



Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Regional Grantee Training FYSB Updates



What we will cover...

I. Foundations of the RHY Program

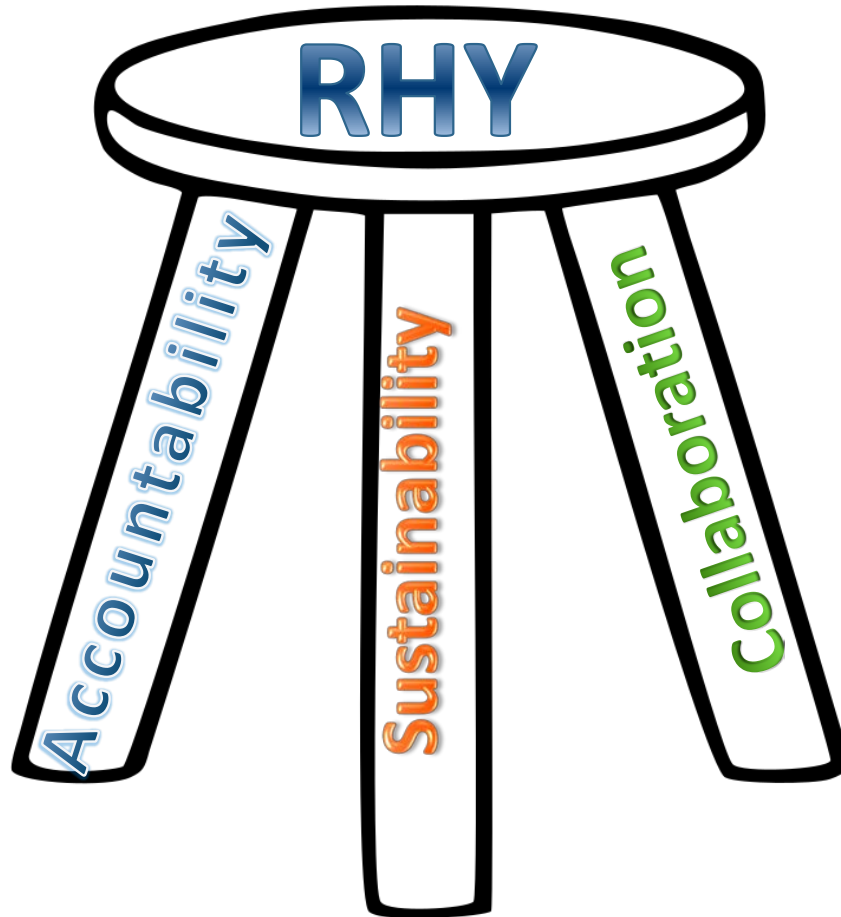
II. Program Updates

III. Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

IV. Question and Answer



Building a stable foundation



The Stable Foundation of RHY is based on...

Accountability - is a focus on how grantees perform with the resources provided, as well as the shifting to program outcomes and impact instead of outputs.

Sustainability - is about prioritizing limited resources to maintain maximum positive impact by a program on the target population.

Collaboration - is combatting the tendency to “protect our turf” and a focus towards partnerships and maximizing positive outcomes for the population served.



FYSB and RHY Program Updates...

- FY 2018 Transitional Living Program (TLP)/Maternity Group Home (MGH) Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) closed on May 14, 2018
- FY 2018 Street Outreach Program FOA closes June 20, 2018
- Basic Center Program FOA closes July 5, 2018
- 2018 National Grantee Training scheduled for October 30 - November 1, 2018 – Austin, Texas.
- RHY-HMIS Data Upload May 7 – 29, 2018

Schedule of Regional Training

- Region VI - Dallas on April 5
- Region III - Philadelphia on April 17
- Region IV - Atlanta on April 20
- Region I - Boston on May 15
- Region VII - Kansas City on May 17



Schedule of Regional Training

- Region II - New York City on May 29
- Region V - Chicago on June 13
- Region VIII – Denver on June 18
- Region X - Seattle on June 25
- Region IX - San Francisco on June 28



Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Definitions...

Outreach means finding runaway, homeless, and street youth, or youth at risk of becoming runaway or homeless, who might not use services due to lack of awareness or active avoidance, providing information to them about services and benefits, and encouraging the use of appropriate services.

Drop-in center means a place operated and staffed for runaway or homeless youth that clients can visit without an appointment to get advice or information, to receive services or service referrals, or to meet other runaway or homeless youth.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Definitions...

Temporary shelter means all Basic Center Program shelter settings in which runaway and homeless youth (under 18) are provided room and board, crisis intervention, and other services on a 24-hour basis for up to 21 days and has a minimum residential capacity of 4 and a maximum capacity of 20 youth in a single structure. The 21 day restriction is on the use of RHY funds through the Basic Center Program, not a restriction on the length of stay permitted by the facility.

Aftercare means additional services provided beyond the period of residential stay that offer continuity and supportive follow-up to youth served by the program. Pursuant to the Final Rule, aftercare must be offered for at least three (3) months after residential stay.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Definitions...

Runaway youth means an individual under 18 years of age who absents himself or herself from home or place of legal residence without the permission of a parent or legal guardian.

Street youth means an individual who is a runaway youth or an indefinitely or intermittently homeless youth who spends a significant amount of time on the street or in other areas that increase the risk to such youth for sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, prostitution, or drug and/or alcohol abuse. For purposes of this definition, youth means an individual who is age 21 or less.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Definitions...

