

# TAMPA-HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY Coordinated Community Plan To Prevent and End Youth Homelessness

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*(updated 8.20.2024)*



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## Executive Summary

On September 20, 2023, The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) came to Tampa and announced the award of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) grant funding for the Tampa/Hillsborough County Continuum of Care (FL-501). The 2-year award of \$4,644,758 to the Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative (THHI), on behalf of the community, is to support our community in the development and implementation of a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness – specifically for **unaccompanied (UAY) and parenting youth (PY), ages 16 to 24**, that are **experiencing homelessness** (living on the streets, in an emergency shelter [Cat 1] and/or fleeing domestic violence [Cat 4] and/or **housing instability** (couch surfing, in motels they pay for [Cat 2])).

Following the award announcement, THHI alongside community partners, youth with lived experience and HUD-provided technical assistance advisors (TA), began developing the HUD required Coordinated Community Plan (CCP), establishing our coordinated community approach. After nearly a year of meetings, input sessions, HUD trainings / webinars and learning, the CCP is ready to be implemented in our community. This opportunity to develop and implement an effective and impactful youth homelessness response system has only been awarded to 116 communities in the nation and will go a long way to making homelessness among youth and young adults rare, brief, and non-recurring.

This Coordinated Community Plan (CCP) for the Tampa-Hillsborough Community, under the Tampa/Hillsborough County Continuum of Care (FL-501) is our coordinated community response to make homelessness among unaccompanied youth and young adults (YYA) experiencing homelessness or housing instability rare, brief, and non-recurring.

This plan was developed over the past several months with input and direction from:

- The Youth Action Board (YAB)
- YHDP planning team
- YHDP core team

This plan includes the projects and services that YYA with lived experience of homelessness have shared are needed to assist other YYA experiencing homelessness and housing instability achieve and maintain permanent housing.

The CCP begins with a **Statement of Needs** section that provides data in support of our community's need for YYA dedicated resources, such as the YHDP funding. This data describes the need of several subpopulations within the unaccompanied youth definition, such as YYA that are pregnant and/or parenting youth, identify as a member of the LGBTQ+ community, involved in the child welfare and/or justice system, victims of human trafficking and those with co-occurring diagnoses.

This is followed by the **CCP's Vision and Mission** section to make homelessness for unaccompanied YYA rare, brief, and non-recurring. The vision and mission were developed in coordination and collaboration with the YAB, planning team and core team, and input from the community.

The **Guiding Principles** section outlines the principles established by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) that all YHDP and youth focused projects need to embrace based on best and next practices proven to be effective. These will be implemented by YHDP-funded and other funded projects for unaccompanied YYA.

The **Goals, Objectives and Actions Step** section outlines the goals (listed below) with the related object, action steps and HUD key principles be met with each.

The goals identified for our community, within this CCP, are:

- Goal 1: Provide diverse low-barrier housing options from which youth and young adults can choose to meet their unique needs and preferences.
- Goal 2: Foster positive and meaningful relationships between youth and young adults and others of their choosing.
- Goal 3: Ensure youth and young adults have access to a broad array of physical and behavioral healthcare of their choosing.
- Goal 4: Center youth choice and autonomy.
- Goal 5: Reduce entries into youth and young adult homelessness through prevention and diversion.

Additional information on the objectives, action steps and key principles are further outlined on pages 18 to 21.

The **New Project List** section is probably most important element within the CCP for community partners as it outlines the projects that will be funded with the YHDP funding. In total, there are eight (8) new project types, listed below, that will be fully or partially funded with the YHDP funding. HUD requires 50 percent of the YHDP funding, less the planning funding, must be used for directly related housing costs include – rental assistance, utility assistance, security deposits, utility deposits, admin fees, application fees, utility and rental arrears. Further information can be found in the CCP on pages 21 to 31.

- **Youth Hub** –Based on the input and voice of YYA with lived experience, the Youth Hub is envisioned to be a one-stop site where unaccompanied YYA feel welcomed to engage in systems that will help end their experience of homelessness/housing instability. The Hub will meet their need for a clear path for YYA to engage in needed housing and services, along with transparency and youth-centered programming. First, the Hub will be a welcoming place to engage unsheltered YYA, giving them a connection to the housing and services resources. Second, the Hub will serve as a resource center for those who are in Host Homes, Rapid Rehousing (RRH), Transitional Housing (TH), or Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). Third, the Hub will provide resources to those who are at risk of homelessness, those who may need diversion assistance, and/or those who may need rapid exit financial assistance. The design and implementation of the Hub will ensure an affirming safe place for our identified special populations.

Key components of the Youth Hub include: (1) Coordinated Entry, including access, prioritization, referral, general case management, system/housing navigation, youth housing specialist, peer support, hotline, and diversion (e.g., rental arrears in certain situations, family reunification), (2) Day Drop-In Center, including basic needs (e.g., laundry, showers, storage, food pantry), computer access, entertainment, charging stations, one meal per day, (3) mobile component, including street outreach and transportation (e.g., bus passes, Uber/Lyft/Everdriven, van), (4) auxiliary services and/or connections provided by agencies already funded to provide such services, such as: education, employment, physical and behavioral healthcare, life skills, financial literacy, childcare, access to benefits, legal assistance,

etc., and (5) short-term financial assistance, including: (a) diversion from the homeless system with rental and/or utility arrears when YYA can maintain ongoing expenses; (b) transportation needs of YYA to get to/from HUB as well as other transportation needs YYA have to get to school, appointments, etc. such as bus passes, rideshare and/or payment of fuel for participants' vehicles; (c) assistance to YYA that need assistance with the costs of obtaining new housing and will be able to maintain without ongoing assistance – costs such as security deposits, utility deposits, first and last month's rent; and (d) assist with payment of eligible legal fees that are preventing YYA from being able to obtain permanent housing (including those being assisted in other youth serving projects).

The Hub vision cannot be fully achieved through YHDP funding and other funding will be needed. Through YHDP, the costs of operating the Hub – rent and utilities for a location, supplies, etc. – will be funded. Additional in-kind donations will also be sought as needed. The following staff will be provided: a system navigator, Community Youth Housing Specialist, and a Hub manager. Services and resources will include assistance with up-front move in costs – application fees, admin fees, security deposits up to 2 times the rent, first and last month's rent, utility deposits, and utility arrears – for YYA who are able to sustain housing after housing placement. There is funding to assist with rental arrears and utility arrears to assist YYA to maintain housing if they can sustain after being caught up. Some funding will be available to assist with transportation and legal fees.

THHI, as the lead agency, is committed to identifying and securing other funding for additional desired services – mental health services, assistance with legal fees and additional transportation services that YYA have identified is needed. Currently, 20% (\$919,792) of YHDP funding is committed to the Youth Hub.

- **Rapid Rehousing (RRH)** – under this CCP, 35 permanent housing units, consisting of 18 for YYA without minor children and 17 for YYA that are pregnant or parenting youth, will be provided assist for 24-36 months depending on household need. Two (2) case managers will be funded to assist the YYA households in connecting to other resources they need and choose to be able to maintain permanent housing. For this RRH, 46% (\$2,114,410) of the YHDP funding has been allocated.
- **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)** - The project will address the housing and services needs of vulnerable YYA households living with disabling conditions, many of whom are living in unsheltered locations and/or with co-occurring diagnoses. A total of 6 permanent housing units with a part time (.5 FTE) case manager will be provided with YHDP funding. The PSH project represents eight percent (8% - \$389,121) of the YHDP funding.
- **Transitional (crisis) Housing (TH)** - The TH program will address the critical need for crisis housing in the CoC and will reduce unsheltered YYA homelessness. youth adults ages 18-24, the program will provide short term housing (e.g., an average length of stay of less than 90 days) while permanent housing is identified. A total of 16 new TH beds will be brought online to serve, annually, a total of 40-60 YYA. The TH project will be funded with eight percent (8% - \$283,727) of the YHDP funds.
- **Host Homes** – as shared by the Hillsborough County Public Schools McKinney Vento Homeless Liaison, assistance is needed for unaccompanied homeless students attending high school. Often, a non-parent family member or friend's family will open their home to students who

need a place to stay. Many times, the added financial costs of ‘hosting’ the student exceeds the host family’s ability, and the student is not able to stay with them. This project will provide up to \$500 per month, as needed, to a host home to be able to keep the student in a stable situation while they complete high school. This project will be able to provide this stipend to up to 10 host homes. There will be a full-time host home coordinator that will work with the host home, student, and school social worker(s) during the time the student is enrolled in high school to assist in ensuring that student has a permanent housing situation at time of graduation. Of the YHDP funding, eight percent (8% - \$349,127) is allocated for the Host Home project.

