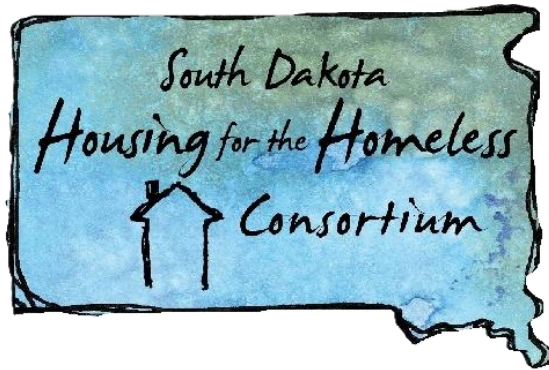


SD-500 Review of Coordinated Community Plan
One Year of YHDP



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Background

In 2017 the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) created the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP). This initiative was an effort to equip Continuum of Care (CoC) with more tools to address youth homelessness. In order for communities to apply for YHDP funds several tasks need to be completed.

- Collect representation of a wide variety of partners including housing, education, workforce development, education, juvenile justice, and behavioral and mental health.
- Convene a Youth Advisory Board (YAB), comprised of youth and young adults (YYA) who have current or past lived experience of homelessness, to lead YHDP planning and implementation; and
- Assess the needs of special populations at higher risk of homelessness, including racial and ethnic minorities, LGBTQ+ youth, parenting youth, youth involved in the foster care and juvenile justice systems, and youth victims of human trafficking; and
- Create a coordinated community plan (CCP) that assesses the needs of local youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness, and address how they will use the money from the YHDP grant, along with other funding sources, to address these needs (HUD, 2020)

In 2020 a small Youth Action Board was created with guidance from the Black Hills Regional Coalition, Rapid City Area Schools, and Lutheran Social Services. This group met regularly and began to lay the groundwork for a YHDP application. In October of 2020 South Dakota Housing (SDH) awarded \$7,850 to support their work. In June of 2021 the South Dakota Housing for the Homeless Consortium (SDHHC) which serves as the statewide CoC created and released a Youth Needs Assessment to help inform a Coordinated Community Plan.

During the winter of 2021-2022 the YAB and SDHHC, with assistance from key stakeholders created the Coordinated Community Plan which is included as an addendum. This CCP assessed and highlighted the needs of special populations in South Dakota and outlined how funds should be targeted for optimal effect. In March of 2022 HUD awarded SD-500 with \$3.04 million for YHDP funding. That summer a request for proposal was released. Interested applicants were asked to submit an application that contained narratives, goals and a budget for the proposed project.

CCP Goals

The CCP outlined goals of two types: those related to how projects should design and funding targets for how the incoming YHDP funds should be allocated. First we'll look at the funding targets and then move on to the qualitative goals for projects.

Funding Overview

The amounts below are for the two-year initial grant terms that expire in 2024. Subsequent awards have a one-year period of performance.

CCP Funding Targets

Youth Drop-in Centers, Out Reach and Service Projects – Rapid City

The CCP estimated an award of \$500,000 to the funding of Outreach and Supportive Services projects in Rapid City. In addition to funding a drop-in center project the CCP aspired to fund a project that would serve as a light-touch shelter diversion project. Both projects were planned to have Youth Navigators on staff to assist participants with service referrals.

Transitional Housing – Region 1

The CCP estimated an award of \$1,429,000 to the funding of Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing projects Rapid City. Youth advocated for crisis housing that would operate with low or no barriers to admission while using a harm-reduction model. Housing Navigators were to assist participants with locating rental units which could be subsidized with RRH funds.

Transitional Housing (TH) – Rapid Rehousing (RRH) TH-RRH Project- Region 2, 3 and 4

The CCP estimated an award of \$645,000 for projects in Sioux Falls and Regions 2, 3 & 4.

Coordinated Entry & Homeless Management Information Systems– Statewide

The CCP estimated \$90,310 be awarded for the build out, management, training and data storage needs that the new YHDP projects would incur. An estimated \$100,000 was to be used for any new costs related marketing or building a youth-oriented CES project.

Awards from RFP Process

Region 1

1. Family Connections – The Circle | \$699,500 | SSO
 - a. Daytime center for youth who are homeless or at risk of it, to have their immediate needs met or connect to case management for long term supports. YHDP grant provides budget for leasing, operations and supportive services
2. Family Connections – Transitional Housing Program | \$244,191 –| TH
 - a. 4 Unit Transitional Housing Facility. YHDP grant provides supportive services budget.
3. Journey On – STEPS Program | \$339,000 – Support Services Only (SSO)
 - a. Street Outreach teams focused on immediate needs and referrals to community resources.
4. Wambli Ska Okolakiciye – Drop-In Center | \$644,320 | SSO
 - a. Culturally driven Daytime center for youth who are homeless, or at risk of it, to have their immediate needs met or connect to case management for long term supports.

Region 3

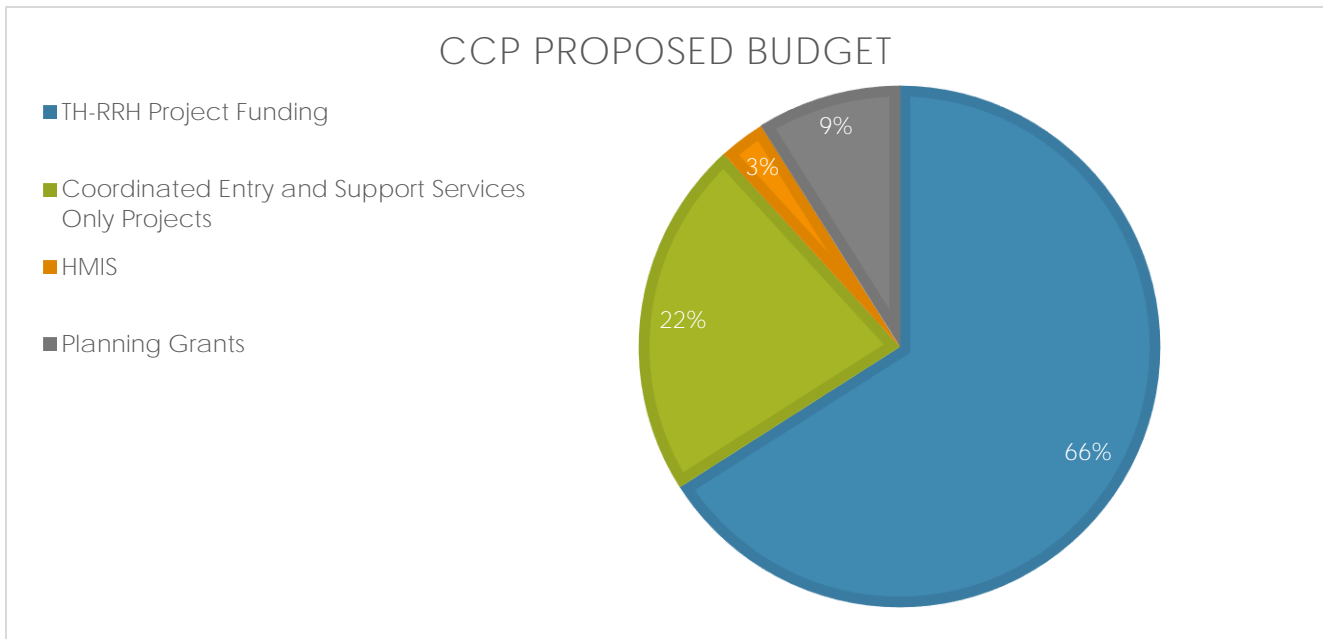
1. Pathways Shelter– Youth Transition Program | \$645,000 | Joint TH-RRH
 - b. 4 Unit transitional living facility that works in tandem with a scattered site RRH activity. YHDP provides budget for rental assistance, supportive services, operations and HMIS

Statewide Infrastructure Grants

1. South Dakota Housing | \$280,007 | YHDP Planning Grant
 - a. Planning Grant cover costs for CoC administration as it pertains to YHDP. The bulk of these funds were allocated to the YABs in Sioux Falls and Rapid City.
2. South Dakota Housing | \$90,310 | HMIS
 - a. Covers user fees and administrative expenses related to Clienttrack usage and maintenance
3. South Dakota Housing | \$100,000 | CES
 - a. Covers administrative costs for the build out and management of the YHDP Queue within Coordinated Entry.

Funding Conclusion

The chart below shows the intended allocation of funds per the CCP. With 66% of funds intended for housing solutions for youth.



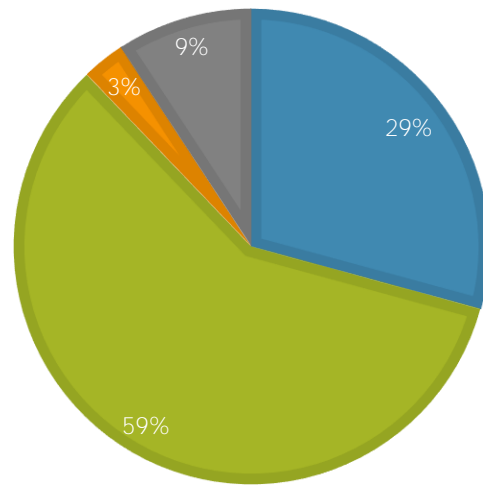
As previously mentioned there was great difficulty in attracting a sponsor for RRH activities. The Joint TH-RRH project in Region 3, sponsored by Pathways, did not initially request the full \$645,000 allocation. But when it became apparent no other sponsors from East River would submit project proposals that request was increased.

