



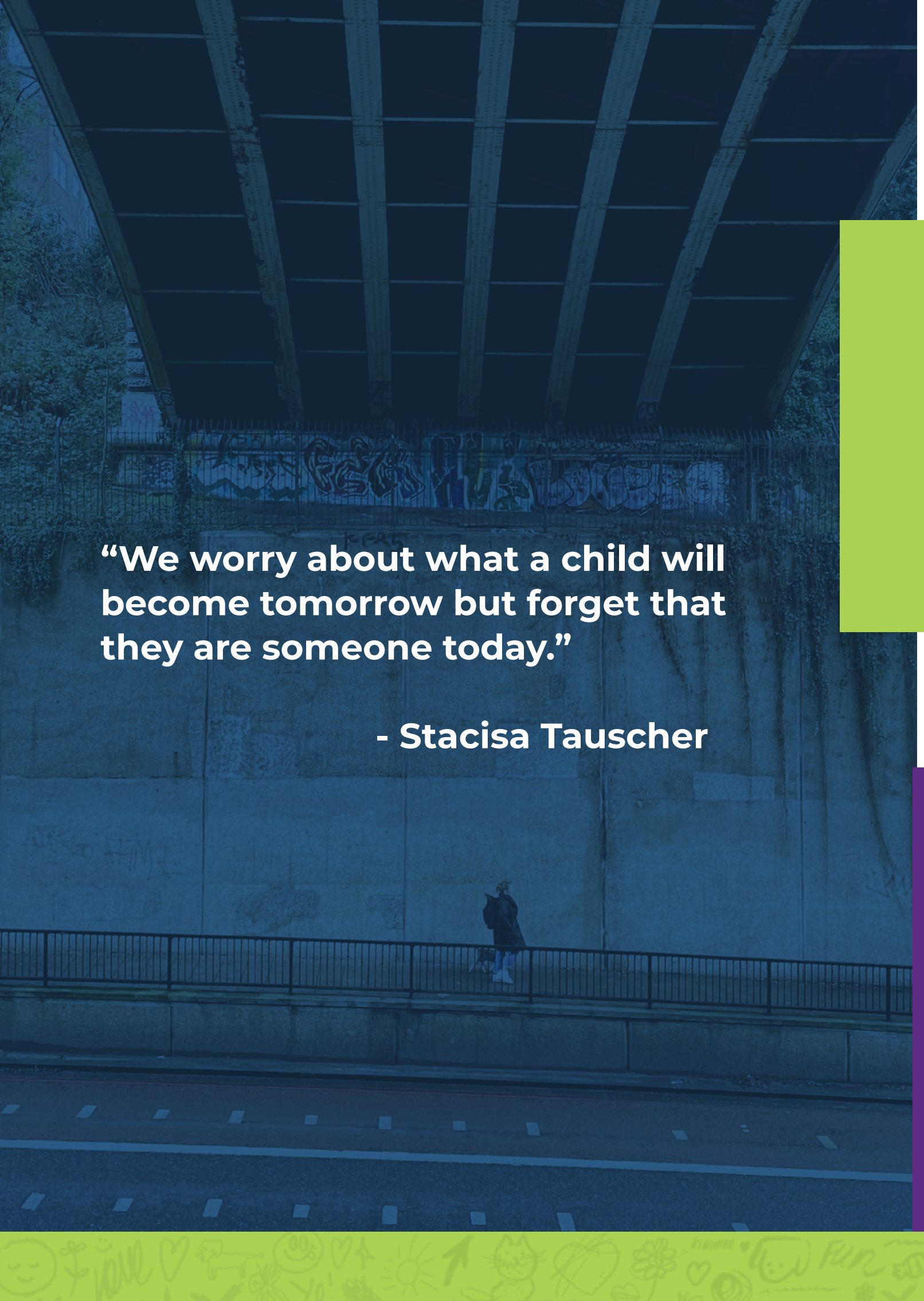
Fostering a Community of **B**elonging  
by **E**mpowering and **T**rusting **Y**outh

Holistic Community Care Plan to

# BET on **Y**OUth

WA 503 - Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness





**“We worry about what a child will become tomorrow but forget that they are someone today.”**

**- Stacisa Tauscher**



# INTRODUCTION

Pierce County is set to make a significant impact in addressing youth and young adult (YYA) homelessness. As the Collaborative Applicant for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP), Pierce County supports the Youth Action Board (YAB) and YHDP award recipients by guiding planning efforts, overseeing implementation, and ensuring program outcomes align with priorities identified by the YAB.

We are approaching the integration of various initiatives; the 100-Day Challenge, YHDP, and Coordinated Entry revamp into one larger initiative to prevent and end youth homelessness in Pierce County. BET on YOUth is created with intentionality, strategy, and deep mindfulness of our community's capacity. Rather than treating these efforts as separate or siloed initiatives, we are deliberately aligning them to reinforce and complement one another — maximizing impact while minimizing duplication. By blending the energy and innovation of the 100-Day Challenge with the long-term planning and funding structures of YHDP, and grounding both in a more youth-centered and high functioning Coordinated Entry system, we're creating a cohesive, collaborative framework that uses our limited time and resources wisely. This strategic coordination ensures that all efforts are pulling in the same direction toward the shared goal of ending youth homelessness in our community. The Holistic Community Care Plan to BET on YOUth is a collaborative initiative in Pierce County to prevent and end youth homelessness.



# SIGNATURES



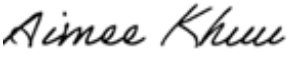






As creators of **Fostering a Community of Belonging by Empowering and Trusting Youth (BET on YOUth) Coordinated Community Plan**, we are committed to implementing this plan to end youth homelessness in Pierce County.



 <b>*Ava Ka'auamo</b> Regional Housing Liaison DCYF (Public Welfare Agency)	 <b>*Carlos Garcia</b> Co-Chair Continuum of Care	 <b>*Cynthia Stewart</b> Co-Chair Continuum of Care
 <b>*Devon Isakson</b> Social Services Supervisor Pierce County (Local Government Agency)	 <b>*John Barbee</b> Community Services Manager Pierce County (Local Government Agency)	 <b>*Emil Floresca</b> Program Specialist 3 Pierce County (Local Government Agency)
 <b>*McKinley McPheeters</b> Program Specialist 1 Pierce County (Local Government Agency)	 <b>*Alexis Van Guilder</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board	 <b>*Chelaia Taylor</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board
 <b>*Chloe Matsunaga</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board	 <b>*Eve Holt</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board	 <b>*Jozlyn Dienstman</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board

\*indicates required signatory







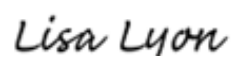
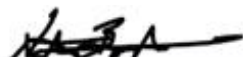

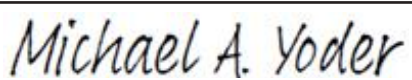
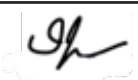

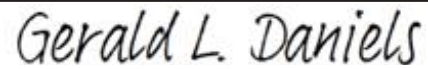


 <b>*Robert Lackey</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board	 <b>*Sautiana Neblett</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board	 <b>*Tristan Pedroza</b> YAB Member Youth Action Board
<b>Ahney King</b> Carelon	 <b>Aimee Khuu</b> Tacoma Community House	 <b>Amber Rowe Mosley</b> Seattle YMCA
 <b>Alexandra Lyyski</b> Puyallup School District	 <b>Bethany Wecks</b> Olive Crest	 <b>Brandon Vuylsteke</b> Harbor Hope Center
 <b>Carmen Moore</b> Pierce County	 <b>Chiponery Lewis</b> MDC	 <b>Demetrius Douglas-Davis</b> REACH
 <b>Elaina Darrington</b> REACH	 <b>Jenice Crews</b> Family Promise of Pierce County	 <b>Jessie Thompson</b> Associated Ministries

\*indicates required signatory





 <b>Rodney Robinson</b> Community Member	 <b>Scott Schubert</b> MDC	 <b>Tim Fairley</b> Tacoma Resources & Outreach
 <b>Zhane Mcmillar-Simmons</b> Valeo	 <b>Dionne Jacobson</b> St. Vincent de Paul Tacoma	 <b>Janette Daniels</b> Brotherhood RISE Center
 <b>Lisa Lyon</b> LCSNW	 <b>Nathaniel Bonton</b> Pierce County	 <b>Rhonda Williams</b> Leadership & Organizational Management
 <b>Michael A. Yoder</b> Associated Ministries	 <b>Daniel Johnson</b> Harbor Hope Center	 <b>Tracy Peacock</b> St. Vincent de Paul Tacoma
 <b>Gerald L. Daniels</b> Brotherhood RISE Center		



---

# VISION, MISSION, & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

---

Our community envisions a youth-led and healing-centered society where every young person has access to safe, stable, and supportive housing as a basic human right. We will achieve this through an empowered and accountable community collaborative and youth-led approach, rooted in lived experience, community representation, acceptance, accessibility, and harm reduction. We strive not only to achieve and maintain functional zero but to ensure that young people have the holistic support, resources, and opportunities they need to thrive not just survive.

We believe in creating a collaborative approach, youth led plan, accountable to each other and to the youth and young adults impacted by the proposed system response. We are focused on achieving and maintaining Functional Zero for YYA houselessness. Our community abides by the following guiding principles as set by the Youth Action Board:



## Fair and Just

We provide care and individual support to help people move towards success by recognizing root causes of homelessness. We don't blame people for their circumstances. A system that is fair and just leads to less homelessness for all.



## Housing First

We believe everybody deserves a place to live and that having a place to live is the foundation to ease stress, offer hope and achieve mental stability.




## Positive Youth Development

We provide services with Positive Youth Development (PYD) at their core. PYD creates trust and confidence and is healing to YYA who may have had negative experiences accessing services.



## Trauma Informed Care

Our system will approach YYA asking, "how are you doing today?" Our services won't see YYA as too fragile or difficult to work with, instead they will give YYA the tools they need to succeed in their lives and heal from the trauma they have experienced.



**“Giving everyone an option, we are here to give everyone a voice...a variety of experience with different needs and providing everyone with an opportunity, despite the deficits.”**

**– Youth Action Board member**



### **Family Engagement When YYA Want It**

We believe in supporting YYA to connect with their families if that is what they want. We support YYA to cultivate community in non-traditional ways and are flexible about YYA changing their minds about family engagement.



### **Youth Choice and Individualized, YYA-Driven Support**

No one knows a situation better than the person experiencing it. Service providers do not need to “save” YYA. Case managers and support staff will partner with YYA to give them autonomy, control, and a sense of responsibility so that they can make good choices throughout their lives.

# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT PARTNERSHIP



**“[YYA] need to be involved in program design and building authentic relationships.”**

**– Community Partner**



welcoming  
relatable advocacy Leadership  
Empathetic Understanding  
Accessible Representation  
Voice fair and just  
Unity community engagement impact  
Understanding youth  
sharpen skills solutions  
empowerment Collaboration

### Statement from Pierce County Human Services:

Pierce County is deeply committed to the mission of the YAB, recognizing that the success of YHDP depends on the active involvement of individuals and groups with lived experience. Every strategy in this plan is grounded in the expertise of those directly impacted, as well as organizations dedicated to advancing the needs of target populations. Pierce County will continue to prioritize the voices of people with lived experience in all decision-making and implementation efforts.

### Statement from YAB:

The Pierce County YAB is committed to working in partnership with all community partners by actively engaging in BET on YOUth through implementation and monitoring. The presence of adult allies in youth homelessness is crucial in fostering collaboration and change. These allies are not only responsible for initial collaboration but also committed to maintaining that collaborative space throughout the program's duration. As allies in collaboration, it is essential to create opportunities for young people to acquire all the necessary information to effectively engage. Intentional, representative, and connected recruitment is vital. Specific integration into all aspects of program existence is equally important. Most importantly, compensation for youth time and expertise should be provided, accessible, and prioritized.

# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT RECRUITMENT

Pierce County and the Pierce County Youth Action Board (YAB) are committed to ongoing growth, retention, and sustainability of membership. Currently, the YAB has 19 member seats. To be eligible to join the YAB prospective members must meet all the following eligibility requirements:



## Age

**Youth and young adults (YYA) between 12 and 24 years old**

Members who turn 25 during their term may be eligible to transition to other groups, such as the CoC Lived Experience Advisory Board, or take on a mentoring role.



## Experience

**Current or past experience with homelessness**

Current or past experience with homelessness or housing instability.

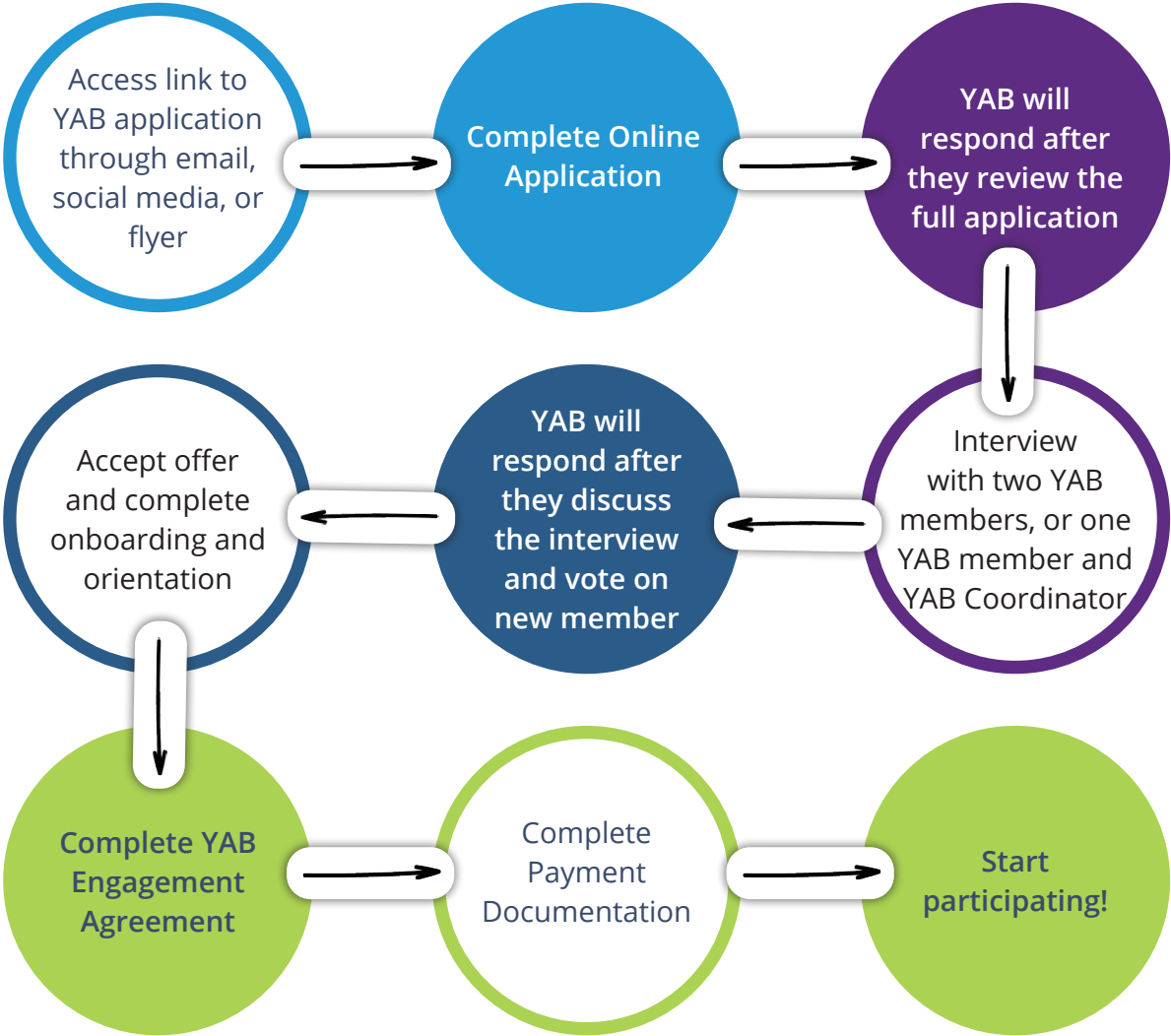


## Local

**Reside within the geographic boundaries of Pierce County, WA**

YAB recruitment is conducted primarily through word of mouth by YAB members and youth-serving organizations. Methods of recruitment include outreach and partnerships to culturally specific organizations, service providers, and educational partners through email, social media, flyers, and social media campaigns. Recruitment is based on available seats with added opportunities based on funding and membership fluctuation. Prospective members come from all over Pierce County and have different backgrounds. The YAB plans to build on this strong foundation moving forward.

Prospective YAB members complete the following steps before joining the YAB:



YAB members are expected to actively participate in weekly meetings and engage thoughtfully in conversations that contribute to the group’s mission. Members serve as advocates and ambassadors for their community, representing youth voices and concerns in a respectful and proactive manner. They are also responsible for attending CoC and YYAC (Youth and Young Adult Committee) meetings, and for reporting back to the YAB with key discussion points to ensure strong communication and collaboration. All members are required to comply with the host organization’s Policies and Procedures to maintain a respectful, safe, and effective working environment.

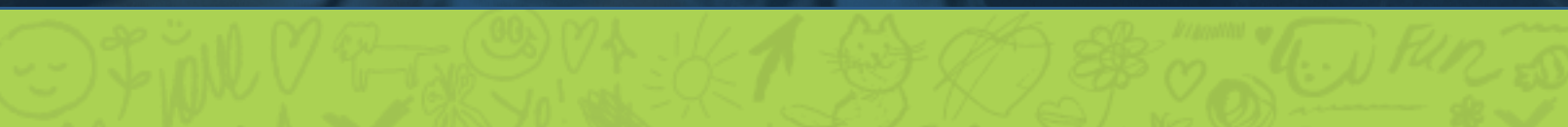


# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT INTEGRATION

YYA integration into the YHDP will be essential to ensuring that the voices and experiences of YYAs are centered in the design and delivery of services. The YAB will play a critical role by utilizing community data and direct feedback from YYA to identify the most pressing needs within the community. This informed approach will allow the YAB to pinpoint gaps in services, advocate for necessary resources, and ensure that youth-driven perspectives shape the response to youth homelessness in meaningful and practical ways.

To support continuous improvement, the YAB will collaborate with programs and organizations to develop targeted improvement projects aimed at enhancing services and support systems for YYA. Using a multi-method feedback system, the YAB will be able to raise and address concerns related to program performance and implementation. Additionally, they will monitor YHDP-awarded projects to ensure accountability, track progress, and provide feedback that will guide future decision-making. The YAB will also contribute to the development of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) plans, reinforcing a culture of learning and adaptability across all funded initiatives.

As active members of an oversight committee, YAB members will bring a youth-centered lens to every aspect of the YHDP process. They will be involved in reviewing and refining key operational tools such as policies and procedures, training manuals, curriculum, and job descriptions. Their involvement will help ensure that services are effective and responsive to the realities of youth experiencing homelessness. By integrating youth into oversight and decision-making, the YHDP will build a foundation for sustainable, youth-informed systems change.



# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT COMPENSATION

Members of the YAB are compensated for their time engaging in CoC work at a rate of \$20/hour, whether that is in person or online, paid biweekly. YAB members are paid through direct deposit or standard check depending on their preferences. To be eligible for compensation, YAB members must complete the following forms::



**Membership Application**



**Direct Deposit or Payment Documentation**



**YAB Engagement Agreement**

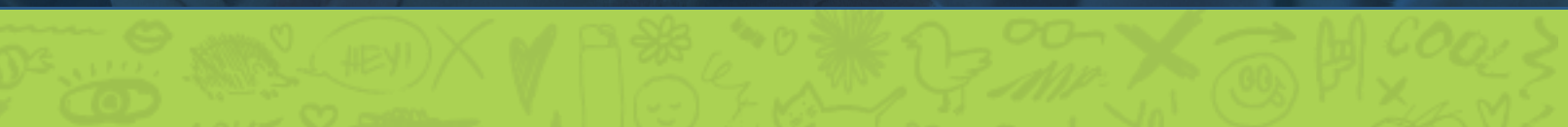


**W-9**

To facilitate completion of these documents, Pierce County Human Services (PCHS) staff makes them available online or in person to fill in and sign. Prospective YAB members are expected to complete both the Membership Application and Member Agreement before attending meetings and the PCHS staff are tasked with follow up communication to assist with any questions or concerns.

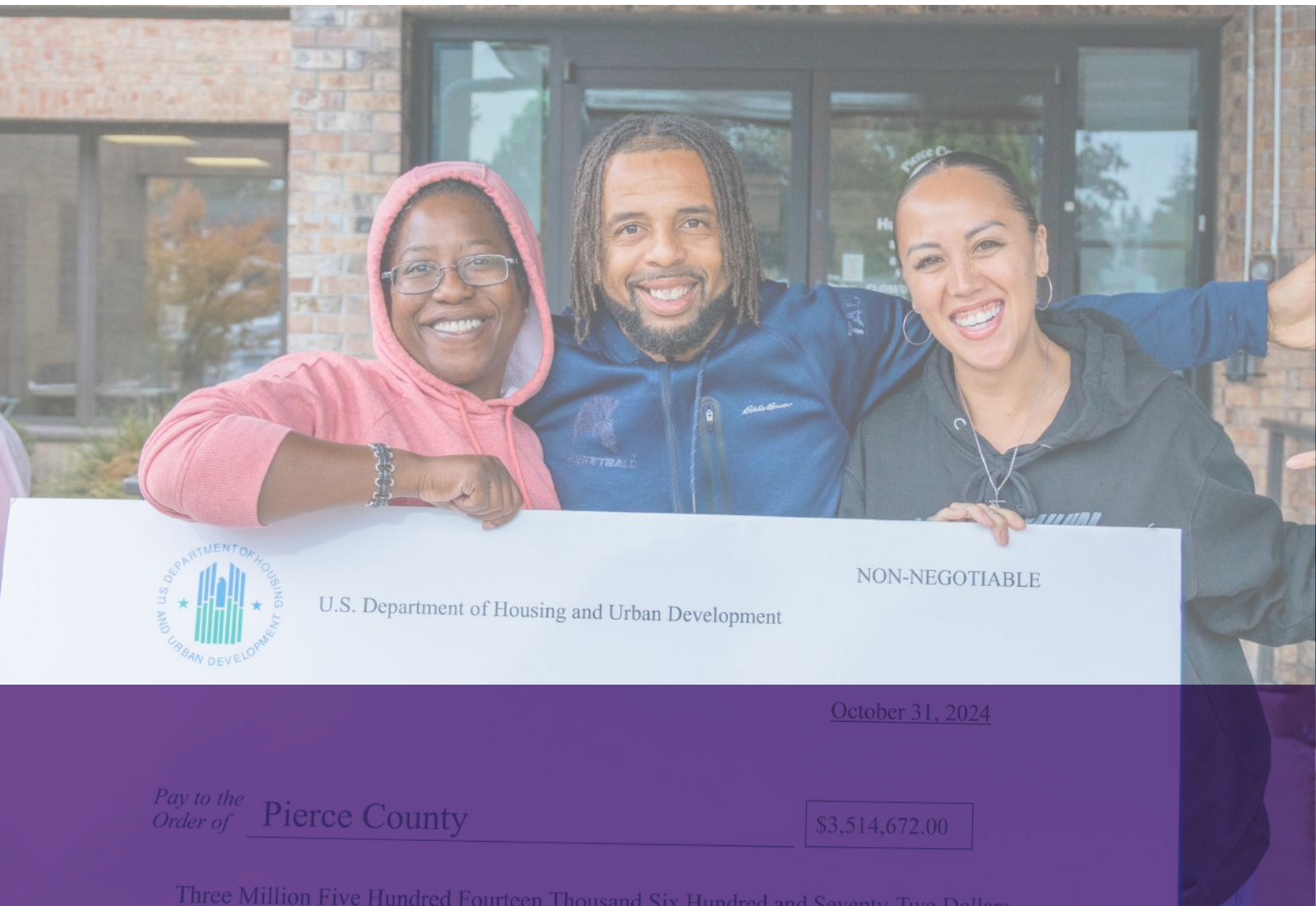
YAB who supported YHDP project planning and selection are paid from the YHDP Round 8 Planning Grant. YYA who participated in listening sessions and focus groups who are not YAB members are compensated by a partner organization supporting the YAB.