- **Coordinated Entry for YYA** – Coordinated Entry is a HUD required process for all communities to have to assist in ensuring the most vulnerable person/household experiencing homelessness is prioritized for available housing interventions. Housing interventions include rapid rehousing and permanent housing. Interventions. Through YHDP funding 1 full time staff will be employed as a coordinated entry specialist, which accounts for three percent (3% - \$152,600) of the YHDP funding. A second Coordinated Entry specialist will be part of the youth response system, though funded through a difference funding source.
- **Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)** – The HMIS system is a HUD requirement for all communities. HMIS is the database for all data related to persons/households experiencing homeless within any designated community. Data from HMIS is required to be submitted to HUD annually for System Performance, Housing Inventory, annual performance of other HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) project performance and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funded projects. Projects funded with YHDP funding are required to be part of the HMIS system and all reporting is required to be captured through HMIS entered data. YHDP funding will be supporting a full-time staff person responsible for all training for projects listed above, ensuring all data elements are captured accurately and as necessary for accurate reporting of outcomes and successes. Four percent (4% - \$187,481) of the YHDP funding has been allocated for HMIS.

Following the list of new projects is the **Governance Structure** section for our community’s system to make homelessness for unaccompanied YYA rare, brief, and non-recurring. This section includes a description of the YAB, YHDP planning, YHDD Core Team and HUD provided Technical Assistance Providers (TA). The structure outlines the roles of the YAB, planning team, core team and further Continued Quality Improvement (CQI) team that centers youth voice within all processes and decisions.

The **Partners** section identifies community partners that were apart of developing the CCP and/or have an identified role in our community’s youth housing crisis response system.

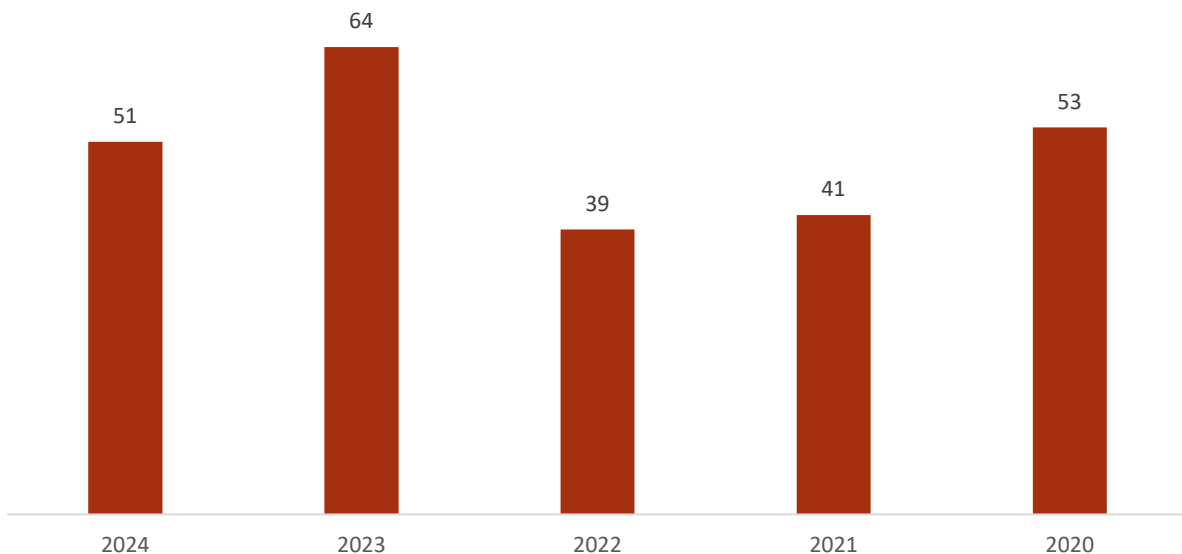
The **Signature section** is a testament to the many different government bodies, entities, and continuum of care bodies (committees) that accept and agree to be a part of the CCP plan to make homelessness among unaccompanied YYA rare, brief, and non-recurring in the Tampa/Hillsborough County community.

## Statement of Need

### Unaccompanied youth and young adults (YYA) experiencing homelessness

During the Tampa/Hillsborough County Continuum of Care (FL-501) 2024 Point in Time Count, we identified a total of 41 youth and young adults (YYA) households who were experiencing homelessness on a given night in February. Of these 41, and estimated 14 were unsheltered unaccompanied youth (UAY), while the remaining 10 parenting youth (PY) households and 17 UAY households were in an emergency shelter or transitional housing program. The 2024 numbers mark an increase in sheltered UAY households since the 2020 PIT count, where 12 unaccompanied sheltered households were identified. It is likely that this change is a result of both improved PIT processes and actual increases in youth homelessness.

Figure 1: Households Counted During the PIT by Year

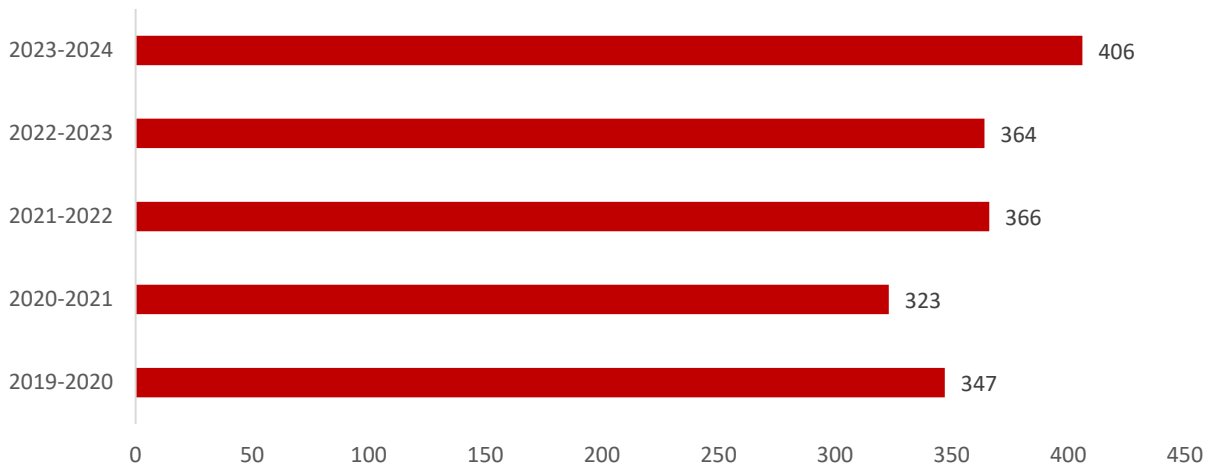


*Note: The 2020 PIT was completed in February 2020, prior to the start of the pandemic. Due to the pandemic, an unsheltered count was not conducted in 2021; only a shelter count was completed.*

Public school system data is consistent with the increase in homelessness among YYA. In the 2023-2024 school year, 406 YYA were identified as Unaccompanied Homeless Youth in the McKinney-Vento program in Hillsborough County. This is an 11.5% increase when over the previous year; and represents a 17% increase since the 2019-2020 school year when 347 total unaccompanied youth households were reported by the Council.

Information provided by the National Center for Homeless Education, data compiled by FAFSA (i.e., Free Application for Federal Student Aid) indicates that Unaccompanied Homeless Youth applying for educational financial aid in Florida in 2021-2022 increased approximately 10% from the previous year and 25% over the number two years prior (This is the latest data provided).

Figure 2: Unaccompanied Youth Households by School Year\*



Source: Florida Council on Homelessness Annual Reports, 2020 - 2024

It is particularly informative to examine Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) data across a period of time. As compared to the PIT, recent HMIS annual data provides a more comprehensive updated picture of YYA homelessness, although HMIS numbers are also likely to be lower than actual numbers due to the likelihood that some YYA experiencing homelessness will not have accessed resources from an HMIS-participating organization.

According to HMIS for the period 10/1/2022 through 9/30/2023 (the most recent HUD system performance period), there were a total of 352 youth and young adult households experiencing homelessness, with a total of 613 people in those households. Of the total 613 YYA household members in HMIS for the year, 64% identified as Black, 23% as multiracial, and 12% as white; the demographic results are similar when the calculations exclude the children of parenting YYA. As a point of comparison, according to U.S. Census data, 73% of Hillsborough County residents identified as white alone.

In terms of gender, of the 352 YYA households, 68% were female-led, while 32% were male-led; fewer than one half of one percent identified as other than female or male. In general, then, persons of color and females are overrepresented in Tampa-Hillsborough YYA homelessness. Further, of the non-parenting YYA households, more than a third reported having a disabling condition, including 10% who were chronically homeless, whereas among the parenting YYA households, about 10% were living with a disability.