For much of 2023 Pathways and the CoC Administrator were attempting to attract other entities to begin RRH activities in their communities with contracted funds from that award. Pathways was successful in arranging subrecipients for TH-RRH in Rapid City with a replacement application that will be funded October 1st, 2024 to September 30th, 2025. Pathways is also arranging a grant amendment to allow these entities, Wambli Ska and Family Connections, to do similar work for the remainder of the 2024 period of performance.

No project applications were received for RRH projects in Rapid City to fulfill the CCP's recommendations. As a result, there is a significant SSO presence in Rapid City that is identifying unsheltered and at-risk youth households, serving their immediate needs, and referring them to Coordinated Entry. But without enough projects operating RRH or other permanent housing destinations there is a bottleneck. After the inclusion of ESG-CV funds to SD-500 which saw a large influx of shelter data our subsequent System Performance Measures saw a significant growth in the length of time spent homeless. The distribution of our YHDP funds will have a similar effect. To some extent we can say that we are now capturing a more accurate picture of Youth Homelessness. But the end result is that the "stages" of our system flow are inappropriately sized to each other. To better understand how this affects system flow we can look to the results of one-year with our YHDP CE project.

TWO-YEAR YHDP ALLOCATION

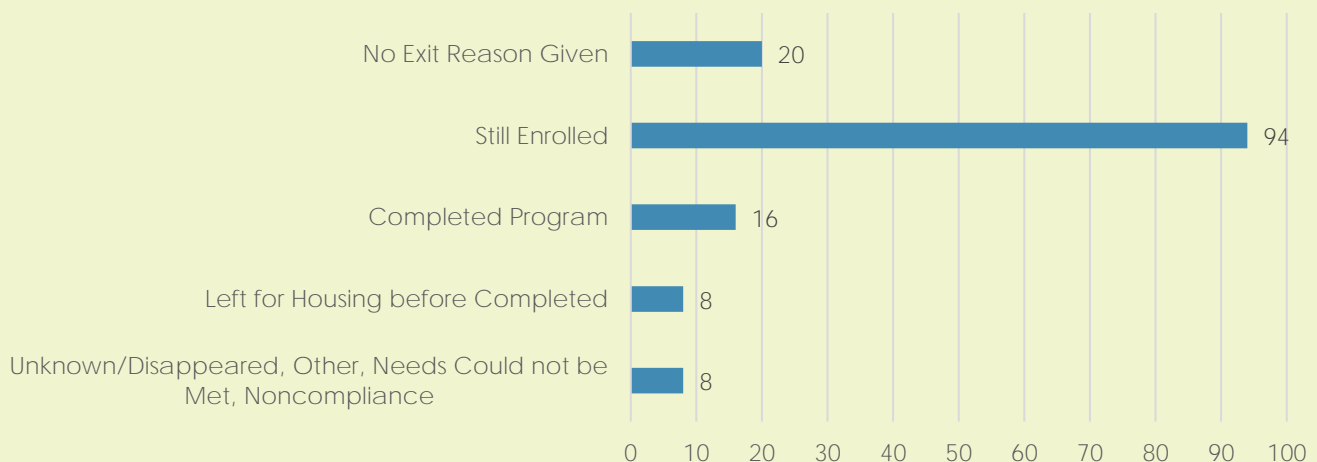
- TH-RRH Project Funding
- Coordinated Entry and Support Services Only Projects
- HMIS
- Planning Grants



YHDP CE Findings

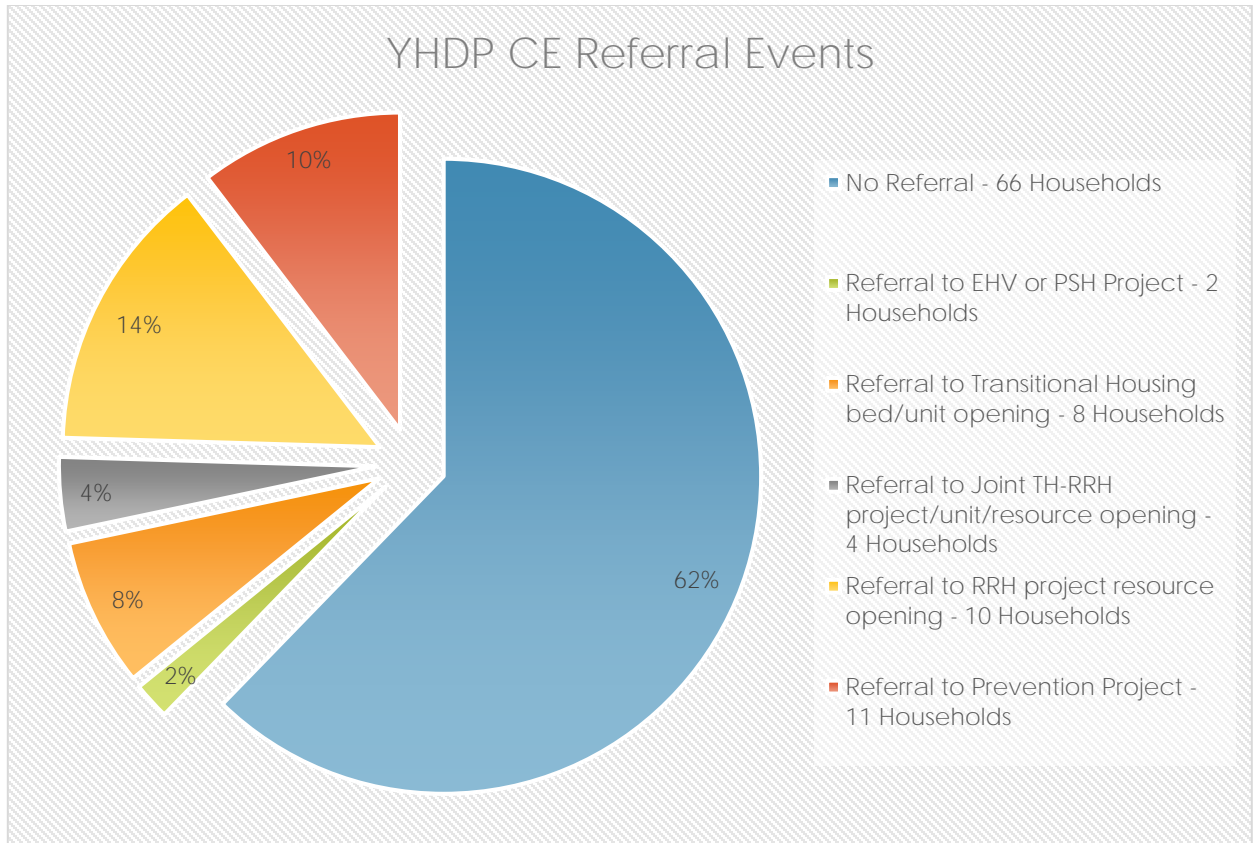
This creates an opportunity for growth. As the YHDP Coordinated Entry continues to assess households in need there has been very little referral activity due to lack of system capacity to provide housing assistance. In 2023 there were 253 clients in 146 households enrolled in YHDP CE. The average length of time spent on the queue is 96 days. A third-party tasked with the evaluating the South Dakota CE system found that once households have been on the CES queue for more than sixty days their odds of matching with an available housing resource drop quickly.

YHDP CE Exit Reasons 2023



Race Descriptors (Households that began YHDP CE Enrollments in 2023)	Count of Race	Race as Percentage	LoS as Percentage
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	67	46%	53%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous, Black, African American, or African	3	2%	4%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous, Hispanic/Latina/e/o	8	5%	6%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous, White	6	4%	3%
Black, African American, or African	10	7%	6%
All Others (5 separate descriptors, 1% or less)	9	6%	4%
White	40	27%	22%
White, Hispanic/Latina/e/o	4	3%	2%
Grand Total	146	100.00%	100.00%

Current Living Situations for all YHDP CE Households in 2023	Living Situations as a Percentage
Emergency shelter, including hotel or motel paid for with emergency shelter voucher, Host Home shelter	23.00%
Hospital or other residential non-psychiatric medical facility	0.50%
Host Home (non-crisis)	0.50%
Hotel or motel paid for without emergency shelter voucher	0.50%
Jail, prison or juvenile detention facility	0.50%
Other	3.00%
Place not meant for habitation	7.00%
Rental by client in a public housing unit	3.00%
Rental by client, no ongoing housing subsidy	10.50%
Rental by client, with ongoing housing subsidy	3.00%
Rental by client, with RRH or equivalent subsidy	1.00%
Residential project or halfway house with no homeless criteria	1.50%
Safe Haven	0.50%
Staying or living in a family member's room, apartment or house	21.00%
Staying or living in a friend's room, apartment or house	12.50%
Substance abuse treatment facility or detox center	5.00%
Transitional housing for homeless persons (including homeless youth)	6.50%
Worker unable to determine	0.50%
Grand Total	100.00%



YHDP Service Project Overview

The following charts show basic enrollment data for all YHDP service projects from October 1st 2022 to September 30th, 2023. This first chart looks at enrollments which contains some duplicate clients on return visits. All the following charts are unduplicated.