Homeless youth means an individual who cannot live safely with a parent, legal guardian, or relative, and who has no other safe alternative living arrangement. For purposes of Basic Center Program eligibility, a homeless youth must be less than 18 years of age (or higher if allowed by a state or local law or regulation that applies to licensure requirements for child- or youth-serving facilities). For purposes of Transitional Living Program eligibility, a homeless youth cannot be less than 16 years of age and must be less than 22 years of age (unless the individual commenced his or her stay before age 22, and the maximum service period has not ended).

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Street Outreach Program - *Is a Drop-in Center an acceptable alternative to street-based outreach?*

Pursuant to section 351(a) of the Runway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Act, Street Outreach Program (SOP) grants are awarded for, "...the purpose of providing street-based services to runaway and homeless, and street youth, who have been subjected to, or are at risk of being subjected to, sexual abuse, prostitution, sexual exploitation, and severe forms of trafficking in persons," (as defined in section 7102(9) of Title 22), or sex trafficking (as defined in section 7102(10) of Title 22). (34 U.S.C. § 11261)

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Street Outreach Program - *Is a Drop-in Center an acceptable alternative to street-based outreach?*

45 CFR 1351.27(a) Street Outreach Program: Grantees shall provide services that are designed to assist clients in leaving the streets, making healthy choices, and building trusting relationships in areas where targeted youth congregate.



Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Question: *Is a Drop-in Center an acceptable alternative to street-based outreach?*

Answer: No, a Drop-in Center is not an acceptable alternative to conducting street-based outreach efforts. Drop-in Centers are optional services under SOP and may serve to augment or enhance street-based services, but they are not intended to supplant, street-based, outreach efforts.



Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Basic Center Program - *How does FYSB define Prevention in the context of services provided under the Basic Center Program?*

Pursuant to section 311(a)(2) of the RHY Act, “The Secretary shall make grants to public and nonprofit private entities (and combinations of such entities) to establish and operate (including renovation) local centers to provide services for runaway and homeless youth and for the families of such youth.” The services provided shall be, “...an alternative to involving runaway and homeless youth in the law enforcement, child welfare, mental health, and juvenile justice systems;” and shall include safe and appropriate shelter provided for not to exceed 21 days...”

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Basic Center Program - *How does FYSB define Prevention in the context of services provided under the Basic Center Program?*

45 CFR 1351.26 - Basic Center and Transitional Living grantees shall develop and implement an aftercare plan, covering at least 3 months, to stay in contact with youth who leave the program in order to ensure their ongoing safety and access to services. A youth's individual aftercare plan shall outline what services were and will be provided as well as the youth's housing status during and after the program.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Basic Center Program - *How does FYSB define Prevention in the context of services provided under the Basic Center Program?*

Let's Revisit Some Definitions:

- Temporary shelter means all Basic Center Program shelter settings in which runaway and homeless youth are provided room and board, crisis intervention, and other services on a 24-hour basis for up to 21 days. The 21 day restriction is on the use of RHY funds through the Basic Center Program, not a restriction on the length of stay permitted by the facility.
- Aftercare means additional services provided beyond the period of residential stay that offer continuity and supportive follow-up to youth served by the program.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Question: How does FYSB define Prevention in the context of services provided under the Basic Center Program?

Answer: Prevention is defined as services provided to a youth and/or the youth's family prior to residential stay and after, at least, three months of aftercare.

Prevention services can be offered to a youth and/or their family if there is a break in residential stay and aftercare and the BCP has not provided sustained or regular aftercare services after three months.

Prevention efforts, whether through individual, family, and group counseling or street-based or home-based services for families, cannot be categorized as Prevention for the purposes of data collection once the youth begins a period of residential stay in the BCP or is receiving aftercare services beyond the period of residential stay for, at least, three months.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Basic Center Program - *Can legal guardians utilize BCP residential services to provide respite care? Respite care being loosely defined as, “planned or emergency temporary care provided to caregivers of a child.”*

As previously noted, the definition of runaway is someone who absents himself or herself from home or place of legal residence without the permission of a parent or legal guardian. Inherent in this definition is the notion of youth choice. That is to say, they voluntarily left their home or legal residence without permission. A runaway is not someone who is dropped off at a BCP by a legal guardian or law enforcement for the purposes of emergency temporary care for the benefit of the caregiver.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Question: *Can legal guardians utilize BCP residential services to provide respite care? Respite care being loosely defined as, “planned or emergency temporary care provided to the caregivers of a child.”*

Similarly, the definition of homeless youth, in the context of BCP, is an individual who cannot live safely with a parent, legal guardian, or relative, and who has no other safe alternative living arrangement. A legal guardian cannot abdicate their responsibility to provide youth shelter by intentionally bringing a youth to a BCP. If the youth is forced to leave a placement, whether that be the home of their parent or any legal guardians and have no safe alternative living arrangement, then they are considered homeless and eligible to receive BCP shelter services.

Clarifying RHY Program Expectations

Question: *Can legal guardians utilize BCP residential services to provide respite care? Respite care being loosely defined as, “planned or emergency temporary care provided to the caregivers of a child.”*

Answer: No, BCPs should not be used to provide respite care. By statute, BCPs are required to provide services for runaway and homeless youth. These services must include shelter, not to exceed 21 days, and make available individual, family and group counseling. BCPs should not be used as a placement alternative for legal guardians (i.e., family member, child welfare, juvenile justice) unwilling or incapable of caring for a youth.

Law enforcement and/or court officials cannot mandate placement in a BCP because a youth's involvement in RHY services (i.e., shelter and services) is voluntary and cannot be ordered.

Questions?