The Stella P analysis of YYA pathways indicates that, of the adult-only YYA households served in the homelessness response system during 10/1/2022-9/30/2023, just 35% exited to permanent housing destinations. While 16% rented their own unit (4% with subsidies and 12% without subsidies), another 19% moved in with family or friends. Unfortunately, 38% exited to temporary locations, including 24% who exited to unsheltered locations. The exit destination of 27% of these households was unknown.



An updated picture of YYA homelessness is offered through analysis of a recent By Name List (BNL) of YYA households. As of 2/12/2024, a total of 116 YYA were on the BNL awaiting housing placement. Of that total, more than 23% were experiencing unsheltered homelessness. About 87% of the YYA on the BNL were young people of color and 72% female, again documenting the overrepresentation of these groups in YYA homelessness.

Currently, the Tampa-Hillsborough CoC has just one youth-dedicated rapid rehousing project for 21 one-bedroom units, which is unable to meet the needs of youth experiencing homelessness in the face of scarce affordable housing. Similarly, as demonstrated by the numbers of YYA experiencing unsheltered homelessness, the CoC’s limited crisis shelter beds and transitional housing beds fall far short of meeting the needs of youth, especially those for whom flexibility and low barriers are of critical importance.

Table 1. Causes and needs for YYA experiencing homelessness

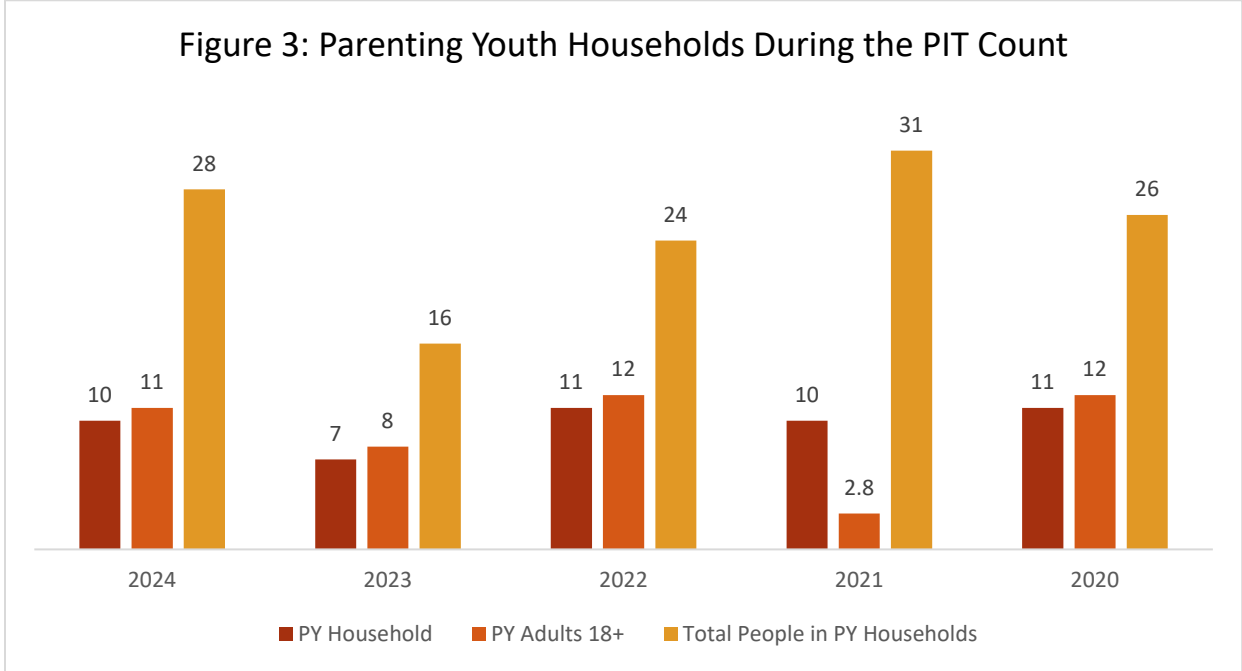
	Root Causes	Needs
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of low-barrier safe short-term crisis shelter and/or transitional housing (TH)</li> <li>● Difficulty locating safe affordable rental units</li> <li>● Difficulty securing rentals due to low income, age, justice system involvement, previous evictions, and other barriers</li> <li>● Difficulty obtaining documentation required for renting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Low-barrier safe short-term crisis shelter and/or TH as bridge to permanent housing</li> <li>● Rapid rehousing, including housing identification/navigation, financial support to stabilize in rental units, and assistance obtaining documentation required to address housing (and other) needs; individualized and flexible</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Interrupted and/or limited education</li> <li>● Difficulty applying for FAFSA and post-secondary education and training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assistance navigating high school, GED, and/or post-secondary educational opportunities</li> <li>● Educational guidance and counseling</li> </ul>
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Difficulty finding employment that pays well or offers enough hours</li> <li>● Age, justice system involvement, lack of employment history, and other barriers</li> <li>● Lack of reliable accessible transportation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Employment counseling and support to obtain employment sufficient to sustain housing (e.g., enough hours, living wage)</li> <li>● Transportation assistance (e.g., bus passes, gas cards, auto repair, obtaining license and insurance)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Scarcity of positive social support systems</li> <li>● Disabling conditions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strengths-based positive case management</li> </ul>

Social and emotional well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Difficulty finding the help that is needed</li> <li>● Not trained in life skills, such as financial management and home upkeep</li> <li>● Difficulty applying for benefits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assistance navigating behavioral health and physical health systems for ongoing care</li> <li>● Access to Life Skills learning opportunities</li> <li>● Assistance with applying for benefits</li> </ul>
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**Pregnant or parenting youth (PY) experiencing homelessness**

HMIS data for the period 10/1/2022-9/30/2023 indicate that 106 youth and young adults were parenting; on average, these households included two children. More than 97% of these households were headed by young women; and, of those female-headed households, over 90% were headed by young women who identified as Black or multiracial. The data indicates that PY Black/multiracial female-headed households make up almost 60% of all YYA households in HMIS for the given period.

The 2024 PIT Count showed 11 PY adults (10 PY households), with 9 in our shelter programs and 1 household in transitional housing. This represents a 43% increase from the 7 PY households counted during the 2023 PIT count.



*Note: The 2020 PIT was completed in February 2020, prior to the start of the pandemic. Due to the pandemic, an unsheltered count was not conducted in 2021; only a shelter count was completed.*

The Stella P analysis of YYA pathways indicates that, of the parenting YYA households served in the homelessness response system during 10/1/2022-9/30/2023, 74% exited to permanent housing destinations. While 63% rented their own unit (16% with subsidies and 47% without subsidies), another

10% moved in with family or friends. About 21% exited to temporary locations, while the exit destination of 5% of these households was unknown.

Table 2. Causes and needs for pregnant and parenting youth, *in addition to those in Table 1*

	Root Causes	Needs
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of access to affordable housing appropriate for young children</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Rapid rehousing to assist with two- and three-bedroom apartments; assistance identifying units in safe family-oriented neighborhoods</li> </ul>
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of flexible-hours easily accessible childcare</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assistance navigating childcare options and support</li> </ul>
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Lack of flexible-hours easily accessible childcare</li> <li>● Difficulty finding employment that pays well but is also flexible enough to meet family responsibilities as a single parent</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assistance navigating childcare options and support</li> <li>● Individualized employment counseling and support</li> </ul>
Social and emotional well-being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Difficulty connecting to services and benefits related to young children</li> <li>● Lack of experience with positive parenting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Assistance navigating benefits, legal services, children’s services, and other systems of care</li> <li>● Parenting supports, classes, mentoring</li> </ul>

**Unsheltered youth**

Of the 41 UAY identified in the 2024 PIT, an estimated 14 (34%) were unsheltered. No unsheltered parenting youth households were counted in 2024. On a recent By Name List, 27 of 116 YYA (23%) were experiencing unsheltered homelessness. Currently in the Tampa-Hillsborough CoC, there is only one small shelter option that served a total of nine youth experiencing homelessness over the period 10/1/2021-9/30/2023. There is no Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) program serving the community at this time. Hillsborough County Children’s Services has submitted applications for a Basic Center through RHY funding in 2023 and 2024. Their application was not selected for funding in 2023; and the 2024 awards have not been announced.

The needs of YYA experiencing unsheltered homelessness are very similar to those listed in Tables 1 and 2. In addition to those needs, young people who are unsheltered are probably more likely to have some of the following characteristics: mistrust in multiple systems; engaging in risky behaviors; victims of violence, exploitation, and/or trafficking; and longer or repeated experiences of homelessness. Therefore, for this group there is a special need for positive, intentional, warm handoffs between street outreach and pathways to housing (e.g., TH/RRH, RRH). Further, these young people may need longer

periods of assistance to ensure housing stability, more assistance with behavioral and physical health systems, and more flexible individualized support.