Project Name	Participants	Households	18 Years or Older	Under 18 Years
Journey On - STEPS	95	91	45	50
Family Connections TH	3	3	1	2
Family Connections SSO- The Circle	22	20	3	19
Pathways TH-RRH	26	19	5	21
Wambli Ska	165	131	99	66
Totals	311	264	153	158

Race	#	%
American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous	170	68.00%
Asian or Asian American	2	0.80%
Black, African American, or African	1	0.40%
Multi-Racial	48	19.20%

White	29	11.60%
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Ethnicity	#	%
Data not collected or Not Specified	2	0.80%
Hispanic/Latin(a)(o)(x)	37	14.80%
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)	211	84.40%

Gender	#	%
Man (Boy, if child)	126	50.40%
Multiple-Genders	7	2.80%
Non-Binary	3	1.20%
Transgender	1	0.40%
Woman (Girl, if child)	113	45.20%

Age Range	#	%
0-5	13	5.20%
6 to 11	6	2.40%
12 to 17	110	44.00%
18 to 21	73	29.20%
22 and Older	48	19.20%

CCP Review Meeting

On September 11th, 2023 members of the Rapid City YAB met virtually with YHDP providers and SDHHC support staff to review specific goals of the CCP. Open conversation was had about the status of specific action steps; those completed, those ongoing and those that needed more attention. Most, but not all of these action steps are discussed in greater detail below. In attendance was:

Joseph Tielke - South Dakota Housing

Stephanie Marshall - South Dakota Housing

Denise Albertson - South Dakota Housing

Joe Barb – Family Connections

Sara Hornick – YAB Coordinator | Family Connections

Amy Richie- VOANR | Black Hills Regional Homeless Coalition and PAC Member

Pauletta Red Willow -Maggie's House | PAC Member

Rochelle Williams CHW – Union Gospel Mission | PAC Member

Dawn Sikkink – Beacon Center | Pac Member

Tanya Grassel-Krietlow – SD Domestic Violence Network | PAC Member

Sharon Schudder – PAC Member

Bridget Marshall – Journey On

Kristin Kiner – Rapid City Area Schools

Toby McCloskey – Journey On

Tracy Sigdestad – Wambli Ska Okolakiciye

Completed Action Steps

Goal #1

- Action Step 1.2.1 – Obtain a drop-in center with YHDP Grant funding
 - This was completed as a result of funding two projects that are currently operating drop-in centers.
- Action Step 1.3.2 – Support street outreach efforts with direct connections to coordinated entry.
 - As projects began their implementation a considerable effort was conducted by South Dakota Housing to prepare projects for the role they would play in CES. A YHDP specific queue was requested and delivered by our HMIS vendor. Subsequent needs for projects to be trained and able to participate in CE processes is the ongoing responsibility of the CES project lead.

Goal #2

- Action Step 2.1.1- Prioritize YHDP project funding that provide Youth Shelter Diversion & CES Youth Navigation
 - Three SSO projects were funded and this step now pivots to ongoing capacity-building to complete Diversion and Navigation efforts.
- Action Step 2.1.2- Provide Training to case managers and intake staff to explore diversion opportunities. Training should include Positive Youth Development (PYD), Trauma-Informed Care (TIC), and family engagement services. Staff should be trained in cultural awareness.
 - The providers have done very well in this area in 2023 and it is safe to say that this goal, **regarding project implementation, was completed.** HUD TA's provided workshops on Positive Youth Development, Motivational Interviewing and landlord engagement. Projects saw to it that staff were trained in mental health first aid and trauma informed care. Trauma from a cultural perspective was provided during the September 2023 SDHHC Quarterly. Pathways continues to make overtures for engagement to their local cultural resources and Family Connections is hosting Talking Circles regularly.

Goal #3

- Action Step 3.1.1 - Review TAY-Vi-SPDAT and consider alternative assessment tools and options
 - The TAY-VISPDAT was reviewed and clarified with Rapid City YAB members and mentors over the course of several meetings. The second half of this goal is further discussed under ongoing action steps.
- Action Step 3.1.2 - Review prioritization and referral criteria for youth with and consider high vulnerabilities
 - This was completed with the Rapid City YAB in April and helped form current conversations about the direction to go with Youth interactions with CES. New criteria from these YAB recommendations were implemented in CES policy changes in March of 2023.
- Action Step 3.1.3 - Establish youth case conferencing procedures
 - Case Conferencing for the YHDP CE queue began in May 2023 and continues to be well-attended and solution-focused.

Goal #4

- Action Step 4.1.1 – Prioritize YHDP funding for youth-specific crisis housing options
 - This step was completed as a result of two projects with TH components. The CCP was hopeful to have housing options for youth that are in crisis can quickly access but this aspiration will conflict with the low inventory and slow turnover rate that is characteristic of TH projects

Ongoing Action Steps

There are many goals that are ongoing now. But the few that warrant further discussion are:

- Action Step 3.1.1
 - The assessment portion of CES enrollments continue to be a popular discussion subject across all CoC programs; this action step calls for the exploration of alternative assessments. it was recommended by the CES Administrator that the CES committee needed more YAB attendance. Project policy for CES is formed by stakeholder discussion first, then solidified by the CES Committee before being recommended and adopted by the CoC governing board.
 - Before discussing the merits of any alternative assessment there needs to be a better understanding of what data elements we would like to know, that aren't currently being captured by the TAY. Alternatively, what data elements does the TAY collect that are irrelevant to our needs? There are also opportunities here to incorporate Action Step 1.4.1 which the group felt needed to be reframed; there was some consensus that better identifying when a household is not appropriate for a CES enrollment and communicating that to partners is equally important.
- Action Step 1.2.4, 5 and 6
 - These are joint efforts between the CoC lead and the YAB coordinators. Raising YAB awareness and engagement at the local and state level is an imperative. Due to the nature of the group there is a need for a consistent education opportunity for the many new members.

Action Steps to Address in 2024

Much of the discussion on September 11th was focused on Coordinated Entry. There is wide consensus from providers that CES is not marketed effectively enough and there are not enough physical access points. But there continues to be misunderstanding that CES in very rural areas where there are no HUD-funded projects to refer clients to means we cannot expend time and money marketing CES in those communities.

Action Step 1.3.1 calls for a youth-driven CES marketing campaign. It was decided that SDH and the YAB would revisit an earlier draft of a marketing "one-sheet" and move forward with YAB recommendations. However, due to the entirety of SDH's grant for YHDP CES being allocated to Supportive Service work this marketing campaign would not be an eligible expense. There is the possibility of this being paid for through the YHDP Planning Grant. SDH staff attended the Rapid City YAB meeting on September 26th in person and requested that the YAB bring forward specific proposals and cost estimates for the changes they would like to see.

There was also a good deal of conversation during the CCP review on the requirements of cultural competency and awareness. Action Steps 1.1.2 and 2.1.2 and 4.1.2 request many things related to

cultural process. All the YHDP projects have expressed a desire to have staff more capable in this area and, other than Wambli Ska Okolakiciye, there was a general apprehension on how to go about that. It was agreed by the group that a curriculum was needed; that a checklist could let providers know when they met this requirement. It was asked that the Rapid City YAB, reconvene a committee on this so that projects could be directed on the actions they need to take to fulfill this step.

The discrepancy between CCP outlay proposal and the funding results means there is an ongoing need to prioritize YHDP funds for RRH inventory. This is a system priority, not just because it will positively affect system performance measures that determine SD-500's funding, but because it will help make CES more dynamic and effective.

YAB Questions for Providers – Attachment One

There are five primary goals of the CCP. Each with many separate objectives. As part of the RFP process there were many threshold requirements for providers to operate their projects with mindful consideration of youth needs and youth voice.

In September, 2023 the Rapid City YAB reviewed the CCP and created a list of questions for service providers to answer. These combined answers are attached to the end of this document.

Goal #4 of the CCP was focused on the RFP process and the priority of funding Rapid Rehousing projects. There were no questions to the service providers regarding Goal #4 but Pathways Shelter provided the following on the objective specific to Goal #4:

1. Objective 1: Increase # of RRH units and expand existing services and rental assistance specifically for youth.
 - *“Pathways has not created units specifically for YHDP, rather, we are placing participants in private rentals using YHDP funds. Our hope is to create partnerships with landlords that will embrace Housing First and create safe long-term housing”*
2. Objective 2: Create short-term crisis transitional housing.
 - *“I think it would be helpful to define crisis housing in this context. Pathways would like to develop mentorship options (all included in action step 4.2.3), as we have seen the benefits. Unfortunately, that doesn't exist in our community unless it is through a 12-step program where a sponsor is involved.”*
3. Objective 3: Develop suitable housing stock for youth in rural SD communities
 - *“Pathways supports this wholeheartedly. The housing stock for all populations, not only youth, is sparse and insufficient (obviously with this grant we are focused on youth). While this isn't only a SD problem, I feel it is important for all agencies to get behind this in whichever way they are able.”*

Executive Summary of Year One

The inclusion of YHDP funds to the SD-500 CoC has enhanced our systems overall structure and performance in regards to ending youth homelessness. Youth are involved in project design and implementation, as well as CoC Governance, to a much greater extent than years previous. After only one year of close engagement project leadership is already more willing and better able to accept and respond to youth and consumer critiques of their operations. The SD-500 Governance Charter was amended to grant a permanent seat to the Youth Advisory Board. This does not preclude additional YAB members from seeking election.

The initial RFP process to fund the initial two-year cycle fell short of the aspirations present in our Coordinated Community Plan. For many reasons' agencies were not prepared to apply for YHDP funding in 2022. Four agencies applied and four were funded. SDH received three CoC support grants. While these projects are all doing important work in their communities it is important to remember that the existing project set-up does not align with the targets outlined in the CCP. Over \$2 million dollars were expected to be awarded to Transitional Housing (TH) and Rapid Rehousing (RRH) projects but less than half of that was applied for. This resulted in a significant amount of funding going to SSO projects in Rapid City.