Given the geographic scope of the award area, the CoC reduces barriers to participation by offering a virtual meeting platform. YAB members are expected to be in person at least once a month. When meeting onsite, transportation needs are supported by a partner organization for rides to/from meetings or events.



Ongoing work on YHDP implementation and CQI will become part of the YAB's consistent contribution. The YAB will secure funding through a multifaceted approach to ensure sustainability and support for its initiatives. Primarily, YAB will receive foundational support from its sponsoring organization, which provides administrative backing and operational resources. Additionally, the YAB plans to pursue a PCHS grant in 2026, a highly competitive funding opportunity offering up to \$100,000 to support initiatives led by people with lived experience.

To diversify its funding base, YAB will actively seek private funding and philanthropic contributions, engaging donors who are aligned with its mission. Moreover, YAB will apply for national grants focused on youth and people with lived experience and expertise (PLEE), offered by non-profit organizations committed to youth empowerment, ensuring a broad and mission-consistent financial strategy. Pierce County CoC will use a portion of its annual CoC Planning Grant to support the YAB moving forward. For items that are ineligible expenses, e.g. food at meetings, Pierce County CoC or the partner organization, will use a general fund budget that can cover those costs.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

NON-NEGOTIABLE

October 31, 2024

Pay to the  
Order of

Pierce County

\$3,514,672.00

Three Million Five Hundred Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy-Two Dollars

# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT HOMELESSNESS IN PIERCE COUNTY

There is no perfect source of data when trying to determine prevalence or rates of homelessness in a community. The sources that are available: data from annual Point-in-Time (PIT); Homeless Management Information System (HMIS); or McKinney-Vento student homelessness all describe different characteristics and experiences.



**Point-in-Time  
Count**



**Homeless Management  
Information System**



**McKinney-  
Vento**

The PIT represents a single night's count in the middle of winter when conditions are hardest for people to be outside and counts only people staying in places "not meant for human habitation," in shelters, or transitional housing on that night; HMIS only captures people who have accessed homeless services in the system; and McKinney-Vento data is self-reported by families and students at the beginning of the school year – and includes other definitions of homelessness such as couch-surfing or staying doubled up with another family. Even though none of these sources are perfectly indicative of the prevalence of homelessness within a community, they are useful in that we've been collecting these data over multiple years, thus, they offer a chance to compare findings year over year. These data can help us narrow our focus and figure out where to invest more resources when they become available.



When looking at CoC HMIS data, Pierce County has seen a 94% increase since 2017 in youth experiencing homelessness. In 2023 and 2024, 1,634 and 1,375 unaccompanied youth sought services in Pierce County respectively. Over five years, Pierce County has served 6,602 youth, according to HMIS.

	Unaccompanied Youth under 18	Unaccompanied Youth 18-24	Parenting Youth 18-24	TOTAL
Total YYA Households	1,336	4,951	1,189	6,602
Total Children in Households headed by YYA	0	0	1,614	1,614
Total People in YYA Households	1,542	5,111	2,960	8,631
% of Total People in family shelter as a minor	70%	2%	20%	19%

The most recent Housing Inventory Count shows a total of 111 youth beds in Pierce County. This represents 2% of the total year-round beds available in Pierce County.

	Total Yearround Beds	Youth Beds
Emergency, Safe Haven, Transitional Housing	2,007	86
Emergency	1,831	86
Transitional	176	0
Permanent Housing	3,119	25
Permanent Supportive Housing	1,432	14
Rapid Rehousing	878	11
Other	809	0
Total	5,126	111



**The available youth beds do not match the need.** The Point-in-Time count (reflected in the table below) from 2024 found 164 unaccompanied youth and parenting youth experiencing homelessness in Pierce County, reflecting a shortage of at least 53 beds. The capacity of the system can house 68% of the total youth counted.

There is a bottleneck between shelter beds and permanent housing options. Youth live in permanent housing for longer periods of time compared to shelter beds, but Pierce County cannot accommodate all the youth in shelter into permanent housing options. A key strategy to improve this bottleneck is to use a significant portion of the YHDP award on a new Transitional Housing – Rapid Re-Housing program.

	Emergency	Transitional	Unsheltered	Total
<b>Unaccompanied Youth</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>151</b>
<18 years old	12	0	4	16
18-24 years old	64	3	68	135
<b>Parenting Youth</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>
<18 years old	0	0	0	0
18-24 years old	10	3	0	13
<b>Children of Parenting Youth 18-24 years old</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>17</b>

McKinney-Vento shows that Pierce County has the highest number of students experiencing homelessness across the State of Washington. During the 2024-2025 school year, Tacoma Public Schools was serving 2,173 students through McKinney-Vento programming. An important note about McKinney-Vento data is that it includes all public school students, many of whom are young students and not yet able to be served by the YYA homeless response system. These data always skew younger and can help us understand potential inflow in the future.

Given the imperfection of each of these data sources, another method of estimating the total number of YYA in a community that are experiencing homelessness is to use the only national estimate of youth homelessness in the United States published by Chapin Hall at



the University of Chicago. In this study, Voices of Youth Count, they found that 1 out of 10 18-24 year olds and 1 out of 30 13-17 year olds will experience some form of homelessness over one year. If we apply these estimates to Pierce County, we can assume that as many as 1,866 youth and 6,020 young adults experience some form of homelessness each year in our community. So while our HMIS, PIT, and McKinney-Vento data are useful, there are potentially even more YYA in Pierce County who we need to consider.

## LGBTQIA+ YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS & BIPOC YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS



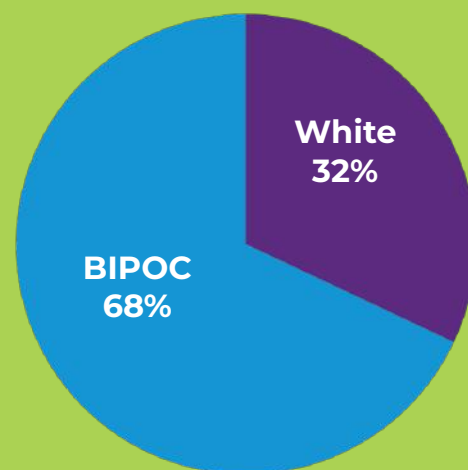
**Nationwide, nearly 10% of all youth aged 13-17 identify as LGBTQIA+, compared to three out of ten Pierce County youth in the same age group.**

Pierce County



United States





**More than two-thirds of YYA identify as Black, Indigenous, or People of Color (BIPOC).**

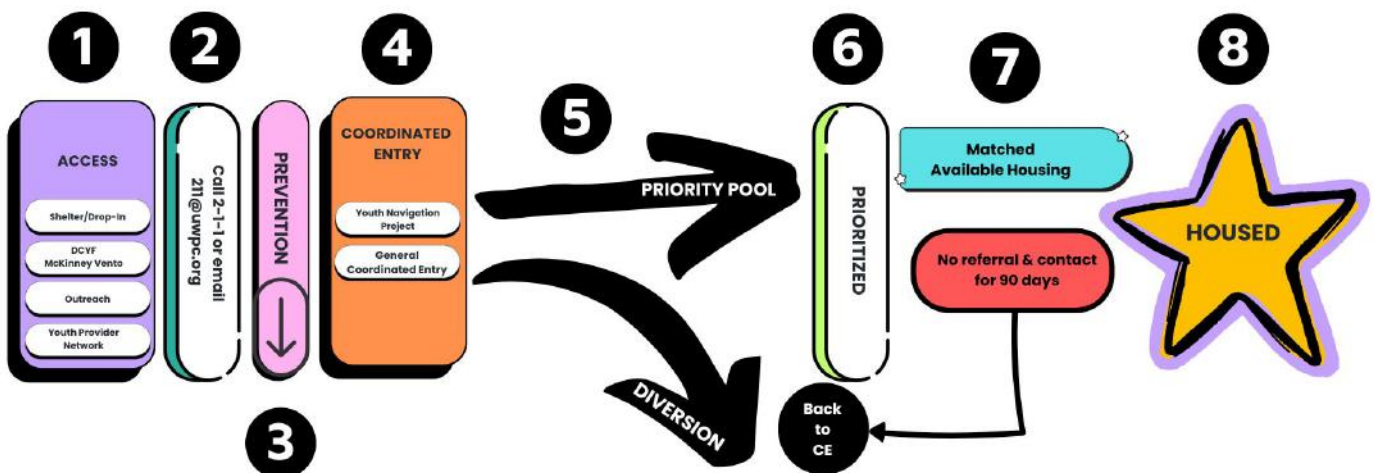
While these concrete numbers are an important backdrop to understanding the youth homelessness response system, Pierce County does have a unique system to serve youth, with tremendous ability to adapt and improve. The system map below outlines the process by which young people access housing and support services through youth-serving community partners or systems of care.

**“[You have to be] pretty scrappy and really rely on who you know, and text/email people you know have resources, willingness to engage with each other.”**

**– YAB Member**



Initially, YYA may receive prevention services aimed at addressing their needs early and potentially avoiding entry into the Coordinated Entry (CE) system. Youth under 18 are excluded from the CE process. For those over 18, if prevention services are insufficient, they are triaged to shelter services. If the initial agency or organization is not CE-certified, the young person is referred to one that is certified. From there, they are directed to either the Youth Navigation Project (serving Categories 1, 2, and 4 ) or the General CE system (serving Categories 1 and 4 only). They then meet with an intake specialist who helps them complete an intake in the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The intake is reviewed, and an algorithm—guided by the specialist—identifies a vulnerability score based on the young person’s individual needs. Those in this group are offered the choice of entering either Diversion or the Priority Pool. Diversion provides targeted assistance to help young people avoid deeper system involvement. If they enter the Priority Pool instead, they are assigned a system navigator to support basic needs and maintain contact. If they stay engaged and housing becomes available, they are matched to a program. However, if they do not respond to the referral within 90 days, it is reassigned, and the young person must re-enter the process from the beginning.