### **YYA at risk of homelessness**

For YYA households that have requested assistance from the homelessness response system, HMIS data for the period 10/1/2022-9/30/2023 documents 209 YYA household members at risk of homelessness. More than 80% of that group identified as Black or multiracial; 72% were female. While this number is an undercount of all YYA at risk of homelessness, it likely captures many of those at the greatest immediate risk. Similarly, a local youth health clinic reported that 48 of the patients aged 18-24 who were seen in 2023 reported housing instability, representing almost one-third of their patients; of that group, 56% were Black and 69% women. The data provided did not include if the YYA was also PY.

Youth and young adults at risk of homelessness need financial support such as homelessness prevention, connections to employment counseling and opportunities, and assistance applying for benefits.

### **Other special populations**

#### ***YYA involved in justice system and/or child welfare system***

In 2023, Hillsborough County had the highest number of juvenile arrests in the State of Florida, at 3,525, according to the Department of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Profile 2023 (<https://www.djj.state.fl.us/research/reports-and-data/interactive-data-reports/delinquency-profile/delinquency-profile-dashboard>). This is a 25% increase when compared to 2022. Of these arrests, 1,761 were felony arrests, 1,501 for misdemeanors and 91 for other offenses. Of those arrested on a felony charge, 426 youth entered diversion programs, 92 were put on probation, and 131 were either confined residentially in a juvenile justice facility or transferred to the adult system. For young adults aged 18-24, the Florida Department of Law Enforcement reported that more than 15,000 people were detained in Hillsborough County jails over a six-month period in 2023. While data regarding involvement with the justice system is not tracked in HMIS, we know from existing programs and from youth forum sessions that past justice system involvement creates even greater barriers for young people when attempting to obtain employment and rental housing.

The Children's Network of Hillsborough, the public child welfare agency for the Tampa-Hillsborough County community, reported in May 2024, there 2,623 children and young adults being served by their organization. Of those, 139 (5.3%) were over the age of 18 in their Independent Living Program and 530 (20.21%) were between the ages of 13 and 17. For According to their 2022-2023 annual report, they served a total of 3,278 children. While foster system involvement is not tracked in HMIS, we know that child welfare system involvement increases the likelihood that a young person will experience homelessness and have difficulty stabilizing in housing. Currently there are only six Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) housing vouchers in Hillsborough County and there is one independent living program for youth aging out of foster care. The Housing Authority of City of Tampa submitted an application in response to HUD's 2024 Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) Competitive NOFO for 25 additional FYI vouchers.

The YYA who have been involved with other systems of care are very likely to have experienced trauma, violence, housing instability, and lack of positive support networks. Therefore, beyond housing

assistance, they need trauma-informed care, counseling, housing and employment navigation focused on their special needs, and mentorship.

### ***YYA victims of human trafficking***

There were a total of 234 reports of human trafficking in Hillsborough County in 2021; minors were victims in about 30% of the cases but the number of young adults who are victims of trafficking is unknown. These young people have likely experienced significant trauma, housing instability, and interruption of education and traditional workforce participation. Their needs include not only rapid rehousing to safe rental units, but also trauma-informed case management, counseling or therapy, and employment and educational connections.

### ***LGBTQ+ YYA***

We do not have an accurate count of LGBTQ+ youth and young adults experiencing homelessness or housing instability due to several factors: lack of historical collection of certain information (e.g., sexual orientation); a young person's hesitancy about disclosing information for fear of negative consequences; lack of clarity or dispute about classifications (e.g., a transgender woman might choose to identify as female rather than transgender female). The data we do have suggests that there are relatively few YYA that identify as LGBTQ+ or gender non-conforming; we expect this is an undercount.

As one data point, a local youth health clinic reported that 48 of their patients aged 18-24 who were seen in 2023 reported housing instability, representing almost one-third of their patients. More than 37% of those who reported experiencing housing instability self-identified as something other than straight (i.e., gay, lesbian, bisexual, or other). This sample indicates that LGBTQ+ YYA are overrepresented in homelessness and those at risk of homelessness.

### ***Unaccompanied youth under 18***

Our most recent PIT data (2024) did not identify any unaccompanied minors experiencing homelessness in Tampa-Hillsborough County. However, the school district shared they were aware of at least two dozen minors who are staying with friends or family members who are not their legal guardians. In reviewing PIT data from 2020 to 2024, only six (6) unaccompanied minors experiencing homelessness were identified.

Unaccompanied minors are especially vulnerable due to their age and likely history of unstable housing and family relationships. Their needs include host/kinship home financial support and access to crisis housing. In addition, trauma-informed case management, connections to mentors and other support systems, and educational connections are all critical.

### ***Youth and young adults with co-occurring diagnoses***

For the period 10/1/2022 through 9/30/2023, HMIS records show that 38 YYA have at least two diagnoses, including 12 who have both mental health and substance use diagnoses. Other co-diagnoses include HIV/AIDS (2), chronic illness (15), physical disability (16), and developmental disabilities (9). Given these complex sets of diagnoses, these youth and young adults are extremely vulnerable to long-term homelessness, exploitation/trafficking, worsening health, and even death.

The needs of these youth include immediate access to safe housing, which in some cases may require permanent supportive housing. Essential services include connections to physical health and behavioral health resources, trauma-informed case management, and connections to resources that address social/emotional well-being. In addition, some may need supported employment options and/or educational supports.

## Vision

Our shared vision is that youth and young adult homelessness in Tampa-Hillsborough County is rare, brief, and nonrecurring.

## Mission

To make youth and young adult homelessness in Tampa-Hillsborough County rare, brief, and nonrecurring, we will work to ensure that every young person will feel seen and affirmed, with equitable and quick access to coordinated housing and supports that are transparent and easy to navigate. We will center youth choice and autonomy in the design and provision of low-barrier housing options, as well as flexible individualized supports and connections related to employment, education, childcare, physical and behavioral healthcare, transportation, and fostering positive relationships.

## Guiding Principles

The Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps presented in the next section are aligned with our Vision and grounded in the federal guidelines outlined below. The United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) has identified four Core Outcomes, which are the benchmarks against which the proposed projects will be measured. In addition, projects must incorporate HUD's Key Principles and contribute to serving young people in identified special populations as described below.

### USICH Youth Framework and Core Outcomes

Below are the Core Outcomes identified by USICH. These same desired outcomes were identified independently by our community's own youth and young adults as they helped improve our youth homelessness response system. The Core Outcomes will be achieved in Tampa-Hillsborough County through the implementation of activities described in the "Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps" and the "New Project List" sections of this Plan.

- **Stable Housing:** Stable housing, including a safe and reliable place to call home, is a necessary platform for young people to feel safe, thrive, and achieve success and independence on their own terms.
- **Permanent Connections:** Community connections include ongoing attachments to families, communities, schools, and other positive social networks. These connections are established through ongoing positive interactions with adults and peers support young people as they find their own paths.
- **Education and Employment:** The education and employment outcomes include high performance in and completion of educational and training activities, especially for younger youth, and starting and maintaining adequate and stable employment, particularly for older youth and young adults. Knowledge and skills are required to navigate the adult world;

achieving education and employment goals help young people ensure ongoing housing stability and financial security so they can reach their potential.

- Social-emotional well-being: This includes the development of key competencies, attitudes, and behaviors that equip a young person to succeed across multiple domains of daily life, including school, work, relationships, and community. To thrive and become their best selves, young people must experience social and emotional well-being. With positive self-worth and self-acceptance, healing from trauma, and self-realized autonomy, youth and young adults can build the lives they deserve.

## HUD Key Principles

HUD has established key principles for systems and projects designed to end youth homelessness. Funded youth projects must incorporate these principles to serve YYA in our community. In the section below entitled “Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps,” the key principles involved are identified for each goal.