SD-500 is a small CoC with few service agencies that can readily apply and manage HUD funding. Staffing shortages that affect provider capacity are expected to continue. So, there will always be, to some degree, an asymmetry between our hopes for funding distribution and the resulting awards. Yet our CCP work was solid and the funding targets specified will continue to be relevant for the foreseeable future.

Planning Grants Report

The first Planning Grant awarded to South Dakota Housing had a period of performance (PoP) of February 1st, 2022 to January 31st, 2023. A month later South Dakota Housing entered into an MOU with the Volunteers of America -Northern Rockies (VOANR) for the fiscal sponsorship of the Youth Advisory Board. The MOU tasked VOANR with identifying a staff member to take lead with organizing and guiding YAB meetings and participation in the CoC. This MOU allocated \$83,875 for:

1. YAB Compensation (Incentives) - \$24,975
2. YAB Travel, Training, Tech (Barriers)- \$20,500
3. Fiscal Agent Contract Costs - \$7,200
4. YAB Coordinator (10 hr week max @ \$60/hr) - \$31,200
5. Total - **\$83,875**

The incentive line-item is for the YAB Coordinator to purchase gift cards to various outlets. These gift cards are the reimbursement YAB members receive for time spent in meetings or working on YAB business outside of regular meetings. The Barriers line is for addressing any obstacles YAB members encounter in trying to participate with the YAB. Fiscal Agent costs reimburse agency time spent in oversight of the contract of the YAB Coordinator.

Errors on the part of SDH led to less staff time being coded to the Planning Grant than was appropriate. At the same time in Rapid City the YAB's initial growth and expenses were lower than anticipated. By November of 2022 there was two months left in the PoP and \$51,420 remaining in the grant. A request to extend the grant's timeline to May 31st, 2023 was submitted to HUD and granted. Part of the request hinged on the creation of a YAB on the East Side of the state that would have a similar, albeit smaller MOU from 1st and 2nd YHDP Planning Grants. This would expand YAB opportunities for Youth in South Dakota and allow for timely outlay.

Once the extension was granted SDH conducted a Request for Proposal, seeking sponsors for the East River YAB. This MOU was to run March 2023 to May 31st, 2024 with an understanding from HUD that the extension to the first Planning Grant would mean our 2nd, concurrent Planning Grant would need a four-month extension as well. This MOU would have the following budget:

1. YAB Compensation (Incentives) - \$6,150
2. YAB Travel, Training, Tech (Barriers)- \$6,150

3. Staff Travel - \$870
4. Supplies - \$1,800
5. Fiscal Agent Contract Costs - \$2,700
6. YAB Coordinator (10 hr week max @ \$60/hr) - \$28,980
7. Indirect (10% of demonstrated expenses) - \$4,665
8. Total - \$51,315

Two proposals were received. One from a social worker on the Crow Creek Reservation and another from the Union Gospel Mission in Sioux Falls. Both proposals were reviewed by the YAB and follow-up interviews were conducted by SDH staff. Both proposals had merit but having a YAB situated in our largest community with many youth-oriented programs and services available seemed the best option. UGM began their YAB Coordination work on April 14th, 2023.

The six months YAB Coordination that was done by VOANR in 2022 indicated 10 hours a week was not sufficient to meet the needs of the YAB and that the position needed a full-time worker. Another source of frustration was the grants inability to cover food costs for YAB meetings. Having meals served during YAB meetings proved an important feature for attendance. However, food for these meetings was deemed an ineligible expense by HUD. For much of the first year the CoC lead and YAB Coordinator sought a way to implement a cash payment system for the YAB members instead of relying on gift cards. Unfortunately, this was not able to happen due to concerns both entities had regarding the tax and reporting implications it meant for active YAB members.

An amendment to the MOU with VOANR was completed on February 27th, 2023 that extended their YAB Coordination work to match the end of the Planning Grant (May 31st, 2023). With the conclusion of that MOU approaching SDH conducted another RFP process in late March to identify a Rapid City organization that could help with coordination of the YAB in that community. The proposed budget was:

1. YAB Compensation (Incentives) - \$19,800
2. YAB Travel, Training, Tech (Barriers)- \$14,640
3. Staff Travel - \$720
4. Supplies - \$1,500
5. Fiscal Agent Contract Costs - \$1,800
6. YAB Coordinator (10 hr week max @ \$60/hr) - \$43,680
7. Fringe - \$8,736
8. Indirect (10% of demonstrated expenses) - \$9087
9. Total - \$99,963

Two proposals were received. One from VOANR and another from Family Connection's Center. Both proposals were reviewed by the YAB and at the recommendation of the YAB SDH awarded the MOU to Family Connections. The agreement was signed on May 16th, 2023. With the Planning Grant's PoP coming to an end on May 31st, additional opportunities were sought and a connection was made with a local media firm. This firm was contracted to shoot a professional video to highlight the YAB and could serve as a tool for awareness and advocacy. This was completed and paid for just in time.

But despite efforts from all involved, spending continued to be slower than anticipated and the grant reached the end of its timeline with \$22,555 remaining.

As of October 2023, the second YHDP Planning Grant has \$100,000 remaining. In addition to SDH staff time and contract with UGM and Family Connections YHDP Planning Grants will help cover costs for

our PIT Count. SDH is on track to expend the full \$175,008 represented by the grant and its cash match before May 31st 2024.

CQI Plans and Conclusion

As SD-500 continues to develop its resources and invite more partnerships aimed at ending youth homelessness there is a greater need for a project's ongoing performance to be measured and improved. The CoC's mandate is to be an efficient steward of the CoC and YHDP funds available to our system; the South Dakota CoC is a system balancing two very different metro areas on opposite ends of the state with inconsistent project coverage between them. It is an ongoing challenge for CoC members to be mindful that proper system management for the CoC can mean making decisions that negatively affect their own hometown in pursuit of a more equitable or better performing statewide system.

In November of 2023 the CoC's governing board, the PAC, amended its role in coordinating the local competition. Over the past few years there have been many resignations from dedicated PAC members whose organizations were due for CoC or YHDP funding. A new committee, called the Performance and Rating Committee (PRC), will conduct the local competition and also meet regularly to review project performance through data. This group will also be the CoC Lead's report for project monitoring.

Monitoring for YHDP projects is scheduled for late-March 2024. Significant revisions to the CoC's current monitoring policy will need to be made to account for the new project types of our YHDP projects. This will be needed for the local competitions Rating and Ranking tool as well. The current tool relies heavily on performance benchmarks that are identified in each RRH and PSH project's Annual Performance Report (APR). Street outreach projects do not have similar benchmarks that can be incorporated and in fact have very few quantitative benchmarks. Efforts are ongoing to find a way for YHDP SSO projects to provide quantitative information that demonstrates the value they bring to our statewide system. This will enable us to more consistently measure progress from all outreach projects.

SD-500 is a small CoC without the funds to afford a full-time HMIS Administrator. We rely on our vendor to assist with data management and publication. This can lead to lengthy timelines for data initiatives and CoC stakeholders may need to set their expectations accordingly for how often the CoC and HMIS Administrators can routinely deliver data to assist with performance reviews. A work order is being pursued to build a data dashboard that can assist the PRC with performance reviews. What data will be consistently available and how it will be used to assist with this effort remains to be seen but they will need to be resources that help us determine the system-level impact of YHDP funding in South Dakota across several aspects.

As we move forward with YHDP implementation there are several overarching questions we need to ask often: How much are our YHDP projects accomplishing? To what degree is our system better able to serve the needs of youth? And what impact is youth voice having on our providers?

And here is how we can answer them:

What is the reach of our current YHDP Project portfolio?

- How many unsheltered YYA are being identified by outreach teams?

- How many YYA are being assessed and connected with resources through Coordinated Entry?
- How many YYA are being diverted from shelter services?
- Is YHDP success helping with YAB recruitment and retention?
- Are mainstream resources connecting with the YAB and YHDP projects?
- How much permanent housing inventory is available now to YYAs?

Is our system more effective? **Are we serving the needs of South Dakota's YYA as they need?**

- Changes to YYA exits to permanent housing
- Changes to YYA returns to homelessness
- Changes to YYA employment/income
- Are returning YYA reporting few barriers?
- Are health and education outcomes improving?
- Are participants feeling seen, understood and connected to their culture?
- Are youth finding permanent and positive connections that root them in stability? Whether to family, friends, mentors, or their community.

How are YYAs defining the services intended for them?

- Do our YABs have active and engaged membership?
- Are providers using the YABs expertise for project design and implementation?
- Are youth monitoring project outcomes regularly?
- Are we able to incorporate youth-voice to structures and processes, inside and outside of the CoC, where it is not present?

Attachment One – Project Response to YAB Questions

Goal #1 Questions

What Peer Social Groups have your organization created or connected youth too?

Family Connections	One of the groups we created was for life skills- we have been doing a cooking class each week with youth in transitional housing, and any other interested youth, that helps create social connections with peers as well as opportunities to gain life skills.
Pathways Shelter	As we are relatively early into the Transitional Home's operation, we have not yet made progress in this area. In addition, we went through a two-month period of not having a staff dedicated to this program. We aim to build on this in Q1 of 2024.
Wambli Ska	Tipi talk talking circles, Indigenous youth leaders voices, cante waunsilipi ominiciye. our Indigenous youth and the disparities they face, in addition to developing a curriculum for cultural competency for other agencies, as the YAB suggested
Journey On	The drop in centers wanbli ska as well as the circle

Give an example of a success story connecting youth with a social group.

