



## **NE Family Youth System Partner Meetings & Activities**

December 7, 2017

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The NE FYSPRT met December 7, 2017 at Spokane Community Services Bldg., 312 W 8th Ave., Spokane, WA and was called to order by the Youth Lead Morgan Gabriel. Also present were the Family Co-leads Becky Bates and Helen Franklin, and the Systems Partner Lead, Liz Perez. Twenty members and guests representing families, youth, and system partners were present, including one member by phone Christy Lynch, WISE Supervisor for New Alliance,

### STATEWIDE FYSPRT

The NE FYSPRT had raised the issue of youth homeless with mental health challenges to the Statewide FYSPRT as an issue that has a statewide impact for all FYSPRT groups. The State FYSPRT asked each regional FYSPRT to discuss locally and the issue will be discussed again at the February State meeting.

The State discussed private insurance in relation to the WISE program. It was clarified at the state level that the FYSPRT program is for all individuals, regardless of payment source, however, the WISE program is limited to those enrolled in Medicaid. NE FYSPRT members indicated that if a provider identifies an individual who is not on Medicaid but needs WISE, the issue needs to go to their Governing Body/Legislative members; non-Medicaid state funds are used on priority issues at this time.

### PRESENTATION

Tom Cresswell and Jarred Brown with YFA Connections presented on the Crisis Residential Center, HOPE, YouthREACH, and Caregiver Respite Care.

Crisis Residential Center overview:

- The Spokane CRC opened in 1978
- Operates 16 Residential Beds for youth in three programs. CRC, HOPE, Respite
- Ages 12-17; is voluntary; five rooms are co-ed
- Program operates 24/7; priority for services is homeless non-dependent individuals
- No cost to youth/families
- Funded by the Office Of Homeless Youth, division of the Dept. of Commerce and Spokane County BHO
- Licensed through Children's Administration Department of Licensed Resources



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### **CRC** Admission Criteria/How to access

Duration

- 15 Day Program
- Voluntary (self-referral) or family referral
- Youth/Legal Guardian call/drop-in
- Tour and Consultation

Law Enforcement

- AEP/CCT

Children's Administration

- Referral Process for dependent youth

### **HOPE** Admission Criteria/How to access

Duration

- 30 Day Program

Children's Administration

- Referral process for dependent youth

Voluntary (Self-Referral)

- Call/drop-In/YouthREACH

Program/Services:

- Temporary residence/basic needs- three meals, two snacks provided, laundry, hygiene items, clothing donation room, bus passes provided
- Case management-provides referrals, connections, advocacy for needs including education, physical/mental health, chemical dependency, ARY/CHINS, and housing assistance
- Access to Youth and Family Counselors- Individualized service plans, family reconciliation/mediation when appropriate, MDT facilitation
- Supervision- Line of sight supervision provided, 4:1 staffing ratio, experienced qualified staff members, no contact facility
- Programming- structured programming including groups, recreation periods, free time, 1:1 time, and daily living skill activities

### **Caregiver Respite** Admission Criteria/How to access

Duration

- 48 hours-Pre Planned Monthly

MHCP



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- Contact CRC for referral
- Family may schedule tour/consultation

### **YOUTHREACH**

YouthREACH is a collaboration between YFA Connections/Crisis Residential Center, Volunteers of America/Crosswalk, Team Child, and Excelsior Youth Center. Each unit of the team provides a bridge to the basic needs of youth who are high-risk and homeless.

- YFA connections Provides Case Management as well as opportunities for Family Reconciliation through the CRC.
- Volunteers of America provides street based outreach services as well as access to overnight emergency shelter.
- Team Child provides access to legal services, such as; CHINS, Record Sealing, Dependency advocacy, Education advocacy, and assistance navigating the legal system.

Excelsior Youth Center provides an LMHC to the outreach team who provides access to a wide range of services, including mental and physical health needs as well as Substance Use Disorder treatment

- YouthREACH contacts roughly 100 youth a month on the streets and through facility based outreach (Juvenile Detention, PCCA, Schools, CRC, Crosswalk, etc.)
- YouthREACH served nearly 1500 at-risk and homeless youth.
- YouthREACH works with many providers in Spokane to identify and offer services to at-risk/homeless youth.
- YouthREACH never says "no" to a potential youth in need.
- YouthREACH staff are often the only advocates our youth have.
- YouthREACH provides on-site housing assessments, enrollment in benefits (food stamps, etc.), mentorship, and can assist in providing necessary documents (I.D., Birth Certificates, Transcripts, etc.) to help youth transition into self-reliance, as well as access to basic needs items like clothing and hygiene supplies.

YouthREACH typically meets with youth within 48 hours of a referral to create a plan with the youth and address their individual needs



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### YouthREACH contacts:

Phone:

509-822-8020

Web:

[www.Youthreachspokane.weebly.com](http://www.Youthreachspokane.weebly.com)

Social Media:

[Facebook.com/youthreachspokane](https://www.facebook.com/youthreachspokane)

E-mail:

[Youthreachspokane@gmail.com](mailto:Youthreachspokane@gmail.com)

### WISe UPDATES

Stephanie indicated that WISe quality management information will be published by DBHR in their quarterly reports. She will send the link for regional information. Data will include information on CANS assessments and length of stay.

LOS is currently 9 months. The statistics change as more data is input with other WISe teams coming on board. Okanogan, Adams and Pend Oreille are on track to be up and running January 1. They have expressed appreciation for the assistance from existing WISe teams.

### WISe team updates:

IFD: Staffing continues to be challenging; they are in need of a youth peer. IFD's team is full with one planned discharge next week.

FBH: They are close to capacity; have lost the supervisor and youth peer but are in the process of hiring positions. Okanogan visited FBH WISe teams.

LSS: Fully staffed at full capacity. Things are going well. Sharon discussed an alternative program called FOCUS. If a family/individual does not want long-term services, they can go to WISe or if they don't meet the algorithm can go to the new program.

Passages: Fully staffed with one opening but have a referral today.

New Alliance: Colville has 9 participants with 3 referrals. Chewelah is close to being ready; there are two clients in Lincoln County and 1 in Ferry with 3 referrals.



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### ISSUES FOR THE STATEWIDE FYSPRT

There is a need for more respite for non-dependent individuals, for example for 30 days. Must keep homeless youth as a top priority. Members discussed these specific issues:

- Children's Administration has placement for dependent youth
- There are a lot of mental health issues for homeless youth including family conflict and lack of knowledge of resources available to them
- Once a youth is on the streets, it's hard to go back; often so much stems from conflict at home
- Christy at New Alliance reported there are not a lot of homeless youth in her region, mostly they stay at other people's homes, they don't want to go to Spokane
- Pend Oreille has youth outreach and host homes (a new model of service)
- There is a Safe Families program Orchard Crest
- Need to explore services outside the system such as faith based services, but youth don't naturally go there
- Schools are seeing an increase in poverty; not tied to unemployment – it's affecting the working poor
- There's a need to followup, especially in rural counties, after services terminate so that the individual doesn't fall back
- An increase in mental health needs in parents carries forward to the kids – this has increased in the last year
- Some towns have social workers stationed in libraries

The group also raised the issue of youth suicide, which is up dramatically in kids voicing threats to themselves or others more than before. Intervention must occur to let kids know that words do mean something; if you care, tell someone. Also need help from parents to communicate with kids that schools are safe.

The NE FYSPRT members asked for a presentation from Daybreak. Future topics for the NE FYSPRT include:

- Trafficking
- Emily Nayar with Partners or Mable Absolonson from LSS
- Eating Disorders

The next meeting is January 4<sup>th</sup>.