- Equity: We will work to identify and understand the disparities that exist for Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) and lesbian, gay, transgender, queer and gender non-conforming (LGBTBQ+) youth and young adults to ensure that all youth are provided inclusive and affirming assistance, and there are equitable access to, and outcomes of, housing and services provided.
  - Project staff will be trained on equity issues, policies, and practices, including racial equity, Equal Access Rule, and Gender Identity Rule.
  - Equity will be centered in the project design and implementation phases of all projects, with assistance from YAB members with diverse experiences and identities.
  - Nondiscrimination policies will be reviewed and updated as needed.
  - Equity will be assessed during project monitoring, including qualitative and quantitative means. For instance, equity will be assessed monthly through review of APR elements, such as Length of Time from Project Start Date to Housing Move-in Date by Race and Ethnicity, and Exit Destination Type by Race and Ethnicity, and by comparing project participants’ race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity to the overall homeless YYA population’s same characteristics. Qualitative monitoring of equity will be accomplished through interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, review of participant grievances, comparison of project staff characteristics to those of participants, observations, and review of policies and procedures. Continuous Quality Improvement actions will be implemented as needed to correct identified problems.
  - Communication materials (e.g., posters at project sites, website graphics, email language, materials provided to participants) will be diverse, inclusive, and affirming.
  - Technical assistance will be provided as appropriate.
- Positive Youth Development (PYD): We will integrate PYD approaches that partner with youth to strengthen the young person’s sense of identity, belief in the future, and self-efficacy, as well as their social, emotional, cognitive, and behavioral competence. PYD is a strengths-based approach that respects YYA as experts in their own lives and in their own development.
  - Project staff will receive training on PYD principles, practices, and implementation.
  - PYD practices will be infused into all projects during the design and implementation phases, with support from TA providers.

- During project monitoring, the implementation of PYD practices will be assessed through review of participant case files, interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, observation, and review of policies and procedures.
  - Technical assistance will be provided as needed.
- Trauma-Informed Care (TIC): Recognizing that past and current trauma has a significant impact on YYA needing housing and services, we will ensure that trauma-informed care is infused into all projects through design, implementation, and evaluations of programs. TIC highlights safety, trustworthiness, choice, collaboration, and empowerment of YYA – all aspects of care that are central to youth projects in our community.
  - Project staff will participate in training on TIC principles, practices, and implementation.
  - TIC practices will be infused into projects during the design and implementation phases.
  - During project monitoring, the implementation of TIC practices will be assessed through review of participant case files, review of participant grievances, interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, observation, and review of policies and procedures.
  - Technical assistance will be provided as needed.
- Family Engagement: When appropriate and while centering youth choice, projects will work to engage families through partnerships with child welfare agencies, schools, and other providers in our system. Family engagement will be designed to strengthen, stabilize, and, as appropriate, reunify families using approaches such as counseling, conflict resolution, and parenting supports.
  - During the project design phase, policies and procedures related to family engagement will be crafted to support youth choice and provide guidelines for supporting family engagement.
  - If desired by the youth or young adult, project staff will facilitate healthy engagement with family, involving other parties (e.g., school system, child welfare) as appropriate.
  - To the extent needed, project staff will coordinate with other providers to assist with other services, such as family counseling, parenting supports, conflict resolution supports.
  - During project monitoring, family engagement practices will be assessed through review of participant case files, review of participant grievances, interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, observation, and review of policies and procedures.
- Housing First: We will ensure that youth and young adults are quickly connected to safe stable housing with no preconditions or barriers, such as requirements related to employment or education, mandatory services, income, or sobriety. Housing will be paired with connections to individualized services the household needs and chooses.
  - Project staff will participate in training on Housing First principles, practices, and implementation.
  - Housing First practices will be infused into all projects during the design and implementation phases.
  - During project monitoring, the implementation of Housing First practices will be assessed using a Housing First monitoring tool, through review of participant case files,



- review of participant grievances, interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, observation, and review of policies and procedures.
  - Technical assistance will be provided as needed.
- Youth Choice: The autonomy and self-determination of youth and young adults are centered in our community's projects. YYA will feel seen and heard, and they will have the power to make their own decisions about their well-being, services, and housing.
  - The youth homelessness response system, including all funded projects, will be designed and implemented with youth choice at the center, with support from YAB members and TA providers.
  - Project policies and procedures will ensure project staff and participants engage with this in mind.
  - Project staff will be trained in practices related to centering youth choice. Topics might include ageism, youth-centric language and practices, motivational interviewing, and more.
  - During project monitoring, fidelity to centering youth choice will be assessed through review of participant case files, review of participant grievances, interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, observation, and review of policies and procedures.
- Community Integration: Since the YYA transition to adulthood includes successfully integrating into the community, we will provide socially supportive engagement and opportunities for youth to participate in their choice of meaningful community activities.
  - During the project design phase, policies and procedures related to community integration will be crafted to support youth choice and provide guidelines for activity engagement.
  - Project staff will help facilitate engagement with community activities, mentoring, parenting groups, sports, or similar opportunities as desired by the program participant.
  - The planned Youth Hub project will offer safe positive social activities such as movies, game nights, and fun life skills group activities.
  - THHI will work to engage existing community providers such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, local government parks and recreation departments, and family support programs.
  - During project monitoring, community integration practices will be assessed through review of participant case files, review of participant grievances, interviews or surveys of program participants and project staff, observation, and review of policies and procedures.
- Coordinated Entry: Our community commits to ensuring that all projects participate fully in the high-functioning coordinated entry system, which is designed to be youth-appropriate, operates with transparency, and addresses the unique needs of YYA.
  - We will request YHDP funding for a new Coordinated Entry project to ensure that the system is youth-appropriate, transparent, and addresses the needs of YYA.
  - Youth-centric CE policies and practices will be designed by THHI, with support from YAB members and TA providers.
  - The planned Youth Hub project will serve as a physical point of entry for YYA CE, augmented by youth homelessness hotline numbers and outreach.

- Unsheltered Homelessness: We will intentionally develop strategies and projects to reduce unsheltered youth homelessness in the community, with the goal of ensuring that no young person experiences unsheltered homelessness.
  - The requested Youth Hub project will serve as a one-stop resource center for unsheltered youth and young adults, which will quickly engage youth in safe supportive youth-focused coordinated entry, resource connections, activities, mainstream benefits, and housing options. Diversion and rapid exit resources will also be available at the Hub.
  - THHI and the YAB will ensure comprehensive and effective Youth Counts as part of upcoming PIT counts.
  - The requested transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and permanent supportive housing projects will increase the capacity to quickly house and support unsheltered youth and young adults.
- Educational Partnerships: Our youth homelessness response system partners closely with K-12 and local post-secondary institutions to ensure the YYA have the educational opportunities and successes they need to thrive and ensure ongoing stability and enrichment.
  - The requested Youth Hub project will provide connections to education opportunities, including K-12, post-secondary institutions and early learning programs, help with financial aid applications, and more. These services will be available to YYA who are in housing projects, as well as those who are unsheltered and/or at risk of homelessness.
  - The requested Host Homes project is targeted to youth in the K-12 system who are staying with family or friends who are not their legal guardians while still enrolled in high school or who have an identified friend or family member with whom they might stay with if supports are available. This project will provide financial support to the host, as well as case management support to link the youth and household to needed resources.
  - The Hub project will provide connections to educational resources for all YYA seeking these connections.
- Special Populations: Our community has identified the following special populations of youth and young adults that are especially vulnerable and tend to be at the greatest risk of homelessness. The housing and services offered must ensure that these populations receive the support they need. The identified needs of these groups are described in the Statement of Need section above. Below we describe the different approaches YHDP programs will use to address the needs of the following special populations:
  - LGBTQ+ and gender non-conforming youth
    - Maximize partnerships with local LGBTQ+ organizations and providers for our YYA, such as Metro Inclusive Health, Gay Straight Alliances in Hillsborough County Public High Schools, local PFLAG chapters, and the Tampa Bay LGBT Chamber.
    - Mark the sexual orientation field (HMIS data element R3) as “sensitive data” in our local HMIS to protect vulnerable YYA from an inadvertent disclosure that may harm them.
    - Monitor program data for equity in access and outcomes as part of our continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan.
    - Partner with local resource directories like TeenConnect and the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (211) to affirmatively market new and existing resources to this

special population.

- Young people involved with the justice system and/or the child welfare system
  - Maximize our relationship with the Hillsborough County Public Defender's Office and Bay Area Legal Services to help ensure that YYA involved in the criminal justice system have access to the legal support they may need.
  - Protect data around involvement with the criminal justice or child welfare system by not disclosing said information unless it is absolutely necessary, expressly requested by the YYA, or required by law.
  - Work with Hillsborough County Children's Services Department and the Children's Network of Hillsborough County to provide services to YYA involved in the child welfare system.
  - Work with Camelot Community Care, the ILS provider, for YYA that have aged out of foster care.
  - Monitor program data for equity in access and outcomes as part of our continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan.
  - Partner with local resource directories like TeenConnect and the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (211) to affirmatively market new and existing resources to this special population.
  