Family Connections	Several of the young adults in Transitional Housing became social and emotional supports for each other through the life skills weekly class. An additional success was they began working together to create meals in Transitional Housing and working together as a social group for not only food support, additionally unit care.
Pathways Shelter	We do not yet have a success story involving connecting youth with a social group.
Wambli Ska	A with a young girl that had come through our courts from being in trouble (we found out they have housing insecurities) was to attend some YAB meetings and ended up really liking the meetings, Which ended with success with her completing her contract with the courts and is on a better path than life now and she's still involved with YAB
Journey On	I have provide a warm hand off with a relative I been working with I got her to the circle I got her to open up a lot with her words as she was very quiet and non talkative. I feel her progress is leading up to her getting her own place as well as looking for a Job that would be suitable to her and her 2 sons lives. As well as additional support emotional needs as well as setting up the next steps in helping individuals life style and helping them through be interactive with wanbli ska and the circles yab meeting.

What can your program for Peer Mentoring? What are the action steps and time line to reach your goal?

Family Connections	We have offered Peer Mentoring since day one of Transitional Housing and Supportive Services. Peer Mentors are available to assist with basic life skills, social and emotional needs, and warm handoffs for supportive services. Peer Navigators are currently working on Karaoke night, Board Game Night, Arts and Crafts night, Music Mixing and Engineering night, Movie night, and various other social and emotional programs.
Pathways Shelter	Yankton has several opportunities where youth can engage with others in their age group. Yankton Community Library offers weekly events for free. Yankton Parks & Recreation Department offers recreational sports leagues (basketball, volleyball, softball, dodgeball, etc.). Perhaps the cost to enroll in these programs could be provided as an incentive, or even simply covered with no questions by YHDP funds.
Wambli Ska	We have always offered Peer Mentoring as part of our Drop-in Center and Supportive Services program model... Peer Mentors are available to assist with basic life skills, social and emotional needs, and warm handoffs for supportive services. Peer Navigators are currently working on Pocasts, song, drum, and dance, Board Game Night, Cultural night, Wacipi, Inipi, etc.,
Journey On	We provide the transportation to yab meetings as well as providing youth connections with rides to therapy appointments and jobs we encourage the individuals to reach a goal in a timely matter some have obstacles that we run into and we try to help in any which way we can with provided transportation and mentorship

How are you connecting Indigenous youth with culture?

Family Connections	We work directly with Wambli Ska to help not only expose youth to Indigenous Culture, also to Cultural Connections in the community. We work with Tear Cottier, Program Director at Great Plains Tribal Leaders' Health Board for suggestions/recommendations for youth who seek connecting with Indigenous Culture. Tear has assisted with referring several youth to different cultural treatment programs, and social activities. Several youth did a series of equine therapy, some were Indigenous identifying, others were not, and just wanted the experience as well as education. Additionally, we have connected several youth with Joe Pullium, a local Lakota artist, who teaches about ledger art, and the historical significance for Lakota culture. One of our employees, Focus, is a Lakota graffiti artist, and attends numerous culturally significant events per year, and has brought that information back to youth, sharing mostly with youth in transitional housing, although has visited with several youth connected to supportive services to talk about different symbols used in Lakota art, and their historical significance.
Pathways Shelter	Pathways hosts Wellbriety weekly on site. Participants have engaged with this program on occasion, but it is purely at will and aimed at sobriety and recovery, which may not be appropriate for all participants. Currently nothing else is in place in our community, at least that we have been able to locate. We are working on developing a relationship with the University of South Dakota Native American Cultural Center to explore possibilities. While this is located in Vermillion, perhaps it is something to which we can provide transportation. Participants have requested the ability to smudge; Pathways has provided them with Sage and have approved this activity.
Wambli Ska	We are the Indigenous org that everyone comes to for this.
Journey On	Unanswered

How are you providing opportunity for Peers to educate others on culture?

Family Connections	This is an area of opportunity for us- we have found many opportunities for cultural education and engagement, although have not found opportunities for elders to teach Peer Navigators culturally significant educations, although Peer Navigators have attended Equine Therapy, as well as Ledger Art education, and have shared that information with other peers.
Pathways Shelter	We have not yet provided any opportunities in this category. This is something we will bring up during a Town Hall meeting and discuss with participants to gauge their interest.
Wambli Ska	We offer traditional Tues and Thurs programs to the public. If an agency wants a private class or workshop, we oblige.

Journey On We do provide information on the activities that wanbli ska is doing and we can transport there as well and if would like us to hang out with them as well.

What Education and Employment agencies and or services does your organization connect youth with?

Family Connections We currently work with Anita at McKinney Vento RCAS to first engage/reengage with education, as well as Career Learning Center. We work with Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, South Dakota Department of Labor, People Ready, and Western Dakota Tech for assistance and referral.

Pathways Shelter Pathways has a close partnership with Yankton's DLR office. We are working on installing an "office" area in the transitional home that will give all participants access to a computer. The DLR can connect participants with employment or education opportunities. b) Pathways has a partnership with Yankton School District that provides Pathways' participants (any youth enrolled in the school district) access to a laptop as needed. It must be used for school work, however. This was made possible through a grant the McKinney-Vento liaison was awarded.

Wambli Ska We currently work with Anita at McKinney Vento RCAS to first engage/reengage with education and Career Learning Center. We work with Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, South Dakota Department of Labor, Job Corp, Oglala Lakota College, Lakota Immersion School, Oceti Sakowin Academy and we have an on-site k-12 homeschool, plus daily tutoring.

Journey On we work with with the circle as well as I have made contact with Anita at McKinney vento, as well as provide transportation to school, and to dept of labor as well. We also just got into working with kids at the arise center 1 hour a week.

How can your organization improve Education and Employment Opportunities for youth? What are the action steps and time line to reach your goal?

Family Connections Where education is concerned, we feel like we are at a good starting point, employment as well- other than continuing to build relationships in the private sector, and educational opportunities is always the goal.

Pathways Shelter Instead of duplicating services, we would like to incentivize more participants to connect with DLR. There are so many beneficial programs. It can be a challenge to convince participants that it would be a good idea to at least set up an initial meeting. We have found that follow-up is difficult, as sometimes participants aren't very motivated to respond to DLR.

Wambli Ska Advocate for more culturally responsive education, which we do ad infinitum. Additionally, its tough considering we are native led and 98%of our youth are as well. The discrimination, etc that we have dealt with for generations still exist. RCSD is a school to prison pipeline for our Indigenous youth. This is a governmental hurdle for us, and I would surmise that it is NOT a hurdle for the non Indigenous agencies.

Journey On During outreach we ask the out relative what there interested in as well has what are they wanting to do in our community, and ask them based on their thoughts on how things work for them. Its in their hands we wants what's best for the youth.

Is your organization open extended hours evenings and weekends?

Family Connections Although the City is taking it's good old time getting our final occupancy complete- we have staff available 7 days per week, with extended evening and weekend hours, and have not been unavailable any day since October of 2022.

Pathways Shelter Pathways is open 24/7/365. While all staff are not available at all hours, there is always a staff of some sort on duty that is accessible by participants.

Wambli Ska Yes and no. Our cultural activities that the youth are involved in often exceed into overnights and weekends. There is a live in person on site, though, that can always be reached. We need more staff.

Journey On We are open to later hours as we do know kids are out later at night, due to staffing we are right now Monday-friday 8:30-4:30 weekends off We are working on plan so we can better assist our youth.

How many days last year was your organization closed?

Family Connections We did not close any days, with the exception of Christmas day 2022, we forwarded calls to a cell phone for any emergency needs.

Pathways Shelter Pathways was not closed on any day in 2022.

Wambli Ska As stated in the last question's answer, Our cultural activities (which is what our grant focuses on) that the youth are involved in often exceed into overnights and weekends. There is a live in person on site, though, that can always be reached. We need more staff. The only actual closed time, where we did not or could not offer services was due to covid. That totals to about 10-12 days. Again, mostly due to short staff.

Journey On Youth Program is open M-F, 8:30 to 4:30. Closed Weekends
Journey on is M-F, 8:30 to 10:30, Saturday 1230-9:30pm. Closed Sunday

How has your organization assisted in training opportunities for YAB leadership development, meeting facilitation, and community concepts and empower YAB to set goals for the future?

Family Connections We continue to invite YAB to any and all leadership and training opportunities in the community, as well as have invited YAB participants to complete outside work opportunities to create agendas, and meeting facilitation, and have provided transportation and support to YAB members to attend different events such as the Homeless Summit, or quarterly meetings so that YAB can fully participate.

Pathways Shelter Pathways simply provided feedback as to what types of training opportunities might be beneficial to not only YAB leadership, but projects as well. Pathways has not been active with YAB, as the YAB is located in Region 1. It has been difficult to communicate with YAB because Zoom is not always available. However, with the added Owl at The Circle, Pathways has had more interaction lately. Most of the training opportunities were facilitated by projects/YAB mentors in Region 1 and SD Housing's team.

Wambli Ska We continue to invite YAB to any and all leadership and training opportunities in the community, as well as have invited YAB participants to complete outside work opportunities to create agendas, and meeting facilitation, and have provided transportation and support to YAB members to attend different events such as the Homeless Summit, or quarterly meetings so that YAB can fully participate.