# BET ON YOUTH UNIVERSE

In response to the needs of YYA at risk of or experiencing homelessness in Pierce County described on the previous page, the BET on YOUth Universe includes many workstreams and partners. BET on YOUth is a community-wide initiative to prevent and end youth homelessness with three distinct projects:



**YHDP**



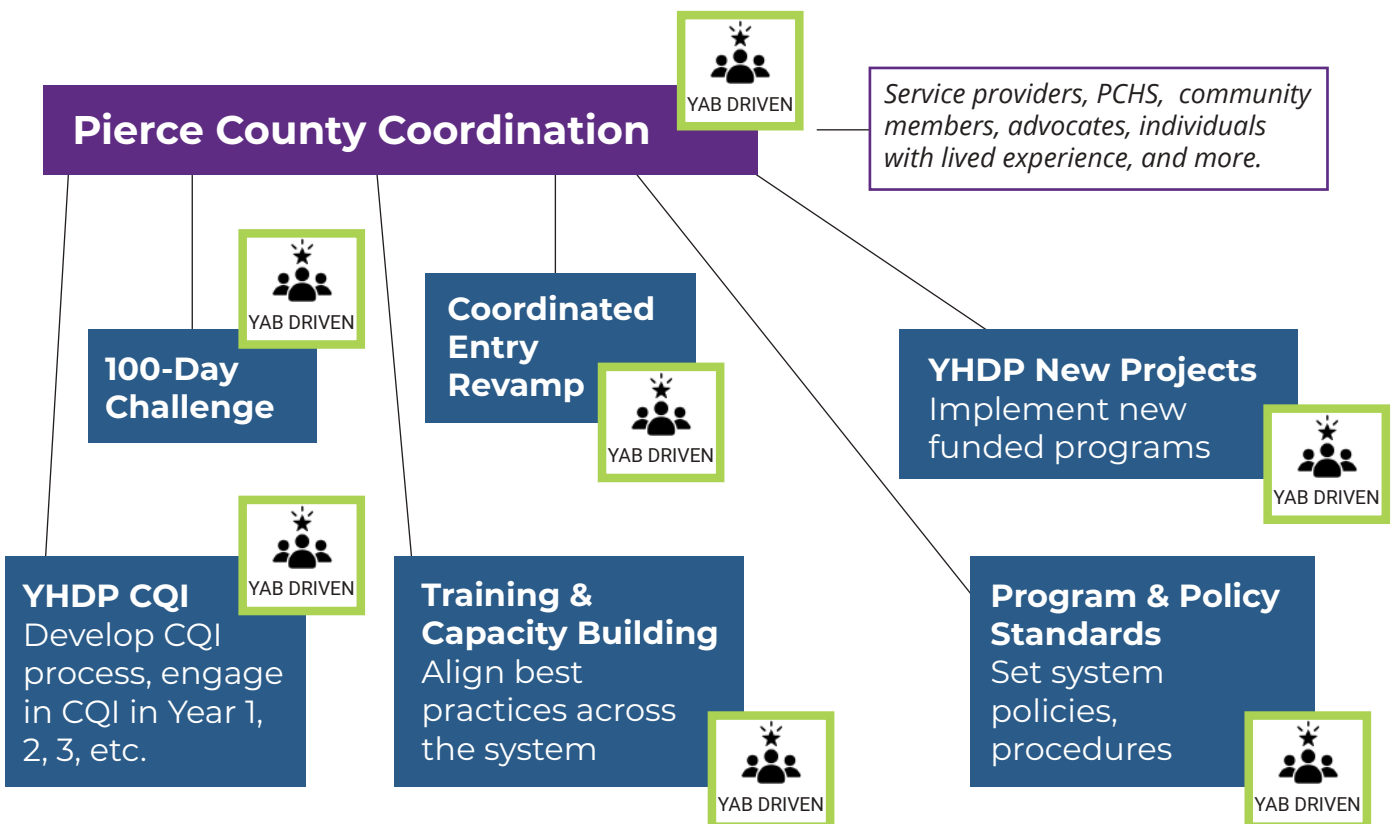
**100-Day Challenge**



**Coordinated Entry Revamp**

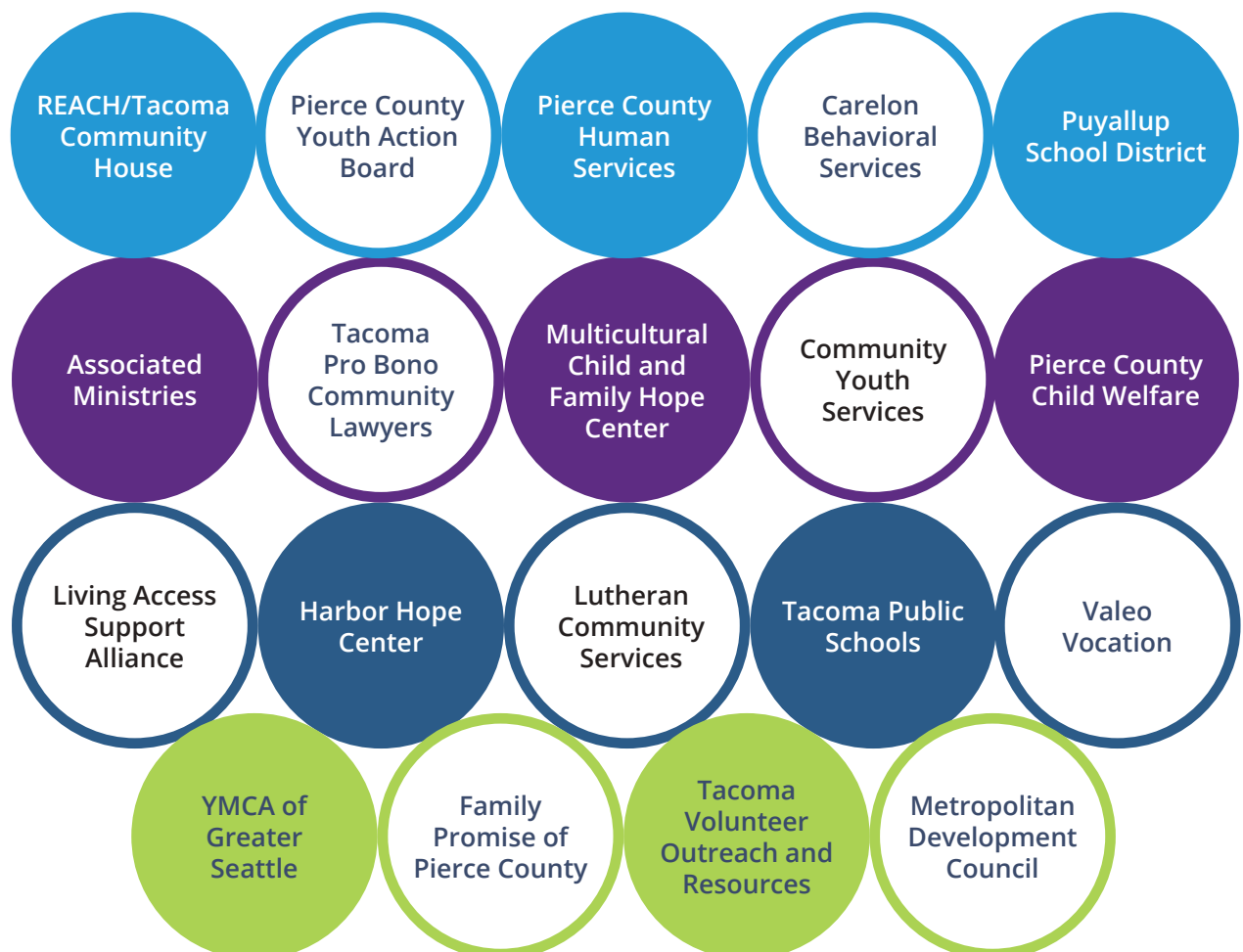
Many of our community's organizations and key partners participate in more than one BET on YOUth initiative, but the **YAB is driving every aspect**. We've included the following image to help clarify the workstreams under each initiative.

## BET on YOUth Steering Committee Oversight & Guidance



# YHDP PLANNING STRUCTURE

While the YHDP Planning Committee ended their work in the summer of 2025, we want to memorialize the work they completed as the decision-making body for the \$3.5M YHDP award. The chart on the following page offers a visualization of the Governance Structure for Pierce County's YHDP award. The YAB was embedded throughout each body of governance, from start to finish. The decision-making body was the Planning Committee Team. They were supported by the Project Management Team and informed by Focus Groups, the CoC, the County, Subject Matter Experts and Community Partners. The YAB was the key reviewer of YHDP project applications during project scoring and selection. YAB members will support project implementation through policy review and start up activity oversight. YAB members will participate in implementation. The YAB will participate in system performance teams and lead continuous quality improvement efforts. The YAB has a strong support system behind them in the Collaborative Applicant (County). The Collaborative Applicant (County) provides lead staff for YHDP and for the YAB. The Planning Committee (decision-making body for YHDP award in Pierce County) included the following partners:



**YAB\*:** Reviews and approves what goes into the CCP. Once approved, sent to CoC Exec for signature.

**Project Management Team\*:** Helps organize the YHDP Planning process and synthesize content as needed. Open, standing invitation for YAB members.

**Planning Committee Team\*:** Brainstorms CCP content & provides subject matter expertise. Consistent YAB presence but any YAB member can attend at any time.

**Focus Groups\***

**Subject Matter Experts & Community Partners\***

**CoC & County\***

**YAB, Young Professionals, & Young People**

# BET ON YOUTH GOALS, OBJECTIVES, & ACTION STEPS

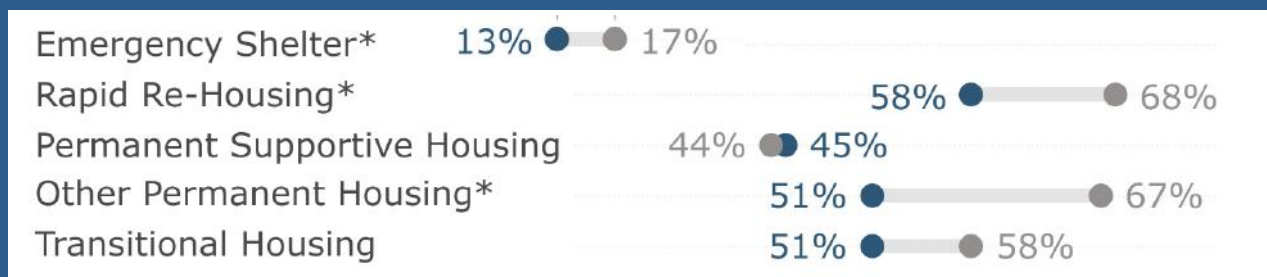
The BET on YOUth initiative to prevent and end youth homelessness uses six goal areas to focus our efforts. In this section we include each goal statement followed by a table of Objectives and Actions that we believe will help us reach the stated goal. The six goals are organized under the following subject matter areas:

- 1 Stable Housing**
- 2 Education & Employment**
- 3 Health & Well-Being**
- 4 Permanent Connections**
- 5 Prevention**
- 6 System Improvements**

## 1 Goal 01: Stable Housing

Youth and young adults can access housing options that provide safety and stability where they can thrive.

From 2019 to 2024, if unaccompanied YYA had the same exit rates to permanent housing as non-unaccompanied youth, over 200 more would have made that transition.



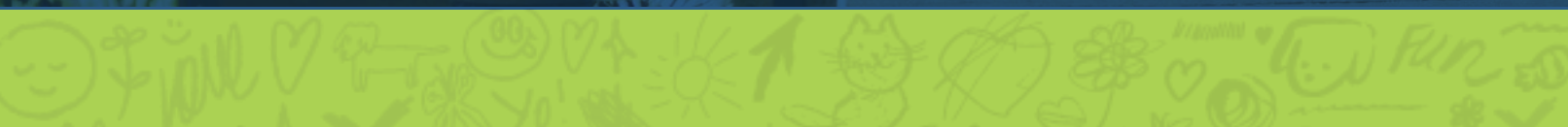
Given the clear gap in the number of transitional and permanent housing options for YYA experiencing homelessness in Pierce County, we leveraged the YHDP award opportunity to significantly expand material resources for YYA in our community. The following action items reflect commitments by many partners.

Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>1.1: Expand housing options for YYA</b>	a. Direct YHDP funding to support the RRH portion of the joint TH-RRH component project.	YHDP Core Team	2 months
	b. Maximize RRH units through roommate matching, offering flexible leasing options and options for project-based scattered sites.	YHDP Project Subrecipient	6 months
	c. Partner with Public Housing Authority to secure FUP & FYI Voucher options.	J Pitt, Pierce County, Coordinated Entry	12 months
	d. Solidify PSH designated units for YYA.	Pierce County	6 months
	e. Create a roommate matching tool for shared living options.	YHDP Core Team	6 months
	f. Explore and leverage external home sharing providers.	Pierce County	24 months
	g. Strengthen landlord network & unit pool through partnership with "Housing Connector"	Pierce County	ongoing
	g. Engage and recruit landlords in rural Pierce County to rent to YYA.	Pierce County, Housing Connector	ongoing
<b>1.2: Create alternatives for YYA who do not have access to shelter options</b>	a. Direct YHDP funding to support the TH portion of the TH-RRH joint component project.	YHDP Core Team	2 months
	b. Maximize TH units through roommate matching, offering flexible leasing options and options for project-based scattered sites.	YHDP Project	6 months
	c. Utilize YHDP Special Activity to enable providers to access hotel or motel rooms for emergency shelter.	YHDP Project	6 months
	d. Maximize potential for YYA tiny homes through formal partnerships with tiny homes.	Pierce County, Coordinated Entry	12 months
<b>1.3: Embed relevant supports that set up YYA for long term stability.</b>	a. Connect YYA to employment preparedness classes, resume writing and workforce training.	YHDP Project Sub-Recipient	ongoing
	b. Connect YYA to education to complete high school, engage in vocational training, and enroll in college.		
	c. Create agreements between healthcare providers and youth service organizations to ensure YYA can get the medical care they need.		
	d. Within YYA serving organizations, provide life skills classes such as financial literacy, cooking, cleaning, navigating landlord relationships, etc.		
	e. Ensure YYA have access to transportation through YHDP awarded projects.		
	f. Ensure YYA in YHDP programs have transportation to community events.		
<i>Table continued on following page.</i>			

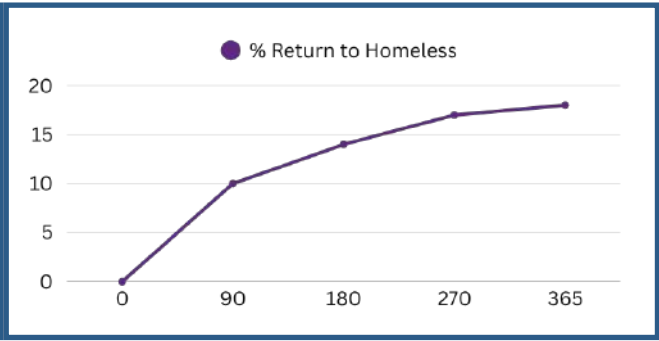
Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>1.4: Increase length of rental support for YYA</b>	a. Adjust rental assistance support over time (aka progressive rental assistance) to help YYA manage their housing costs independently after 36 months.	YHDP Project Sub-Recipient	ongoing
	b. Utilize YHDP allowance to expand rental assistance support from 24 months to 36 months as needed.	YHDP Project Sub-Recipient	
	c. Standardize ongoing 30 day housing stability reviews with YYA in housing programs.	YHDP Project Sub-Recipient	
	d. Standardize transition planning with YYA in housing programs to ensure they have housing support after assistance is done.	YHDP Project Sub-Recipient	
	e. Ensure case managers are educated and equipped to identify and support YYA who are seeking SSI/SSDI.	YHDP Project Sub-Recipient, Pierce County	
<b>1.5: Increase system navigation processes to magnify and streamline pathways to housing programs</b>	a. Ensure that Coordinated Entry is conducting case conferences about YYA across the County.	Pierce County, Coordinated Entry	ongoing
	b. Partner with schools to identify YYA at risk of or experiencing homelessness.	Pierce County, Coordinated Entry	ongoing
	c. Create opportunities for providers to share and compare data.	Pierce County, Coordinated Entry	ongoing
	d. Direct YHDP funding to support service navigation support in rural parts of the County.	YHDP Core Team	2 months

### HUD Funded YHDP Projects

Pierce County will create three new projects with YHDP funds. In Year 1 in total, 39 housing units will be created; 175 youth will be served, and about 5.5 staff will be hired. The projects will cover the geographic area of the entire county within the CoC WA-503. To ensure that YYA who move into permanent housing from shelter and transitional housing are able to remain stably housed, we have embedded aftercare support into the newly funded housing programs.



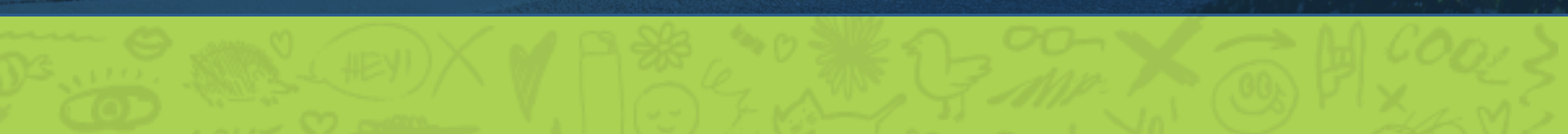
**Nearly one in five YYA in Pierce County will return to homelessness within one year of exiting into permanent housing.**



Source: Pierce County Finance Department, Research and Data Analysis - Unaccompanied Youth and Young Adult Homelessness, May 2025

The table below represents the total two-year amount allocated to YHDP projects.

	# RRH units	# TH beds	# youth served	# staff hired	Total
TH-RRH	54	24	100	3.57	\$2,629,705
Supportive Services Only - Mobile Advocate	0	0	150	1	\$324,500
Supportive Services Only - Coordinated Entry	0	0	100	1	\$209,000
Planning Grant #1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$105,440
Planning Grant #2	N/A	N/A	N/A	NA	\$246,027
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$3,514,672</b>



The following tables describe the project types selected.

Joint Component - Transitional - Rapid Rehousing (TH-RRH)	
Project Type	Transitional -Rapid Rehousing- medium term assistance (up to 36 months)
Summary of Project and Supportive Services Description	<p>This project <b>prioritizes a quick transition out of homelessness by offering transitional housing (up to 24 months) while preparing for permanent housing by providing up to 36 months (with a special YHDP activity) of housing and supportive services.</b> These programs may vary in design but will follow the key principles described in this project description. TH-RRH will offer housing either with the young person as the leaseholder or with the agency as the lease holder in a master lease.</p> <p>TH and RRH can be project-based or scattered site housing. Projects can also incorporate shared housing to help youth sustain housing after assistance ends or according to each individual youth’s needs. Assistance for youth households (individuals and families) with RRH will be provided by helping them locate and move into permanent housing using financial assistance and housing focused services.</p> <p>While youth are in RRH, they receive supportive services, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support and transportation during non-traditional business hours (nights and weekends)</li> <li>• Connection to education and training resources, including connection to financial assistance</li> <li>• Connection to employment</li> <li>• Connection to community activities or groups</li> <li>• Connection to life skills and peer support</li> </ul>
Special YHDP Activities	This list is not exhaustive but some of the special activities may include extended rental assistance, furniture, moving costs, transportation, wifi, etc.
Target number of housing units	In total, it is anticipated this program will create roughly 39 units. The TH program will have approximately 12 beds/units. The RRH component will have approximately 20 1-bedroom units and 7 2-bedroom units. Rental assistance will last between 12-36 months, depending on the needs of the youth. Projects will be able to operate either site-based or scattered-site.
Staffing	Projects will have adequate staffing, including supervision, case management and peer navigation. There will be a total of 3.57 FTE working directly with clients. In the RRH component, staff/client ratio will be 1:15. In the TH component, staff/client ratio will be 1:12.
Projected Cost	Approximately \$1,314,852 annually
Location	Entire county within the CoC WA-503
# Youth Served	Per year, approximately 50 youth and young adults



Supportive Services Only - Youth & Young Adult Coordinated Entry	
Project Type	Supportive Services Only – Coordinated Entry
Summary of Project and Supportive Services Description	This project seeks to <b>develop a youth specific assessment for entry into the homeless response system in Pierce County for youth who are literally homeless, at imminent risk of experiencing homelessness and fleeing domestic violence.</b> The funding will support diversion services and a Coordinated Entry Specialist who will conduct assessments, identify housing and other needs, coordinate resources and provide ways to connect with peer support and community. This project will standardize the way YYA experiencing homelessness access, are assessed, and are referred to housing and services in Pierce County.
Staffing	1 Coordinated Entry Specialist with staff to client ratio 1:30.
Projected Cost	Approximately \$104,500 annually
Location	Entire county within the CoC WA-503
# Youth Served	Per year, approximately 50 youth and young adults

Supportive Services Only - Mobile Advocate	
Project Type	Supportive Services Only – Mobile Advocate
Summary of Project and Supportive Services Description	This project seeks to <b>support youth across Pierce County, extending from the rural areas to Tacoma. This Mobile Advocate program is a non-centralized program that will conduct intakes and assessments, offer resource planning to youth, outreach in harder-to-reach places and be linked with community connections.</b> The organization to receive this award will be trained to support youth going through various experiences in various settings. Supportive Services provided will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Connection to shelter/housing</li> <li>• Connection to mental health and physical health care</li> <li>• Support including transportation during non-traditional business hours (nights and weekends)</li> <li>• Connection to education and training resources, including connection to financial assistance</li> <li>• Connection to employment</li> <li>• Connection to legal services</li> <li>• Connection to community activities or groups</li> <li>• Connection to life skills and peer support</li> </ul>
Staffing	One Mobile Resource Advocate with staff to client ratio at any point in time of 1:25. The nature of this program intervention is short; thus, we anticipate the caseload will shift regularly. This means the active caseload for the Advocate will never exceed 25 youth at a time, but over the course of a year, we anticipate the Advocate being able to serve 75 youth.
Projected Cost	Approximately \$162,250 annually
Location	Entire county within the CoC WA-503
# Youth Served	Per year, approximately 75 youth and young adults

# 2

## Goal 02: Education & Employment

YYA can reach their personal and professional goals through organizational networks with established pathways to education, training, employment and mentorship.

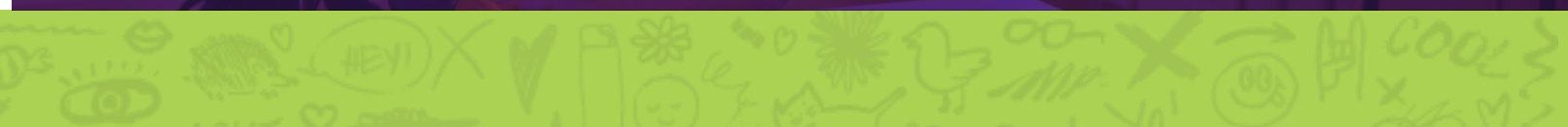
In Pierce County, YYA experiencing homelessness face serious barriers to education and employment. In rural areas, transportation gaps make it nearly impossible for YYA to access school, jobs, or training programs. In more urban parts of the County, fragmented systems tend to operate in silos—forcing YYA to navigate complex systems on their own. Across the board, young people struggle to get and keep jobs due to lack of vital documents, work clothes, technology, and trauma-informed support from adults and employers. Although the County is informally resource-connected, YYA shared that programs are difficult to navigate, or lack up-to-date, accessible information. YYA named a need for a coordinated, youth-centered network that provides clear and real-time pathways to education, training, employment, and mentorship. To truly support their success, we must also equip educators and employers with trauma-informed approaches and ensure YYA have access to essential supports like transportation, financial aid, technology, and life skills development.

Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>2.1 Create pathways to Educational Goals through establishing and maintaining a network of partners</b>	a. Create a network of Educational Partners	Passport to Careers Program, Northwest Education Access, McKinney-Vento Lead, Palmer & Rainier Scholars, Graduate Tacoma, TCC, Communities in Schools	90 days
	b. Identify entity to maintain Educational Partner Network and relationships, ensuring it is updated regularly	MDC	120 days
	c. Identify central location to share updated resources	MDC	120 days
<b>2.2 Create pathways to Employment through establishing and maintaining a network of partners</b>	a. Identify community partners doing this work	WorkSource, Valeo	120 days
	b. Develop youth-focused language for outreach, encourage participation	YAB, Pierce County	6 months
	c. Conduct outreach to partners, establish referral process to connect YYA to employment opportunities.	Worksource, Pierce County	12 months
	d. Create a Job Fair Framework with Partners	Worksource, YAB	12 months
	e. Establish cadence for YYA job fair	Worksource	6 months

*Table continued on following page.*



Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>2.3 Create pathways to Mentorship Goals through establishing and maintaining a network of partners</b>	a. Identify community partners doing this work	Communities in Schools, Big Homies	18 months
	b. Develop incentive language to outreach and encourage participation		
	c. Outreach Partners, establish a referral process		
<b>2.4 Create a training curriculum to help education and employment partners better support YYA.</b>	a. Identify what exists in the community	Pierce County, YAB, Goodwill,	24 months
	b. Develop youth-focused language to outreach and encourage participation		
	c. Identify what is missing from available resources		
	d. Based on gaps, outline new curriculum needed		
<b>2.5 Establish funding stream to ensure that YYA have access to essential supplies and materials to help them obtain and maintain their Educational and Employment goals</b>	a. Create a survey for YYA asking what their material needs are when pursuing Educational and Employment goals	YAB, Northwest Education, The Peace Bus	24 months
	b. Based on the results, create a proposal memo soliciting unrestricted funding		
	c. Identify philanthropic opportunities for funding		
	d. Outreach to philanthropic providers	YAB, Northwest Education, The Peace Bus, Pierce County	
	e. Create flexible funding pool for transportation goals		
<b>2.6 Establish a network of transportation support to ensure that YYA have access to reliable transportation</b>	a. Identify existing resources	Brotherhood RISE, REACH, Pierce Transit	12 months
	b. Create flexible funding pool for transportation goals		
	c. Create a referral or connection method to access existing transportation resources		



# 3

## Goal 03: Health & Well-Being

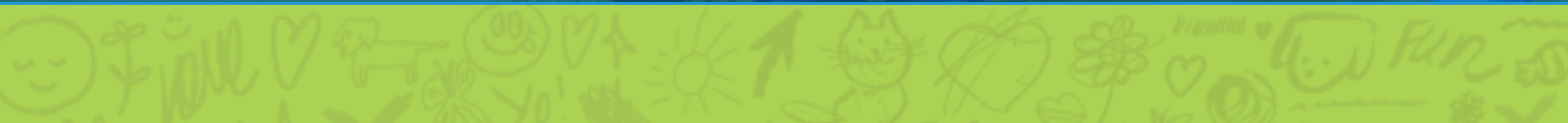
All YYA have access to spaces that are unbiased, abundantly trauma-informed, and staffed by genuinely caring people so that they can thrive and experience joy.

YYA in Pierce County face significant challenges in accessing and navigating full-spectrum health services. Many struggle to find care that is trauma-informed, culturally responsive, and staffed by people who genuinely understand and support them. This is especially true in rural areas, where access to sexual health services, mental health care, and education on healthy relationships is limited or nonexistent.

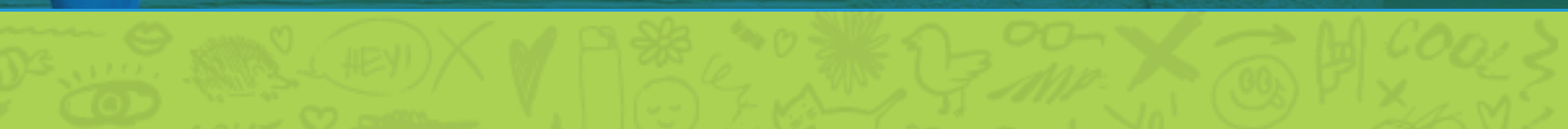
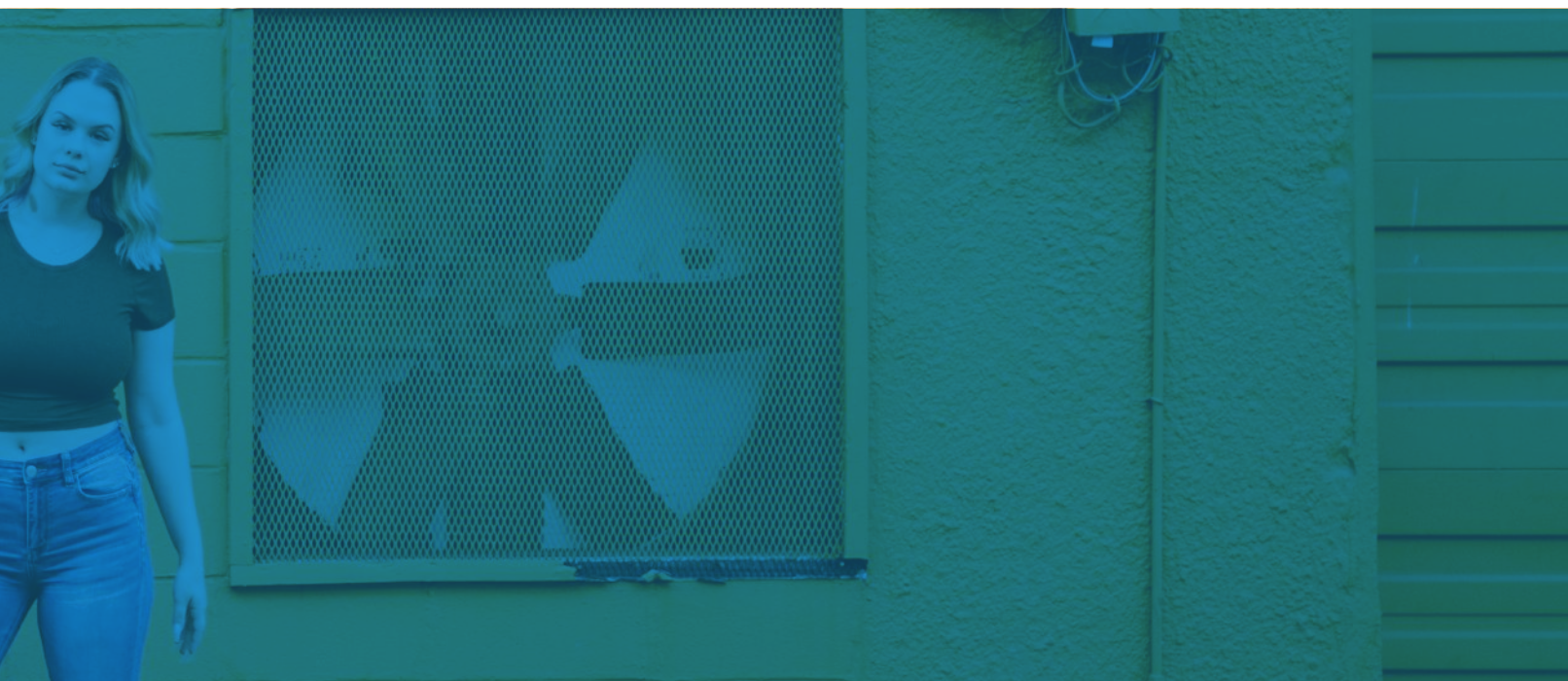
YYA have emphasized the importance of spaces that are nonjudgmental and focused on whole-person wellness—including emotional, physical, and relational health. To meet this need, programs must embed high standards of case management, provide clear pathways to both traditional and alternative healing options, and prioritize peer and staff support with lived experience. Building meaningful connections—with community, culture, and self—is essential for YYA to thrive, and requires intentional investment in relationship-building, data-informed practices, and individualized care planning.



Source: Pierce County Finance Department, Research and Data Analysis - Unaccompanied Youth and Young Adult Homelessness, May 2025



Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>3.1 Connect YYA to holistic approaches and alternatives to health and healing</b>	a. Informed and Connected to community offerings/ Resource Savvy (identity, adaptability and awareness of community needs , solutions and resources	Brotherhood RISE	18 months
	b. Provide information, support, and pathways to alternative healing options		
	c. Establish relationships with grassroots and culturally connected groups		
<b>3.2 Embed high standards of best practices for Case Management in Programs</b>	a. Ensure case managers complete training including trauma-informed care, cultural competencies, etc.	Subrecipients, Pierce County, YAB	18 months
	b. Co-create individualized care plan that support YYA with their preferences for health & wellbeing.		
	c. Hire people with lived experience as case managers.		
	d. Ensure case managers are assessing, identifying, affirming and helping to generate positive healthy relationships (access to healthy relationships classes)		
	e. Create spaces for relationship and community building where YYA can opt in		
<b>3.3 Develop data and outcomes workgroup</b>	a. Partner with HMIS Administrator to support the use of R9 (mental health status and R19 (safe and appropriate exit) RHY data elements	Subrecipients, Pierce County, YAB	6 months
	b. Workgroup and HMIS Administrator to develop a plan for use of additional data request (what, how, why, when)		
	c. Get HMIS admin and CoC approval to collect key custom data elements		





## 4

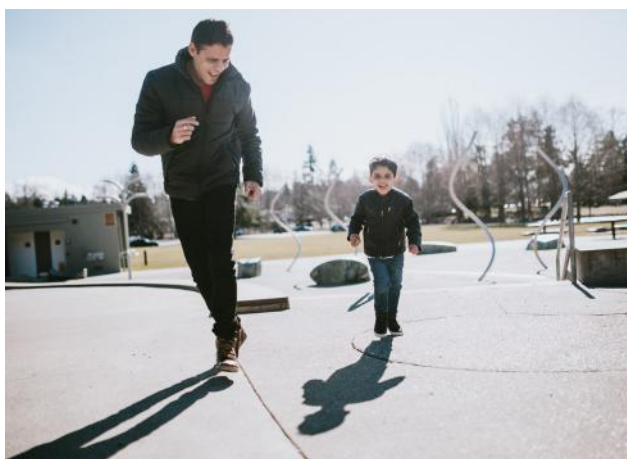
### **Goal 04: Permanent Connections**

YYA have connections and resources to engage in lasting, healthy, and supportive relationships to their community of choice.

YYA in Pierce County often lack consistent, long-term connections to supportive adults, peers, and systems—especially those in rural areas where access to services and networks is limited. Many YYA are unfamiliar with how local systems and providers operate because traditional, informal methods of connection often exclude them. To build meaningful and lasting support networks, it's critical to expand access beyond urban centers by creating satellite locations, rural partnerships, and community-based pop-ups. Recognizing that “permanent connections” can mean different things to different young people, a youth-led workgroup and needs assessment are essential to define what those connections should look like and how best to support them. By co-creating outreach models, training, and resource guides with YYA input, the County can ensure all young people—regardless of geography—have access to relationships and networks that help them thrive long-term.



Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>4.1 Establish a Permanent Connections Workgroup</b>	a. Provide YAB with in depth orientation to local service provision, systems, and networks	Pierce County, REACH	1 month
	b. YAB will develop selection criteria	YAB	3 months
	c. YAB will develop selection process	YAB	6 months
	d. YAB will select the “dream team” workgroup provider partners	YAB, Brotherhood RISE	1 year
<b>4.2 Provide opportunities for Tacoma-based services to network across Pierce County</b>	a. Design Model to provide outreach pop-up	YAB, Dream Team	4 months
	b. Develop Relationships with rural 'hosts'/providers (schools)	Brotherhood RISE, Pierce HPDF, Dream Team	4 months
	c. Establish 'satellite' locations for events with already existing providers input	Brotherhood RISE	6 months
	d. Conduct surveys to identify gaps and opportunities	Dream Team, YAB	1 year +
<b>4.3 Increase understanding of networking opportunities through methods that are updated and accessible</b>	a. Conduct surveys and/or focus groups to determine the most relevant accessible methods	YAB + Permanent Connections work group + Dream Team	3 months
	b. Conduct outreach to collect survey responses	Brotherhood RISE + YAB + All community partners	ongoing
	c. Create universal youth-focused best practices trainings to share at satellite locations	Brotherhood RISE + Dream Team to assist + YAB to approve	7 months
	d. Create community resource guide	YAB	ongoing

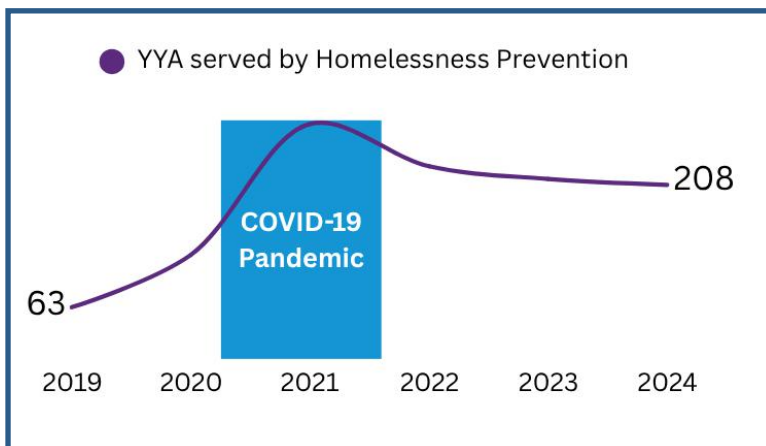




# 5

## Goal 05: Prevention

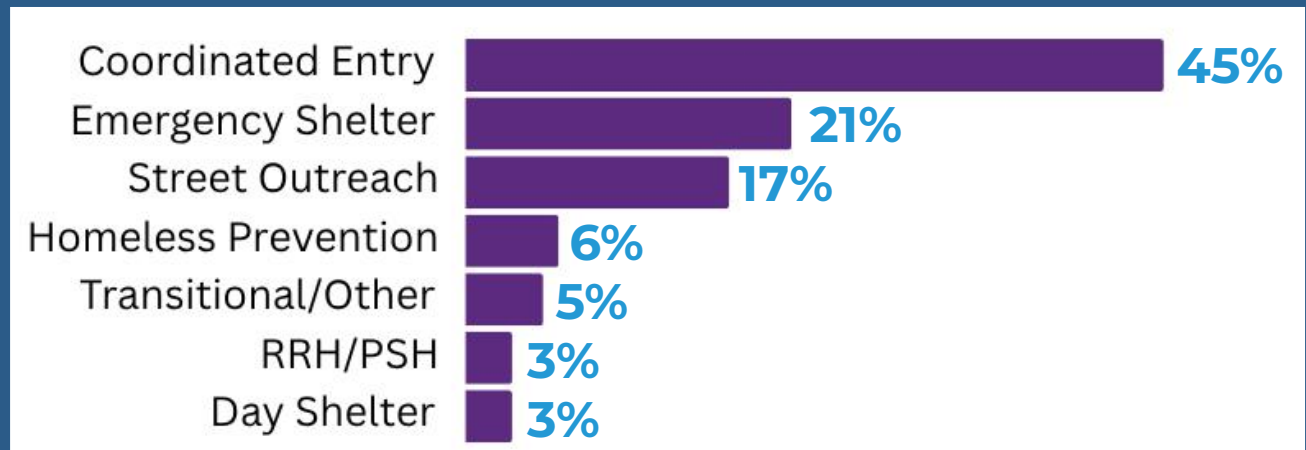
YYA have access to preventative methods that ensure they do not experience homelessness.



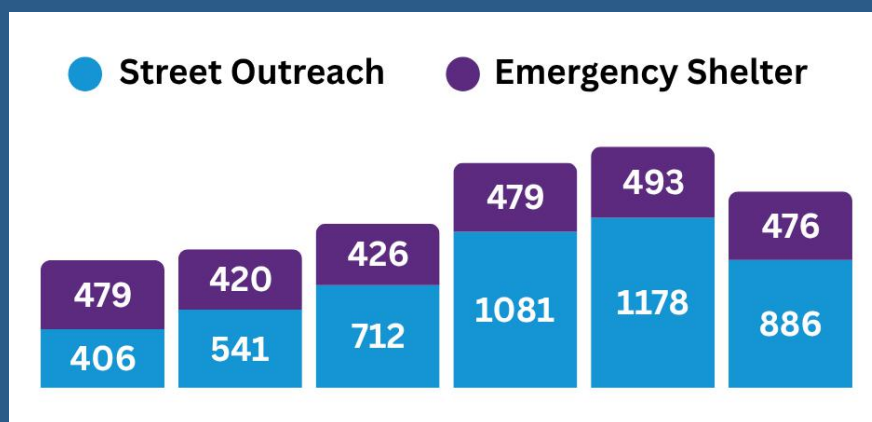
**The number of YYA served by Homelessness Prevention in Pierce County quadrupled from 2019 - 2024. Despite this, service levels remain below other interventions.**



In recent years, the County has focused on increasing proactive support and services for unaccompanied YYA including street outreach and homelessness prevention.



Note: Data represent all YYA enrollments in 2024, not just literal homeless enrollments.



The number of YYA served by Emergency Shelters has remained consistent over time, while the number for Street Outreach has increased.

Prevention services for YYA in Pierce County are often unclear and difficult to navigate—especially for those who first engage with the systems at points of crisis.

Without a clear process, YYA are left unsure of where to go, who to trust, or how to access support before housing instability escalates. Formalizing partnerships and standardizing prevention practices across providers can help meet YYA where they are—regardless of geography, background, or entry point. Strengthening cross-system collaboration, increasing awareness of prevention pathways, and making resources and training accessible in youth-friendly language are critical steps toward creating a system where all YYA can access timely support. By equipping providers, peers, and YYA themselves with knowledge of tenant rights, available services, and how to navigate systems, we can create a more proactive and responsive approach to preventing youth homelessness in the County.



Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>5.1 Establish connections with Homelessness Prevention and Diversion Fund (HPDF) Community Requestors</b>	a. Create an updated list of Diversion Providers and distribute to YYA providers and partners	Pierce County	24 months / Ongoing
	b. Ensure that YHDP Funded projects are HPDF certified	Pierce County	
	c. Establish a policy that ensures there will always be an HPDF person on staff in YHDP projects	YHDP Project Sub-Recipients	
	d. Partner with REACH to support roll out of virtual HPDF training to YHDP projects and YYA Providers	Subrecipients, YAB, Pierce County	
	e. Ensure that peer positions, YAB members, and YYA are familiar and have access to the HPDF certification process	Subrecipients, YAB, Pierce County	
<b>5.2 Fortify Cross-System Collaboration with Partners and Providers</b>	a. Distribute CE Specialist and System Navigators rosters to partners and providers	Pierce County	24 months / Ongoing
	b. Clarify resource pathways and referral processes for YYA Partners and Providers with accessible language and YYA friendly visuals	Subrecipients, YAB, Pierce County, CE Assessors	
	c. Clarify system access, assessment, eligibility, and processes to YYA Partners and Providers	CE Assessors	
	d. Ensure that prevention cases are being connected to YYA Case Conferencing	CE Assessors	
<b>5.3 Identify and distribute resource guides</b>	a. Identify existing resource guides	Pierce County	6 months
	b. Link resource guides in one central location		6 months
	c. Ensure monthly distribution of resource guides in YYA partner and provider spaces		24 months / Ongoing
<b>5.4 Provide opportunities for YYA, Partners and Providers to enhance prevention knowledge</b>	a. Provide trainings on Eviction Laws, and Tenant Rights to YHDP Projects, YHDP Participants, YYA Partners and Providers	Team Child, Tacoma Pro-Bono, LCYC	24 months / Ongoing
	<b>b. Provide trainings on different levels/ forms of Prevention to YHDP Projects, YHDP Participants, YYA Partners and Providers</b>	REACH, Associated Ministries, MCC	<b>24 months / Ongoing</b>
	<b>c. Provide "What is Coordinated Entry" training to YYA Partners and Providers</b>	CE Assessors	6 months



# 6

## Goal 06: System Improvements

YYA have fair access to systems and service provisions that are holistically designed by youth-governed providers and partners.

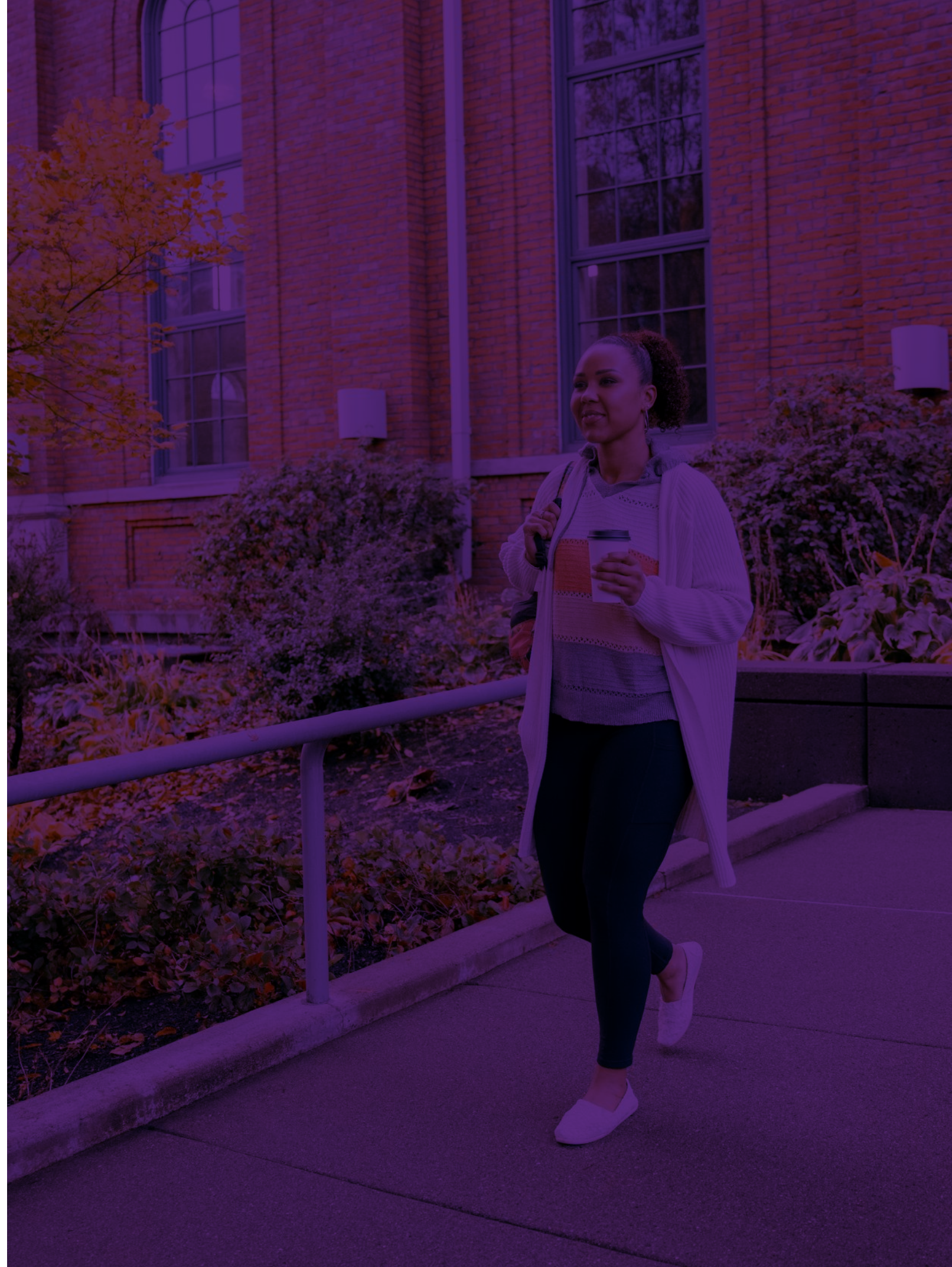
System improvements for YYA are essential to unify fragmented efforts and ensure that all areas—prevention, health, education, employment, and permanent connections—are tied into a coordinated, efficient response. Currently, systems can be duplicative, hard to navigate, and inconsistent in their approach to serving YYA. Aligning the YHDP Coordinated Entry (CE) project with the broader Human Services CE revamp presents a critical opportunity to streamline referrals, improve transparency, and create a more youth-responsive system. This includes building a consistent case conferencing process, strengthening provider collaboration, embedding youth voice in policy development, and developing performance monitoring that reflects the realities of YYA programming. By eliminating unnecessary barriers, co-creating easy-to-use tools, and ensuring continuous feedback loops, systems can become more cohesive, resourceful, and effective in supporting YYA across the County.