- Survivors of human trafficking or exploitation
  - Ensure all YYA serving programs has the Tampa Bay Human Taskforce Brochure (<https://police.stpete.org/docs/crimePreventionHumanTraffickingBrochure.pdf>) prominently displayed that provides hotlines and valuable resource information.
  - Conduct safety planning for survivors to make sure all needs are identified and addressed.
  - Refer to local organizations that specialize in assisting trafficking survivors such as Created, Shalah Freedom and to The Spring, our local domestic violence shelter provider, as needed and with the consent of the YYA.
  - Connect YYA with legal resources, such as Bay Area Legal Services to protect themselves from their abusers, as needed and with the consent of the YYA.
  - Monitor program data for equity in access and outcomes as part of our continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan.
  - Partner with local resource directories like TeenConnect and the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (211) to affirmatively market new and existing resources to this special population.
  
- Young people under the age of 18
  - Work with Hillsborough County Children's Services Department and the Children's Network of Hillsborough County to provide services to minors via certified youth providers.
  - Work with Hillsborough County Public Schools to ensure that minors are connected with education resources, including re-enrollment in a school, or general education diploma programs.
  - Promote reunification with family or friends whenever safe, appropriate, and in keeping with the YYA's wishes.
  - Monitor program data for equity in access and outcomes as part of our

- continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan.
  - Partner with local resource directories like TeenConnect and the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (211) to affirmatively market new and existing resources to this special population.
- Pregnant and parenting youth
  - Offer connections with agencies that specialize in working with expecting parents or PY households, with shelter and housing such as Metropolitan Ministries and Dawning Family Services.
  - Partner with the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County, Healthy Start Coalition of Hillsborough County, Success for Kids and Families, all of which offer support and resources for families with children such as parenting classes, child/infant safety classes/ educational programs/ behavioral health screenings, and school readiness programs.
  - Ensure connections to mainstream benefits such as WIC, TANF, Medicaid and Florida KidCare health programs.
  - Monitor program data for equity in access and outcomes as part of our continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan.
  - Partner with local resource directories like TeenConnect and the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (211) to affirmatively market new and existing resources to this special population
- Young people with disabilities and/or chronic physical/behavioral health issues
  - Partner with providers such as Metro Inclusive Health, Children’s Board, Gracepoint Wellness, Tampa Family Health Centers (FQHC) and ACTS to offer a variety of physical, mental/behavioral/ and substance abuse services for YYA in need of these services.
  - Connect with youth-specific resources that can work with YYA to address YYA’s medical and behavioral needs; including agencies such as Camelot Community Care, G3 Life Applications; Joshua Way of Hope; One More Child; Peace Outreach Resource Center; Project LINK; Youth Improvement Services, and Success 4 Kids & Families, Tampa Bay Academy of Hope, Youth Improvement Services, and AMIkids.
  - Referrals to Hillsborough County Health Care Services’ community SOAR team to access benefits they may be eligible for.
  - Monitor program data for equity in access and outcomes as part of our continuous quality improvement (CQI) plan.
  - Partner with local resource directories like TeenConnect and the Crisis Center of Tampa Bay (211) to affirmatively market new and existing resources to this special population.

## Goals, Objectives, and Action Steps

<b>Goal 1: Provide diverse low-barrier housing options from which youth and young adults can choose to meet their unique needs and preferences</b>	
<i>Objective 1.1: Increase housing partnerships</i>	
Action Step 1.1.1: Provide community-wide YYA housing services at the Youth Hub through a community Youth Housing Specialist	
Action Step 1.1.2: Research Student Living housing options	
Action Step 1.1.3: Work closely with Tampa Housing Authority to increase capacity and facilitate use of FYI and FUP vouchers for YYA housing	
Action Step 1.1.4: Revise coordinated entry policies, procedures, and practices to be responsive to the unique needs of youth	
Action Step 1.1.5: Explore partnership with Habitat for Humanity Hillsborough County	
<i>Objective 1.2: Increase capacity and best practices in YYA-focused programs</i>	
Action Step 1.2.1: Ensure that staff in YHDP-funded housing options are trained in best practices, including housing first fidelity, trauma-informed care, positive youth development, needs of special populations and unsheltered youth, social and community integration, family engagement, centering youth choice, equity and cultural humility	
Action Step 1.2.2: Include best practices, equity, and youth choice in project implementation, monitoring plans, and quality improvement strategies	
<i>Objective 1.3: Ensure that equity issues are central in project monitoring and Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) processes</i>	
Action Step 1.3.1: Track racial equity through quantitative and qualitative means in project monitoring and CQI processes, and provide technical assistance when needed	
Partner(s) Responsible: YYA Housing Specialist at the Youth Hub; Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative; YHDP project provider agencies; CQI Team; YAB	
Timeframe: 2024 and ongoing	
<b>HUD Key Principles</b>	
Special Populations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing First <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Positive Youth Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trauma-Informed Care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Family Engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Youth Choice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Individualized & Participant Driven Supports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Goal 2: Foster positive and meaningful relationships between youth and young adults and others of their choosing</b>	
<i>Objective 2.1: Create opportunities for youth and young adults to focus on overall well-being by developing positive relationships with mentors, peers, family, or others of their choosing</i>	
Action Step 2.1.1: Connect youth and young adults to existing mentorship and youth development programs	
Action Step 2.1.2: Collaborate with Youth Shine, a youth run, peer driven organization of current and former youth in foster care or who have experienced homelessness.	
Action Step 2.1.3: Research whether Big Brothers Big Sisters is a source of support	
Action Step 2.1.4: Incorporate into Youth Hub a variety of group activities such as movie or game nights and enjoyable life skills activities	
Partner(s) Responsible: Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative; YHDP project provider agencies, YAB	
Timeframe: 2024 and ongoing	
<b>HUD Key Principles</b>	
Special Populations <input type="checkbox"/>	Housing First <input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Youth Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equity <input type="checkbox"/>
Trauma-Informed Care <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness <input type="checkbox"/>
Family Engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Youth Choice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry <input type="checkbox"/>
Individualized & Participant Driven Supports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Goal 3: Ensure youth and young adults have access to a broad array of physical and behavioral healthcare of their choosing</b>	
<i>Objective 3.1: Ensure relatable peer and professional support is available and beneficial</i>	
Action Step 3.1.1: Hire person(s) with lived experience to work out of the Youth Hub	

Action Step 3.1.2: Screen for physical and behavioral health issues to identify needs and ensure youth and young adults are linked to appropriate resources when desired by the youth or young adult	
Action Step 3.1.3: Ensure strong collaborations to link youth to youth-friendly physical and behavioral health resources	
Partner(s) Responsible: Youth Hub; YHDP project provider agencies; YAB	
Timeframe: 2024 and ongoing	
<b>HUD Key Principles</b>	
Special Populations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing First <input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Youth Development <input type="checkbox"/>	Equity <input type="checkbox"/>
Trauma-Informed Care <input type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Family Engagement <input type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Youth Choice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Individualized & Participant Driven Supports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Goal 4: Center youth choice and autonomy</b>
<i>Objective 4.1: Ensure youth choice in all YHDP-funded projects</i>
Action Step 4.1.1: Include youth and young adults on project implementation and evaluation committees
Action Step 4.1.2: Develop strategy for YAB involvement in written standards for projects, project hiring, and other aspects of implementation
Action Step 4.1.3: Hire peer position(s) to work out of Youth Hub
Action Step 4.1.4: Reach out to nontraditional providers (e.g., LGBTQ+ organizations, culturally specific organizations) to broaden array of linkages for YYA
<i>Objective 4.2: Support YAB growth, capacity, and empowerment</i>
Action Step 4.2.1: Ensure funds are available to continue YAB at full capacity into the future
Partner(s) Responsible: Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative; YAB; CQI Team; YHDP project provider agencies
Timeframe: 2024 and ongoing
<b>HUD Key Principles</b>