Journey On	We continue to provided transportation for YAB To any of wanbli ska events with there training, as well encourage them to partake in any of there training or there events they provide.
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How is your organization engaged with the school districts? What percentage of youth not engaged in education has your organization been able to reengage with education?	
Family Connections	We work very closely with McKinney Vento Coordinators to overcome obstacles to education for youth. We have in the past year reengaged three youth with the GED program through RCAS, and one with Career Learning Center GED program, and one with an online diploma course. Currently, in Transitional Housing we have two who are not currently engaged with education, that do not have GED or diplomas, although are working on an education plan/goals with both.
Pathways Shelter	Pathways has a very close partnership with Yankton School District. We are working on developing a stronger partnership with the Gayville-Volin school district, as they have a more flexible approach to learning that may appeal to participants. b) In the short time our TH program has been operating, we have had six households enrolled. 1 of those six households was enrolled in YSD the day they entered TH. Two of the other households dropped out of high school in 12th grade and did not re-enroll in school prior to exiting TH. So, at this point, zero percent of youth not engaged in education has been re-engaged with education.
Wambli Ska	We work with McKinney Vento Coordinators to overcome obstacles to education for youth. We work closely with Lakota Immersion school and our onsite homeschool. We have in the past year reengaged 5 youth back into virtual highschool at Lakota Tech, 3 into GED program, 2 enrolled in college, and at least 90% are engaged in daily tutoring.
Journey On	We work with McKinney vento, as well transportation to and from schools, as well as I have 3 students that reapplied for school to get there high school diploma.

Is your organization working with the Department of Labor? What percentage of youth connected with your program attend at least one Department of Labor appointment, event, or opportunity?	
Family Connections	We work with Department of Labor often, and all youth in Transitional Housing who were not engaged with employment attended four Department of Labor events to date, each.
Pathways Shelter	Yes, Pathways has a very close partnership with the Department of Labor. 100% of participants enrolled in TH attended at least one appointment or activity with DLR.
Wambli Ska	Unanswered
Journey On	The kids that go to the circle are transported to the dept of labor for classes they offer as well go for job training.

Goal #2 Questions

How are you assisting people to make sure they have a house?	
Family Connections	<p>Creating a Housing Stability Plan with each client and their unique circumstances, first identifying barriers to housing and the steps required to mitigate or resolve them, identifying the Clients strengths and steps needed to build on those strengths, identifying available resources and paths to obtaining those resources, documenting all steps client and case manager will take to move forward to permanent housing including both short and long term goals and timelines, and building in flexibility to respond to progress and changing circumstance.</p> <p>Use assessment of strengths/barriers to conduct a client-centered process to set goals related to: Obtaining housing, including resolving tenant screening barriers, Meeting lease requirements, Increasing/maintaining income, obtaining employment, & developing budgeting skills, Acquiring independent living skills that support housing stability, Addressing service needs for mental health or substance abuse issues that may cause barriers to permanent housing, Reducing debt, repairing credit history, increasing independence.</p> <p>Understanding clients have input & final decision-making for all goals, actions steps, and timelines, while utilizing techniques such as Motivational Interviewing that can support the process. Connecting clients to services and resources that support stable housing. Provide tenant education and supports to ensure lease compliance, increasing income should be the central focus if client cannot remain housed with current income. Maximizing the amount of income available for rent to support stable housing by connecting clients with mainstream benefits to help cover household expenses such as food, utilities, and healthcare and identifying community resources that can provide free or low-cost goods and services.</p> <p>Monitor Progress: Periodically review income, housing costs, and other expenses with client. Review current circumstances/any changes with client. Catch problems early on with home visits offering additional supports as circumstances change. Maintain frequent contact with landlord and clients after move-in. Offer peer support groups for clients. Provide continued case management after being housed with "drop-in" hours. not just appointments. ensuring the client knows they are able to continue services after housing.</p>
Pathways Shelter	Whether it is through the Transitional Home or other shelter programs, we allow this age group in any of our programs. We are using RRH funds to place households in apartments/housing
Wambli Ska	<p>We create individualized Housing Stability Plans for each client, taking into account their unique circumstances. This involves identifying the barriers to housing and outlining the necessary steps to overcome them. We also assess the strengths of our clients and work with them to build upon these strengths. Together, we identify available resources and create a roadmap for obtaining those resources.</p> <p>Our plans include both short-term and long-term goals, complete with timelines, and we build in flexibility to respond to progress and changing circumstances. Our clients have the final say in goal-setting, and we use techniques like Motivational Interviewing to support their decision-making. We connect clients to services and resources that support housing stability, provide tenant education, and ensure lease compliance. We prioritize increasing income to support housing by connecting clients with mainstream benefits for household expenses like food, utilities, and healthcare, and we help them find free or low-cost goods and services within the community.</p> <p>We regularly monitor progress by reviewing income, housing costs, and other expenses with our clients and discussing any changes in their circumstances. We offer home visits to provide additional support as circumstances change and maintain frequent contact with both landlords and clients after they've moved into their new homes. We also provide opportunities for peer support through group sessions. Even after our clients secure housing, we continue to offer case management with "drop-in" hours,</p>
Journey On	We provide transportation to the housing authority and to get applications that are offering housing at the time.

What training opportunities are you providing for youth?	
Family Connections	Barriers and obstacles are identified during the creation of a Housing Stability Plan. Life Skills training is based on youth identified barriers, and tailored to youth needs. We create trainings, or find trainings within the community based on youth identified goals.
Pathways Shelter	Pathways currently has the following partnerships for life skills: Cooking and Nutrition, Ready to Rent, and Budgeting. We are continuously searching for volunteers and partnerships to provide other training opportunities.
Wambli Ska	Life skills of learning our ways.
Journey On	Unanswered

How is your program culturally sensitive? Please be specific.

First and foremost, we seek and ask for education from individuals (clients) and community members. Use inclusive language in written and verbal discussions. Ask each client for their preferred pronouns, even when we feel sure of their gender. Understanding that normalizing the concept of preferred pronouns can help communities become more aware and accepting of gender-nonconforming people. Take time to learn proper pronunciation of each person's name. If we're unsure of how to pronounce a name, ask a client to pronounce it for you instead of guessing. Learn cultural customs about eye contact, physical contact and hand gestures as they pertain to any community or group with whom we are working with.

Family Connections Seeking the names of cultural or diversity-related organizations in our community to connect others with or refer clients to for more help. Engage stakeholders that reflect the diversity of the community. Seek education and answers to cultural community question such as: What is the community's history? What traditions and norms exist in the community? What are the community demographics and trends? What are the community's specific interests, needs, and assets? Lay clear ground rules for all participation to establish equality regardless of culture. Get to know our clients as individuals, and how they fit in their culture. Ensure that groups, social events, services and supports are culturally varied and relevant.

Pathways Shelter Support staff and clients in overcoming any cultural biases. a) If a household has a specific request related to their culture, we are able to accommodate. I can't think of a request that we have not allowed. For example, smudging is a common request we receive. As long as everyone in the room/area is okay with it, we allow it. b) We perform an intake survey and exit survey with all participants. We have questions in the survey that ask if the household felt they were able to represent their culture/participate in cultural activities while at Pathways. We also ask for feedback on how this could be improved. To date we have not received feedback asking us to add anything related to culture.

Wambli Ska When you walk into the door of Wambli Ska you're walking into a lifestyle of culture and traditional ways, of hands on teaching lessons stories from our elders, etc.

Journey On Unanswered

How is your program culturally aware?

Family Connections Culture isn't fixed, over time culture changes, and is based not only on community, also individuals- with that, we always ask for education. As an example, we never assume anyone is part of a culture till they identify they are, and then ask if there are any cultural needs we need to address as an organization to ensure that the client or participant feels seen, acknowledged, and treated with equity and equality.

Pathways Shelter When discussing a specific household, we ensure that we are inclusive of all information they have provided to us in conversations. We take their entire background and situation into consideration when discussing their case, while encouraging the households to set their own goals. When setting goals, they must agree to anything that goes into their case plan. We will not force them to do something they don't feel comfortable with (in Transitional Housing).

Wambli Ska We are the culturally based program.

Journey On Unanswered

Do you have Family Therapy?

Family Connections Therapy is offered through various partnerships, and offered if there is a need that is identified as a barrier to housing and the person or household falls within YHDP criteria.

Pathways Shelter We do not offer family therapy in-house, but we are connected with a variety of partners who offer this service that we refer households to if they are interested.

Wambli Ska Therapy is offered through various partnerships, and offered if there is a need that is identified as a barrier to housing and the person or household falls within YHDP criteria. Additionally, we encourage families to come up at 6:00, for our family dinner time. Sharing meals in our culture is medicine/therapy.

Journey On Unanswered

How is your program trauma informed? What training has your staff had in this area?

Family Connections Family Connections Center Inc has had all staff complete TCU Trauma informed curriculum as well as Trauma Informed curriculum created by the Homeless and Housing Resource Center, and utilizes a trauma-informed approach at the Drop-In Center, The Circle, that realizing the prevalence of trauma, recognizing how it affects all individuals involved with the program, organization or system, including its own workforce, resisting re-traumatization, and responds by putting this knowledge into practice. The Drop-In Center, The Circle, utilizes Core Principles of a Trauma-Informed System of Care that include Safety, ensuring physical and emotional safety. Trustworthiness, maintaining appropriate boundaries and making tasks clear. Choice, prioritizing choice and control. Collaboration, maximizing collaboration. Empowerment, prioritizing empowerment and skill-building. The Drop-In Center, The Circle, utilizes the 7 Domains of Trauma-Informed Care: Early screening and comprehensive assessment, Youth driven care and service, Trauma-informed, responsive and educated workforce, Emerging and evidence-informed best practices, Safe and secure environment, Trauma-informed community partnerships, Develop a performance monitoring system to demonstrate what are the outcomes that you are seeking.

