic Data 2017 RHY-HMIS	Transitional Living Program Demographic Data 2017 RHY-HMIS
GENDER	**N = 31,476**	**N = 4,856**
Female	47.2% (14,852)	49.7% (2,413)
Male	39.5% (12,435)	38.4% (1,865)
Transgender Youth/Other	1.0% (304)	1.5% (65)
Unknown	12.3% (3885)	9.4% (456)
RACE	**N = 31,476**	**N = 4,856**
American Indian	2.2% (689)	2.5% (119)
Asian	0.8% (264)	0.6% (28)
Black or African American	28.7% (9,028)	36.3% (1,763)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.6% (179)	0.5% (24)
White	46.9% (14,758)	41.7% (2,023)
Multiracial	5.4% (1,711)	7.7% (375)
Not Provided	15.4% (4,847)	10.8% (524)
ETHNICITY	**N = 31,476**	**N = 4,856**
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	66.0% (20,775)	75.8% (3,682)
Hispanic/Latino	19.0% (5,971)	14.0% (680)
Not Provided	15.0% (4,730)	10.2% (494)

RHY-HMIS Data- Demographics

	Basic Center Program Demographic Data 2017 RHY-HMIS	Transitional Living Program Demographic Data 2017 RHY-HMIS
AGE	**N = 25,328 (Mean=14.8)**	**N = 3,783 (Mean=18.8)**
11 or younger	8.9% (2,243)	N/A
12	6.4% (1,621)	N/A
13	10.6% (2,694)	N/A
14	13.8% (3,495)	N/A
15	17.8% (4,5056)	N/A
16	19.3% (4888)	5.2% (195)
17	19.6% (4,964)	12.6% (476)
18	3.6% (918)	24.3% (920)
19	N/A	24.4% (923)
20	N/A	21.0% (796)
21	N/A	12.5% (473)
SEXUAL ORIENTATION	**N = 31,476**	**N = 4,856**
Heterosexual	68.7% (21,619)	75.0% (3,640)
Gay	1.0% (305)	3.1% (152)
Lesbian	1.1% (355)	2.2% (106)
Bisexual	5.7% (1,787)	8.6% (416)
Questioning/Unsure	1.7% (526)	2.0% (95)
Unknown	21.9% (6,887)	9.2% (447)

Developments

- 2020 HMIS Data Standards for RHY grantees place emphasis on the four core outcomes we seek for youth:
  - Safe and Stable Housing
  - Employment / Education
  - Well-being
  - Permanent Connections
- We introduced performance measures to assess effectiveness of programs.

Provider Perspective: LifeWorks

- LifeWorks is a fearless advocate for youth and families seeking their path to self-sufficiency. We are committed to fearless advocacy, shared accountability, and a relentless focus on real, sustainable, and measurable results for the youth we serve.
- Target population:
  - Transition-age youth (ages 16 – 26)
  - Experiencing homelessness
  - Aging out of foster care
  - Pregnant/Parenting
  - Trauma survivors

Provider Perspective: LifeWorks

Housing

- Street Outreach
- Emergency Shelter
- Transitional Living Program
- Young Parents Program
- PORT (TH-RRH)
- Rental Assistance & Homelessness Prevention
- Rapid Rehousing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- After Care Transition Services

Counseling

- Youth & Adult Counseling
- Community-Based Counseling
- Peer Support
- Community-Based Psychiatry
- Resolution Counseling

Education & Workforce

- Supported Employment & Education
- GED/High School Equivalency
- Pregnancy Prevention
- Teen Parent Services
- Preparation for Adult Living classes

Provider Perspective: What's Working?

- Data collection process
- RHY data elements allow for a more nuanced understanding of the population that are served
  - Key data elements include sexual orientation, juvenile justice involvement, and child welfare involvement
- Keeping service providers in the loop
- Monthly calls with Youth Program Specialist at FYSB

Provider Perspective: Challenges & Opportunities

- RHY-HMIS Data Dashboard
- Collection of interim and closing assessments (and aftercare data)
- Double-data entry
- Need to ensure clarity, meaningfulness, and usefulness of certain data elements

RHY-HMIS Dashboard

- Used to display aggregate data at the national, state, and ACF region.
- Filters available:
  - Time (FY/Quarter/Month)
  - Program Type
  - Geography (Nation, ACF Region, State)
  - Grant and Grantee (only for grantees and Federal project officers)
- Grantee / Federal Project Officer login to view grantee-level data:
  - Used for monitoring (legislative requirement)

Data Quality Is Key!

- Definition and reason for data quality
- Culture of data in your TLP Program
  - Timeliness of data
  - Completeness of data
  - Accuracy of data
  - Data quality planning
- RHY-HMIS Data Quality report

The Data Quality Ecosystem

- Giving grantees a tool to utilize their data beyond reporting to funders
- Making data useful year-round
- DQ points in the data collection process
  - Data collection
  - Data input
  - Grantee Data QC
  - Data Upload
  - DQ Report and updates to data
  - Aggregation
  - Cleaning
  - Reporting
  - Using!!

RHY-HMIS Dashboard (Live Demo)

Contact

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Questions & Answers