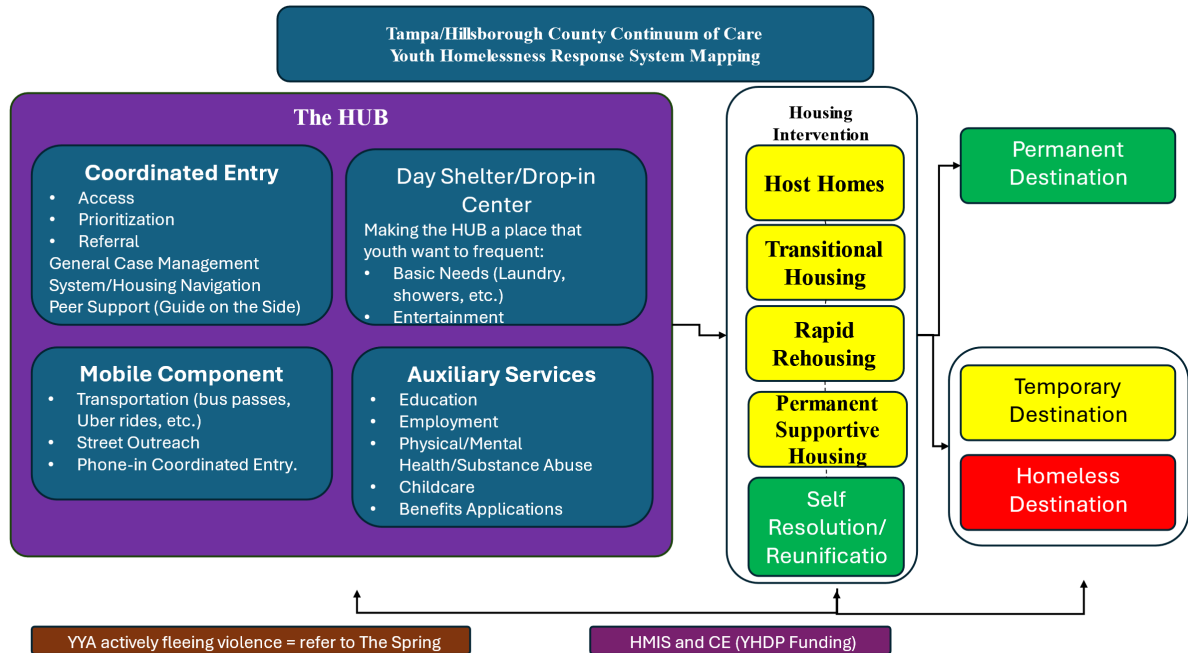
Special Populations <input type="checkbox"/>	Housing First <input type="checkbox"/>
Positive Youth Development <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Equity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trauma-Informed Care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Family Engagement <input type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration <input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Choice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry <input type="checkbox"/>
Individualized & Participant Driven Supports <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Goal 5: Reduce entries into youth and young adult homelessness through prevention and diversion</b>	
<i>Objective 5.1: Prevent and divert youth and young adults from homelessness by working with up-stream partners (e.g., child welfare, juvenile justice, schools) to identify youth at risk of homelessness and connect them to housing and resources to meet the unique needs and preferences of the person</i>	
Action Step 5.1.1: Increase education about available housing and service supports at middle schools and high schools	
Action Step 5.1.2: Provide diversion and prevention service linkages at the Youth Hub	
Partner(s) Responsible: Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative; Youth Hub; Children’s Network; Hillsborough County School System; , Public Defenders Office	
Timeframe: 2024 and ongoing	
<b>HUD Key Principles</b>	
Special Populations <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Housing First <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Positive Youth Development <input type="checkbox"/>	Equity <input type="checkbox"/>
Trauma-Informed Care <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unsheltered Homelessness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Family Engagement <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social & Community Integration <input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Choice <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Coordinated Entry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Individualized & Participant Driven Supports <input type="checkbox"/>	

### New Project List

The YHDP funding will be used to develop and implement eight (8) new projects in our community to serve YYA experiencing homelessness and/or housing instability in alignment with the Youth Homelessness Response System Map below.





The \$4,644,758 YHDP funding, for 2 years, will be used for permanent housing projects, transitional/crisis and temporary housing projects, a Youth Hub and system needs, as outlined in the table below. Each project is further described in the charts that follow in this section.

Permanent Housing		
Project	Funding Amount	Percent of YHDP Award
Rapid Rehousing (RRH)	\$2,114,410	46%
Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)	\$389,121	8%
	<b>\$2,503,531</b>	<b>53%</b>

Transitional / Crisis / Temporary Housing		
Project	Funding Amount	Percent of YHDP Award
Transitional Housing (TH)	\$392,884	8%
Host Homes	\$349,127	8%
	<b>\$724,011</b>	<b>16%</b>

Youth Hub		
Project	Funding Amount	Percent of YHDP Award
Youth Hub	\$919,792	20%
	<b>\$919,792</b>	<b>20%</b>

Systems		
Project	Funding Amount	Percent of YHDP Award
Coordinated Entry (CE)	\$152,600	3%
HMIS	\$187,481	4%
Planning (Year 1)	\$139,343	3%
	<b>\$479,343</b>	<b>10%</b>

**New Project Descriptions**

Rapid Rehousing	
Project Summary	Rapid Rehousing will ensure a quick transition out of homelessness and into permanent housing, using low-barrier and housing first practices. Rental assistance for up to 24-36 months will be paired with individualized supportive services needed by and chosen by the program participant. These services will include, but are not limited to, ongoing case management, including connections to: educational resources, employment assistance and placement, behavioral and physical health services, and community activities, groups, mentors, and peers. Housing will be scattered site.
Needs Met	The RRH program will provide permanent housing and supportive services for YYA, including those in our identified special populations
Special YHDP Activities	<p>1.C.1.a(1) Leases under 12 months (minimum 1 month)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(4) YHDP planning grants and administrative funds may be used, for capacity building activities for Youth Action Board members or recipient staff who are also youth with lived experience</p> <p>1.C.1.a(5) Project admin, funds used to employ youth with lived experience for project implementation, execution, and improvement</p> <p>1.C.1.a(6) Project admin funds, used to attend non-HUD sponsored or approved, conferences (must be relevant to youth homelessness)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(7) Employ youth receiving recipient services, (document nature of work and no conflicts of interest)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(8) Use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.503(c) rather than HQS in 24 CFR 578.75 for up 24 months of housing assistance</p> <p>1.C.1.a(9) Provide moving expense more than one time to a program participant</p> <p>1.C.1.a(11) YHDP recipients may continue providing, supportive services to program participants for up to 12, months after the program participant exits homelessness, transitional housing or after the end of housing assistance</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(a) Security deposits (not to exceed 2 months of rent) - Covered under the Rental Assistance BLI if included in project, not under Supportive Services</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(b) Pay for damage to units (not to exceed 2 months' rent) - Covered under the Rental Assistance BLI if included in project, not under Supportive Services</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(c) Costs to provide household cleaning supplies</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(d) Housing start-up expenses (not to exceed \$300 per participant)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(f) Cost of Internet (costs must be reasonable)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(h) Payment of utility arrears (up to 6 months)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(j) Pay gas a mileage for participant personal vehicle for trips for eligible services</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(k) Payment of Legal fees</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(l) Payment of insurance, registration and past driving fines</p> <p>1.C.1.b(1) A recipient may provide up to 36 months of Rapid Rehousing rental assistance to a program participant if the recipient demonstrates (1) the method it will use to determine which youth need rental assistance beyond 24 months and</p>

	(2) the services and resources that will be offered to ensure youth are able to sustain their housing at the end of the 36 months of assistance I.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.
Target Population	The program will serve an expected 35 YYA households, ages 18-24, including an expected 18 individuals/households without children and 17 pregnant or parenting YYA.
Target Number of Housing Units	It is expected that there will be 35 rental units, including 18 one-bedroom and 17 two-bedroom units.
Staffing	2 FTE Case Managers
Projected Cost	2-year cost totaling \$2,114,410, including: Rental assistance: \$1,419,236 Supportive services: \$520,590 Admin: \$174,584

Permanent Supportive Housing	
Project Summary	The PSH program will help YYA living with a disabling condition quickly move into permanent housing and support them to maintain stable housing. The program will include financial assistance, including utility deposits, rent deposits, moving costs, utilities, and ongoing rental assistance, along with case management and connections to resources such as education, employment, benefits enrollment, physical and behavioral healthcare, peers, and community groups. It is expected that the program will be scattered site with leases held by program participants.
Needs Met	The program will address the housing and services needs of the particularly vulnerable YYA households living with disabling conditions, many of whom are living in unsheltered locations and/or with co-occurring diagnoses.
Special YHDP Activities	1.C.1.a(1) Leases under 12 months (minimum 1 month) 1.C.1.a(4) YHDP planning grants and administrative funds may be used, for capacity building activities for Youth Action Board members or recipient staff who are also youth with lived experience 1.C.1.a(5) Project admin, funds used to employ youth with lived experience for project implementation, execution, and improvement 1.C.1.a(6) Project admin funds, used to attend non-HUD sponsored or approved, conferences (must be relevant to youth homelessness) 1.C.1.a(7) Employ youth receiving recipient services, (document nature of work and no conflicts of interest) 1.C.1.a(8) Use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.503(c) rather than HQS in 24 CFR 578.75 for up to 24 months of housing assistance 1.C.1.a(9) Provide moving expense more than one time to a program participant 1.C.1.a(11) YHDP recipients may continue providing, supportive services to program participants for up to 12, months after the program participant exits homelessness, transitional housing or after the end of housing assistance