Pathways Shelter All Pathways' staff have attended and completed Mental Health First Aid Training.

Wambli Ska Our staff has had training training in aces, youth mental health first aid, Lakota mental health first aid, conflict resolution training pretty much everything that the Rapid City Police Department offers when we do St. outreach. We regularly attend workshop related to trauma informed practices especially those how about intergenerational trauma and will continue taking trainings and professional development for our staff as needed through needs assessments in our community as well as implementing our programs

Journey On Unanswered

Transportation is a big barrier for youth how are you addressing the following barriers to transportation? (No Money, Inaccessible areas of town, acclimate weather, public transportation operating hours)

Family Connections We utilize partners Journey On first, bus passes second (we supply), and staff rides as a last resort, when transportation is needed for obstacles to housing. Same for inaccessible areas of town. Weather conditions are taken into account with the above. When Journey On or Public transportation is not available, we utilize staff transportation as a last resort.

Pathways Shelter For all of these, Pathways offers a daily (Monday through Friday) transportation route that runs four times daily. Every stopping location is within 10-minute walking distance from a variety of resources. If someone is unable to walk due to a disability, we will accommodate that individual by providing direct transportation. For TH participants, we will provide direct transportation, or if staff is not available, do our best to find accommodations.

Wambli Ska At the beginning of the grant, this was our system:
No money - We utilize partners Journey On first, bus passes second (we supply), and staff rides as a last resort, when transportation is needed for obstacles to housing.
Certain areas of town are inaccessible - same as above
Walking in hot and cold conditions - weather conditions are taken into account with the above
Public Transportation - When Journey On or Public transportation is not available, we utilize staff transportation as a last resort.

Journey On This system has not been successful. We have purchased a van to take care of these barriers as best we can now.
Unanswered

Food scarcity is a big barrier. How do you individualize food boxes? How do you address transportation to get food assistance? I

Family Connections We give clients the opportunity to select food provided, to a degree. Food support is based on a seven day need- and 7 breakfast options, 7 lunch options, 7 dinner options, and 7 snack options are offered based on availability in the food pantry and Feeding South Dakota supplies. If it's coming from our food pantry, delivery has been an option, when there's no other transportation source- when it comes to mobile food pantries such as Feeding South Dakota, we refer to Journey On.

Pathways Shelter We currently do not offer individualized food boxes. For our TH, there is a community kitchen. Pathways provides weekly essentials for the group, which come from input received by participants. If participants would like to purchase their own food using SNAP or cash, there is a weekly time scheduled to go to the store.

Wambli Ska We give clients the opportunity to select food provided. We give enough for 3 days, they can come back every 3 days. Either we provide transp, or JO does.

Journey On We provide snack bags as well for the weekend we also give them enough for the weekend, we also utilize the wambli ska center for the food pantry as well as the circle

Parental support for young parents is a big need. How do you address the following needs?: (Food shortages, family therapy, parenting skills training, mental health needs, cooking classes)

Family Connections Food shortages -We have a full food pantry available.
Family therapy - As long as head of household falls within the YHDP age, we have funding for family therapy.
Parenting skills training -We have partnered with various parenting education and supports trainings nonprofits, and have not referred anyone to this point, although have the partnerships to refer when needed.
Mental health needs - we have funding and partnerships in place for mental health needs with Healing Trauma Therapy and YFS counselors.
Cooking classes -We have been offering weekly cooking classes to Transitional Housing participants, and will expand to anyone who falls within YHDP ages at the Drop-In Center.

Pathways Shelter	<p>a) Food shortages -YHDP funding allows for weekly grocery purchasing. Even if participants do not have individual funds to purchase groceries, donations we receive from the community are ample in ensuring that everyone has food to eat.</p> <p>b) Family therapy - Again, Pathways does not offer family therapy in-house, but we can connect households with partners if desired.</p> <p>c) Parenting skills training - Same with family therapy, Pathways has partnerships with local agencies that offer parenting classes.</p> <p>d) Mental health needs - Same with the above, Pathways does not offer mental health services. However, we are close partners with Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health Services and Horizon Health Care who offer these services.</p> <p>e) Cooking classes - Pathways partners with South Dakota State University to offer cooking and nutrition classes. We are hoping to start a class solely for YHDP aged households that will take place in the transitional home. This is at the request of participants.</p>
Wambli Ska	<p>o Food shortages We have a full food pantry available.</p> <p>o Family therapy – As long as head of household falls within the YHDP age, we have funding for family therapy.</p> <p>o Parenting skills training traditional Tuesdays and Thursdays with control lessons regalia making arts and language teaching hand games drum lesson singing this again this goes back to the lifestyle they aren't necessarily classes work or workshops I don't know it's family teaching young mothers how to nurture love feed and be around the cultural language songs and prayers elders will mentor young parenting teens immersing them in the lifestyle of the traditional lifestyle and how it is to care for a child not only individually but as a village because that is how we take care of our people..we have partnered with various parenting education and supports trainings nonprofits, and have not referred anyone to this point, although have the partnerships to refer when needed.</p> <p>o Mental health needs: we have partnerships in place with other agencies while we haven't referred anybody to them yet we prefer to do this work in house with culturally based programs such as Oyae Luta and Greta Plains. additionally we now have a contract with South Dakota School of Nursing the Native American program to have their CHW's here for four hours per week to assist in this area</p> <p>o Cookine classes Youth participate DAILY in cookine</p>
Journey On	Unanswered

There is a lack of independent living/transitional ling facilities that take children. How do you help these young adults?	
Family Connections	By first completing a Coordinated Entry Assessment, and completing a Housing Stability Plan, qualifying for any mainline supports, and seeking housing solutions that meet family needs, such as OneHeart, Cornerstone, Pennington County, etc, to see what housing options best fit the family needs.
Pathways Shelter	Our TH accepts households with children. Our Tier 2 program also offers 8 rooms for households with children. However, Pathways is not established to be able to serve independent minors. For situations like these, we are able to connect these individuals with agencies in Sioux Falls where they can find appropriate assistance.
Wambli Ska	By first completing a Coordinated Entry Assessment, and completing a Housing Stability Plan, qualifying for any mainline supports, and seeking housing solutions that meet family needs, such as OneHeart, Cornerstone, Pennington County, etc, to see what housing options best fit the family needs. We we work to identify other family members in the miner's life that may be able to care for them we look towards family reunification and try to keep they diversion out of the system that is a last resort.
Journey On	Unanswered

What life skills training opportunities do you provide for youth? Is there a data base? What programs do you offer?	
Family Connections	We utilize, and customize PEATC Life skills check list, to help identify needs/goals based on client response. The check list isn't all encompassing, although gives good information for basic skills needed, and create a personalized plan around findings. No data base- just personal client files.
Pathways Shelter	The assessment goes through and identify strengths and opportunities for personal skills, such as personal care, emergency/safety skills, nutrition/dietary skills, money management/fiscal training, healthcare skills, sexual health, interpersonal/social skills, kitchen skills, laundry skills, basic household skills, and community skills.
Wambli Ska	Cooking and Nutrition, Ready to Rent, and Budgeting. We have an internal database, but nothing is posted publicly.
Journey On	Wambli Ska works as a family model. Youth are mentored through any needed life skills determined by needs assessment. Cooking, cleaning, financial literacy, self care, drivers ed, job readiness, parenting etc...
Journey On	Unanswered

Goal #3 Questions

Is C.E.S advertised enough?	
Family Connections	From our perspective, no. CES only works as well as the awareness needed to access it.
Pathways Shelter	Our team knows where to look and obviously we work within CES almost every day. After asking our participants, most people don't know what CES is unless they have already used it. Partner agencies are using CES more often as word continues to spread about it. However, I feel it could still be advertised more prevalently in public areas (grocery stores, hotels, laundromats, etc.).
Wambli Ska	No
Journey On	Unanswered

Where is C.E.S marketed? Are these places well used by the youth? How accessible is this marketing to youth?	
Family Connections	I can't answer where CES is advertised, other than South Dakota Housing Development Authority website, 211, and the Homeless Coalition. I think we need to also add the advertisement to all CoC participating service provider websites with a concise advert.
Pathways Shelter	I believe, at least in Yankton, that CES marketing materials are mainly posted in buildings where social service offices are located. Youth are typically not in these areas unless they are in a household where their parents are seeking assistance. This is not accessible to youth on their own.
Wambli Ska	A majority of our youth would not access places like VOA or other CES places they also would not be likely to utilize the phone system for CES.
Journey On	Unanswered

Where are the access points for C.E.S. and how do youth, service providers, and families become aware of these points?	
Family Connections	They are on the SDHDA website, although, again I think they should be on all service provider websites, and local government pages. Wambli Ska, VOA, and The Circle are the region 1 sites I am aware of.
Pathways Shelter	In Yankton, the advertised access point is the Rural Office of Community Services. However, Pathways will perform SPDATs as needed.
Wambli Ska	They are on the SDHDA website, although, again I think they should be on all service provider websites, and local government pages. Wambli Ska, VOA, and The Circle are the region 1 sites I am aware of.
Journey On	Unanswered

What support is provided to Youth when they answer the CES questions? What is your process in completing the CES interview?	
Family Connections	CES follows a guided question/answer format to arrive at an acuity score. Supports and resources are then proposed based on each individual and family unique needs. Case Conferencing is also done with participating service providers to look for additional supports.
Pathways Shelter	The SPDAT is typically performed by the case manager who will be working with that household, however, any of Pathways' FT staff can perform the SPDAT. We offer an explanation of questions if anything is unclear to participants. SPDATs may be performed over the phone or in person, depending on the desires and abilities of the household. It is always an option for the household to refuse to answer a question if they do not feel comfortable answering it.
Wambli Ska	CES follows a guided question/answer format to arrive at an acuity score. Supports and resources are then proposed based on each individual and family unique needs. Case Conferencing is also done with participating service providers to look for additional supports.
Journey On	Unanswered