**“We need more Youth CE Access points, like a HUB, because it feels like a wild goose chase. When young people all get the same [message] and know what to expect, they thrive...”**

**– Community Partner**



Objective	Action	Lead	Timeline
<b>6.1 Establish community-wide YYA Case Conferencing</b>	a. Update policy to be 120 days in CE and then 90 for the refresh/update with a communication method for participants to keep them informed of expiration date	Pierce County, CE Assessors	6 months
	b. Identify YYA Case Conferencing Lead Facilitator		
	c. Outreach to providers to join case conferencing group		
	d. Create a Case Conferencing Provider Group		
	e. Create MOU and ROIs for Participating Agencies and Providers		
	f. Inform provider community on YYA CE Prioritization		
	g. Set regular cadence for case conferencing		
<b>6.2 Increase YYA Provider Network</b>	a. Create active and effective pathways between new and existing system partners (eg: education, juvenile justice, foster care)	Pierce County, Subrecipients	6 months
	b. Outreach to new and existing partners to establish streamlined referral process that don't require CE contracting		
	c. Inform new and existing partners about updates and program eligibility		
	d. Provide trainings to new and existing partners about CE components		12 months
<b>6.3 Create a YYA monitoring process to evaluate and provide performance review</b>	a. Ensure YYA Programs are aligned with Pierce County performance based contract model	Pierce County, YAB, Subrecipients	12 months
	b. Establish a YYA/BET on YOUth Project Monitoring Workgroup		3 months
	c. Train YYA Project Monitoring Workgroup on performance based contract model		12 months
	d. Adapt performance based contract model to a scoring rubric for Project Monitoring		
	e. In alignment with the CE revamp process, share and present Annual Performance Report.		
	f. Create and Provide CE Exit surveys to monitor CE experience		
<b>6.4 Ensure Coordinated Entry (CE) revamp aligns with YHDP CE project</b>	a. Ensure Policies and Procedures updates are co-created with YYA	YAB, Subrecipients	24 months
	b. Ensure CE Revamp includes BET on YOUth workgroup	BET on YOUth workgroup	24 months
	c. Assess and eliminate any unneeded steps to CE referral and assessment		12 months
	d. Create one assessment/application/intake form that is easy to understand, has visual guides, and is quick to fill out	Pierce County, CE Assessors	12 months
	e. Create accessible and widely distributed CE training with updates		
	f. Uphold System Improvements goal across all BET on YOUth initiatives	BET on YOUth Steering Committee	Ongoing



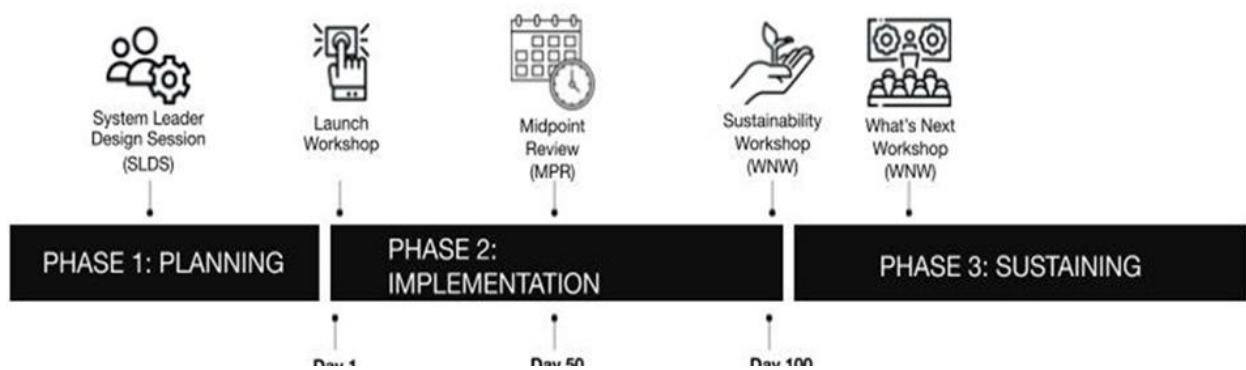
# YOUTH HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION 100-DAY CHALLENGE

Pierce County Human Services was invited to participate in the RE!NSTITUTE's 100-Day Challenge on Youth Homelessness Prevention. 100-Day Challenges are a rapid-action, systems-change methodology designed to accelerate progress on complex social issues by bringing together various stakeholders to work intensively toward a shared, ambitious goal over a 100-day period. The challenge is not just about achieving quick wins—they are designed to test and implement innovations, shift power dynamics, improve relationships across sectors, and embed long-term change within systems. The process includes structured workshops, ongoing coaching, and an emphasis on learning by doing, enabling participants to experiment, monitor progress, and adapt in real time.

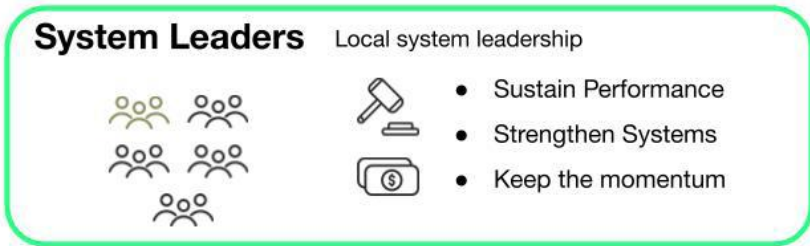
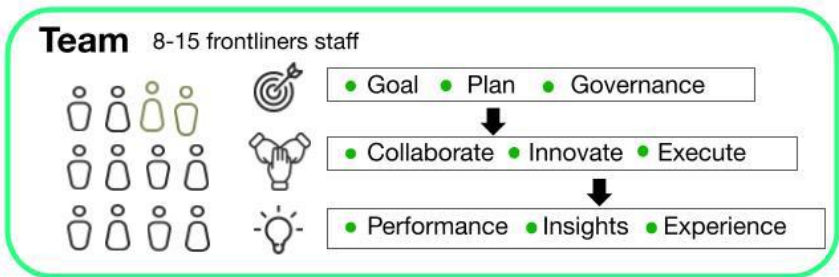


REINSTITUTE facilitates these challenges and supports the teams through trained coaches or “Catalysts.” Participants typically include frontline workers, people with lived experience, local governments, nonprofits, and public institutions—those who are closest to the systems being changed. Senior leadership also plays a key role by providing buy-in, removing barriers, and helping sustain the changes after the 100 days.

The primary goals of the 100-Day Challenges are to set bold, time-bound goals that drive urgency and innovation, foster cross-sector collaboration, achieve measurable results, and spark systemic change. These initiatives aim not only to deliver tangible outcomes—such as housing individuals experiencing homelessness or improving public health services—but also to change the way systems function by shifting mindsets, improving coordination, and embedding new approaches into ongoing practices. Ultimately, the challenges are a tool for creating lasting impact and building more adaptive, resilient systems capable of meeting future challenges.



100-Day Challenge



Sustaining Phase



# The Goal: In 100 days, we will prevent 113 youth and young adults from entering into homelessness.

This goal represents a 20% decrease in the number of YYA entering homelessness from a comparable time period. Of those youth and young adults, 55% will have previous experience of homelessness and 60% will be between the ages of 12 and 17 years old.

The 100-Day Challenge took place from Sept. 29, 2025 to Jan. 16, 2026, which is technically 110 days total to account for the holiday break. To measure our success, we tracked the number of YYA at risk of homelessness who are referred to or enrolled in homelessness prevention activities and whether they are able to remain housed. Additional goals for the 100-Day Challenge include improving accessibility and eligibility of Coordinated Entry, defining prevention, and creating a resource guide for YYA services.



**The Result: Our 100-Day Challenge was a success! We exceeded our goal by 51% to keep 171 youth and young adults in Pierce County safely housed!**



## Coordinated Entry Improvements

One of the key components of the challenge was ensuring youth had the ability to be served at numerous locations, not just at providers specializing in YYA homelessness. Pierce County's homeless crisis system features Coordinated Entry (CE), the first stop for anyone experiencing homelessness to receive support. CE has historically only captured people who are literally homeless or fleeing domestic violence. Many YYA are not literally homeless, but often couch-surf or stay with friends. So by updating our criteria to allow YYA who are not literally homeless, but are still experiencing housing instability, we improved the ability for YYA to access and qualify for homeless and housing services.

## Define Prevention

In order to be successful in preventing youth from entering homelessness, we had to determine what that would look like. Through conversations with the community, we agreed that prevention would include eviction prevention, housing through vouchers, and support from the Homeless Student Stability Program. These programs support individuals before they experience homelessness by providing assistance to keep them stably housed.

## Resource Guide

A resource guide has been created that includes local services, programs, and resources for a wide range of topics including but not limited to chemical dependency, clothing banks, higher education, legal issues, medical and dental care, rental assistance, parenting, and more. A key feature of the resource guide is that it is web-based and easily accessible for YYA who often use their phones to find help.

## We aren't done yet.

After the 100-Day Challenge, the work doesn't end! We enter a 3-month Sustaining Phase to increase the odds of sustaining momentum beyond the initial 100 days. The emphasis is on building and strengthening the systems that underpin performance, based on the insights gained in the 100-Day Challenge. This includes shifts in policies, resource allocations, processes, operating procedures, roles, skills, and accountabilities.



# PIERCE COUNTY COORDINATED ENTRY REVAMP

**“[YYA] need to be involved in program design  
and building authentic relationships.”**

**– Community Partner**



For updates on our continued work through BET on YOUth, visit [beton youth.org](#)



Pierce County is currently leading a two-phase project to assess, improve, and implement changes to the Coordinated Entry (CE) prioritization tool, with the goal of creating a more fair, just, and effective homelessness response system. This work is being conducted in alignment with the YHDP CE project and other youth-serving initiatives to ensure a cohesive, youth-centered approach across systems.

In Phase 1, the Lived Experience Coalition is evaluating the current prioritization tool through data analysis, identifying disparities, and preparing recommendations for improvement. Findings are being shared with Pierce County Human Services, the CoC, the YAB, and the broader community through presentations and reports.

Phase 2 will focus on developing and implementing an actionable plan based on these recommendations, including training and technical assistance for county staff and community providers. This project supports broader systems enhancement efforts by streamlining assessment processes, reducing barriers, and aligning prioritization practices with the needs of YYA. Through the 100-Day Challenge we increased access to services for YYA, and we're happy to report this will be a permanent change to our CE system.

Visit us online at [www.piercecountywa.gov/YouthHomelessness](http://www.piercecountywa.gov/YouthHomelessness).