How do you form a connection with the youth before filling out the CES form? If the questions are intimidating, how do you create a safe and comfortable environment for the interview?	
Family Connections	Typically, we do some ice breaker conversations, introductions, explain more fully what CES is, what to expect during questions, and how CES works/assists. We review confidentiality, and build trust before conducting the questions, and also offer privacy discussing personal matters.
Pathways Shelter	When it comes time to perform the SPDAT, staff have typically interacted with the participant on multiple occasions. It is in our organization's values to treat people with respect and meet them at their level. SPDATs are performed in a confidential space so no outside parties can hear a participant's answers. Typically we have snacks/beverages (coffee, water, tea) on hand to offer to participants.
Wambli Ska	Usually, we initiate the session with icebreaker conversations and introductions. We provide a comprehensive explanation of CES, covering what clients can anticipate during the question-and-answer process and how CES operates to provide assistance. We emphasize the importance of confidentiality and the establishment of trust before delving into the questions, while also ensuring privacy when discussing personal matters. This approach helps ensure a comfortable and open environment for our clients.
Journey On	Unanswered

Does C.E.S. have a follow up discussion form or survey about the CES process and/or interviewer's approach?	
Family Connections	I know there are surveys, not sure who or how they are conducted.
Pathways Shelter	I am not aware of an official "CES follow-up survey", but Pathways' intake and exit surveys provide an opportunity for participants to offer input on the SPDAT process.
Wambli Ska	I know there are surveys, not sure who or how they are conducted.
Journey On	Unanswered

What type of follow up is provided to the youth who completes the CES interview/form? How often do they reach back out to provide priority or opening updates?

Family Connections	If clients wish to continue with case management, housing stability plan, and supports, typically we try to have frequent case management follow ups, if not in stable housing, we prioritize weekly meetings- as stabilization is reached, we follow client centered contact- based on client goals. Some clients need or request more frequent contact, while others need less. We still try to touch base often. Referrals for housing come through SDHDA- openings in housing that are part of CES are updated when there is an active referral. Other potential community available housing is updated as they become known to our agency.
Pathways Shelter	Staff will provide participants with access to other helpful resources while they wait for the CES referral to come in. It is usually a very quick process, but daily contact is held until services can be provided.
Wambli Ska	We typically align our case management, housing stability plan, and support services with the preferences of our clients. If a client wishes to continue with these services, we aim for frequent case management follow-ups, especially for those not yet in stable housing. As stabilization is achieved, we transition to a client-centered approach based on their individual goals. Some clients may require or request more frequent contact, while others prefer less frequent interactions. Nevertheless, we strive to maintain regular communication. Referrals for housing primarily originate from SDHDA, and we update the availability of housing options linked to CES when an active referral is in progress. Additionally, we keep our clients informed about other potential housing options within the community as we become aware of them through our agency.
Journey On	Unanswered

Goal #5 Questions

What procedures are set in place to make sure community projects or youth/young adults service providers are completing relevant training?	
Family Connections	SDHDA shares opportunities, as well as HUD TA, and those trainings are given priority. Additional trainings that are offered in the community are typically shared between projects.
Pathways Shelter	I am not aware of procedures set in place other than projects participating in trainings at quarterly Consortium meetings. I believe Region 1 has held several in-person trainings where Zoom was not an option, and it was not realistic for Pathways to attend (which is completely understandable and not expected on our end). I think Pathways can be more diligent in creating a training schedule and including aspects that would be beneficial for working with the YHDP population.
Wambli Ska	SDHDA shares opportunities, as well as HUD TA, and those trainings are given priority. Additional trainings that are offered in the community are typically shared between projects.
Journey On	Unanswered

What types of training do partners participate in?	
Family Connections	We have completed trainings that are relevant to supporting youth such as Trauma Informed Care, Positive Youth Development, Landlord Engagement, Narcan Training, HMIS Training and Client Entry, Operations related to LGBTQ+ Safe Spaces and Unhoused Assistance for marginalized populations, Substance Abuse Prevention & De-escalation, Operations related to LGBTQ+ Safe Spaces and programs; how to network with community partners and those in other states, Review of transportation program with 2-1-1, Human Trafficking, Youth Trafficking, Consent with Youth regarding care, lifestyle choices, etc., Community Education surrounding Domestic Violence, Community Partnerships, Youth Advocacy, Training regarding Well-child checks, immunizations, overcoming objections to vaccination, and education on disease outbreaks, Strategies for reducing, mitigating, and responding to behavioral health emergencies involving individuals experiencing homelessness. Best practices for effectively responding to crisis situations. Community examples of cross-sector coordination to improve health outcomes, and offer tangible approaches to ensuring comprehensive, culturally responsive services, McKinney Vento capabilities for youth, Being a safe space/working with unhoused marginalized youth, Education on Adverse Childhood Experiences and how they can contribute to negative behaviors/neglect/distress, Education on Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence situations with clients and how to support them, Review of Coordinated Entry System and how to document using it for youth, Crisis Response and De-escalating when working with unhoused or emotional/behaviorally affected populations in response situations.
Pathways Shelter	Currently, Pathways staff attend rolling Mental Health First Aid trainings as they are available. Staff must complete these trainings once every two years. Other trainings we receive are on an "as-they-come" basis. Yankton does not typically have a lot of robust trainings held in-town that are geared towards social work. However, when they come up we encourage staff to attend. One issue is that trainings are often expensive, and Pathways simply doesn't have a large budget for training opportunities. b) Pathways holds monthly all-staff meetings where we incorporate an educational or learning opportunity. This may be an informative session where a partner agency presents to our group about their agency, or perhaps an entity will provide a formal training to our team. One issue is that these meetings are only 1.5 hours, so more intensive trainings are not possible during this time.
Wambli Ska	We've completed various training programs relevant to supporting youth, covering a wide range of essential topics. These include Trauma Informed Care, Positive Youth Development, Landlord Engagement, Narcan Training, HMIS Training, and Client Entry. We've also been trained in operations related to LGBTQ+ Safe Spaces and Unhoused Assistance for marginalized populations, Substance Abuse Prevention, and De-escalation. Our training extends to areas such as networking with community partners, 2-1-1's transportation program review, Human Trafficking, Youth Trafficking, Consent discussions with youth regarding care and lifestyle choices. We've also received education on Adverse Childhood Experiences and their impact on behavior, as well as training on how to respond to crises, especially those involving individuals experiencing homelessness. Our training emphasizes best practices for crisis response and highlights real-life examples of cross-sector coordination for improved health outcomes. Additionally, we've gained knowledge in supporting clients facing Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence situations and how to document using the Coordinated Entry System for youth.
Journey On	Unanswered

How often are these training sessions done?	
Family Connections	Training is completed and prioritized based on availability and relevance to serving youth.
Pathways Shelter	Monthly/as needed/as they are available
Wambli Ska	Training is completed and prioritized based on availability and relevance to serving youth.
Journey On	Unanswered

What community resources or agencies focus on supporting youth/young adults? Where is this list? Is it easily accessible to youth?	
Family Connections	Like most nonprofits, we have our own list, manually update, or seek 211 for resources we may not be aware of.
Pathways Shelter	Yankton does not have many resources solely focused on supporting youth/young adults. There is not, at least to my knowledge, an existing list of what resources are available. Pathways would like to put this list together.
Wambli Ska	Like most nonprofits, we have our own list, manually update, or seek 211 for resources we may not be aware of.
Journey On	Unanswered

How can other businesses help support their local youth? How is this marketed or shared in the community? Who knows about the YAB or what they do? Who knows about the YHDP projects or what they do?	
Family Connections	I still believe our best marketing comes from the agencies who serve youth and it would be amazing to have a concise advert that could be shared with SDHDA partners. Pathways, I feel, has a need to educate the general population about HUD's definition of youth. When I speak about the youth population during community presentations, attendees are often shocked to hear that we are referring to 18-24 years olds (for Pathways' services). It's purely an educational factor. If people are thinking of 18-24 year olds as "adults", they don't have the compassion they might show towards those who are under the age of 18. If we can help facilitate compassion and understanding, it may lead towards local businesses offering mentorship opportunities/work opportunities.
Pathways Shelter	b) Pathways services have been promoted via social media, local paper, radio, and word of mouth. I am willing to bet that if I asked someone from the general public what "YAB" stood for, they would not be able to guess correctly. They may have heard of YHDP from a presentation or one of our publications. More awareness is needed.
Wambli Ska	I still believe our best marketing comes from the agencies who serve youth and it would be amazing to have a concise advert that could be shared with SDHDA partners.
Journey On	Unanswered

How are schools involved in YHDP or YAB work? How are students connected to CES access points? How are they connected to other resources?	
Family Connections	Primarily with relationships through McKinney Vento Coordinators. We have an established relationship with RCAS and Douglas McKinney Vento programs.
Pathways Shelter	Schools are not specifically involved with YHDP or YAB, but we are in close communication with the counselors'/principals' offices of all schools, including the McKinney-Vento liaison. They are aware of Pathways' YHDP programs.
Wambli Ska	Primarily with relationships through McKinney Vento Coordinators. We have an established relationship with RCAS and Douglas McKinney Vento programs.
Journey On	Unanswered