	<p>I.C.1.a(12)(a) Security deposits (not to exceed 2 months of rent) - Covered under the Rental Assistance BLI if included in project, not under Supportive Services</p> <p>I.C.1.a(12)(b) Pay for damage to units (not to exceed 2 months rent) - Covered under the Rental Assistance BLI if included in project, not under Supportive Services</p> <p>I.C.1.a(12)(c) Cost to provide cleaning supplies</p> <p>I.C.1.a(12)(d) Housing start-up expenses (not to exceed \$300 per participant)</p> <p>I.C.1.a(12)(f) Cost of Internet (costs must be reasonable)</p> <p>I.C.1.a(12)(j) Pay gas a mileage for participant personal vehicle for trips for eligible services</p> <p>I.C.1.a(12)(l) Payment of insurance, registration and past driving fines</p> <p>I.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.</p>
Target Number of Youth Served	PSH will serve approximately 7 YYA ages 18-24 who are living with a documented ongoing disability condition that hinders their ability to maintain stable housing.
Target Number of Housing Units	It is expected there will be 6 rental units, including 5 one-bedroom and 1 two-bedroom units.
Staffing	One .50 FTE Case Manager
Projected Cost	2-year cost totaling \$389,121 including: Rental assistance: \$271,680 Supportive services: \$85,312 Admin: \$32,129

Transitional Housing	
Project Summary	Transitional Housing will provide stable, supportive, welcoming, temporary housing for YYA until they can move into stable permanent housing. TH may be either scattered site or project-based (leasing). Supportive services will include case management and connections to resources such as employment, education, physical and behavioral healthcare, and benefits enrollment.
Needs Met	The TH program will address the critical need for crisis housing in the CoC and will reduce unsheltered YYA homelessness. youth adults ages 18-24, the program will provide short term housing (e.g., an average length of stay of less than 90 days) while permanent housing is identified.
Special YHDP Activities	<p>1.C.1.a(4) YHDP planning grants and administrative funds may be used, for capacity building activities for Youth Action Board members or recipient staff who are also youth with lived experience</p> <p>1.C.1.a(5) Project admin, funds used to employ youth with lived experience for project implementation, execution, and improvement</p>

	<p>1.C.1.a(6) Project admin funds, used to attend non-HUD sponsored or approved, conferences (must be relevant to youth homelessness)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(7) Employ youth receiving recipient services, (document nature of work and no conflicts of interest)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(8) Use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.503(c) rather than HQS in 24 CFR 578.75 for up to 24 months of housing assistance</p> <p>1.C.1.a(11) YHDP recipients may continue providing supportive services to program participants for up to 12 months after the program participant exits homelessness, transitional housing or after the end of housing assistance,</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(j) Pay gas a mileage for participant personal vehicle for trips for eligible services</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(k) Payment of Legal fees</p> <p>1.C.1.a(12)(l) Payment of insurance, registration, and past driving fines</p> <p>1.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.</p>
Target Number of Youth Served	An estimated 40-60 YYA will be served annually.
Target Number of TH Beds	Up to 16 TH beds will be in use at any point in time; 2 4-bedroom units
Staffing	1 FTE Case Manager
Projected Cost	<p>2-year cost totaling \$392,884 including:</p> <p>Leasing: \$124,944</p> <p>Supportive services: \$161,500</p> <p>Operating: \$74,000</p> <p>Admin: \$342,440</p>

Youth Hub	
Project Summary	<p>Youth Hub will be a one-stop site where YYA feel welcomed to engage in systems that will help end their experience of homelessness. While not all desired services and supports the YYA have stated they need can be provided with YHDP funding, THHI, as the lead, is committed to seeking additional resources to make the fully envisioned Hub.</p> <p>Key components include: (1) Coordinated Entry, including access, prioritization, referral, general case management, system/housing navigation, youth housing specialist, peer support, hotline, and diversion (e.g., rental arrears in certain situations, family reunification), (2) Day Drop-In Center, including basic needs (e.g., laundry, showers, storage, food pantry), computer access, entertainment, charging stations, one meal per day, (3) mobile component, including street outreach and transportation (e.g., bus passes, Uber/Lyft/Everdriven, van), (4) auxiliary services</p>

	<p>and/or connections provided by agencies already funded to provide such services, such as: education, employment, physical and behavioral healthcare, life skills, financial literacy, childcare, access to benefits, legal assistance, etc., and (5) short-term financial assistance, including: (a) diversion from the homeless system with rental and/or utility arrears when YYA can maintain ongoing expenses; (b) transportation needs of YYA to get to/from HUB as well as other transportation needs YYA have to get to school, appointments, etc. such as bus passes, rideshare and/or payment of fuel for participants’ vehicles; (c) assistance to YYA that need assistance with the costs of obtaining new housing and will be able to maintain without ongoing assistance – costs such as security deposits, utility deposits, first and last month's rent; and (d) assist with payment of eligible legal fees that are preventing YYA from being able to obtain permanent housing (including those being assisted in other youth serving projects).</p> <p>Through YHDP funding, the costs of operating the Hub – rent and utilities for a location, supplies, etc. will be funded. Additional in-kind donations will also be sought as needed. The following staff will be provided: a system navigator, Community Youth Housing Specialist, and a Hub manager. Services and resources will include assistance with up-front move in costs – application fees, admin fees, security deposits up to 2 times the rent, first and last month’s rent, utility deposits, and utility arrears – for YYA who are able to sustain housing after housing placement. There is funding to assist with rental arrears and utility arrears to assist YYA to maintain housing if they can sustain after being caught up. Some funding will be available to assist with transportation and legal fees.</p>
Needs Met	<p>The Hub will address the need for a clear path for YYA to engage in needed housing and services, along with transparency and youth-centered programming. First, the Hub will be a welcoming place to engage unsheltered YYA, giving them a connection to the housing and services resources. Second, the Hub will serve as a resource center for those who are in Host Homes, RRH, TH, or PSH. Third, the Hub will provide resources to those who are at risk of homelessness, those who may need diversion assistance, and/or those who may need rapid exit financial assistance. The design and implementation of the Hub will ensure an affirming safe place for our identified special populations.</p>
Special YHDP Activities	<p>1.C.1.a(4)YHDP planning grants and administrative funds may be used for capacity building activities for Youth Action Board members or recipient staff who are also youth with lived experience</p> <p>1.C.1.a(5) Project admin funds used to employ youth with lived experience for project implementation, execution, and improvement</p> <p>1.C.1.a(6) Project admin funds used to attend non-HUD sponsored or approved conferences (must be relevant to youth homelessness)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(7) Employ youth receiving recipient services</p> <p>1.C.1.a(8) Use habitability standards in 24 CFR 576.503(c)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(9) Provide moving expense more than one time to a program participant</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(a) Security deposits (not to exceed 2 months of rent)- Covered under the Rental Assistance BLI if included in project, not under Supportive Services</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(b) Pay for damage to units (not to exceed 2 months rent) - Covered under the Rental Assistance BLI if included in project, not under Supportive Services</p>

	<p>I.C.1.a(10)(g) Payment of rental arrears (up to 6 months)</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(h) Payment of utility arrears (up to 6 months)</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(i) Payment of utilities (Up to 3 months)</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(j) Pay gas a mileage for participant personal, vehicle for trips for eligible services,</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(k) Payment of Legal fees</p> <p>I.C.1.a(10)(l) Payment of insurance, registration and past driving fines</p> <p>I.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.</p>
Target Number of Youth Served	It is expected that 300 YYA households under age 25 will be served annually.
Staffing	1 FTE Community Youth Focused Housing Specialist, 1 FTE Hub Manager, 1 FTE Systems Navigator, assisted by volunteers and representatives for other agencies
Projected Cost	<p>2-year cost totaling \$919,790, including:</p> <p>Leased Structure: \$120,000 (for Hub location)</p> <p>Rental Assistance \$128,999</p> <p>Supportive Services: \$594,846</p> <p>Operating: \$60,000:</p> <p>Admin: \$75,946</p>

Host Homes	
Project Summary	<p>The Host Homes program will provide support for youth in the public school system and the households (other than parents or legal guardians) who are providing temporary stable housing. The focus population comprises youth residing with a “host” who are not the youths’ parents or legal guardians and who are referred by the Hillsborough County Schools Helping Students in Transition Program (McKinney Vento Liaison). Key components of the program include (1) financial support of up to \$500 per month per host if necessary to continue providing housing to the youth, and (2) case management and connections to resources (e.g., employment, healthcare, housing after high school graduation). The project may also be able to serve students in host homes that do not require the financial support.</p>
Needs Met	<p>This program will meet the needs of youth who are in high school, not in the custody of the child welfare system, and not living with parents or legal guardians. These youth have friends or family who will host them but who are struggling financially and/or in need of supportive services for the youth.</p>
Special YHDP Activities	<p>1.C.1.a(4)YHDP planning grants and administrative funds may be used for capacity building activities for Youth Action Board members or recipient staff who are also youth with lived experience</p> <p>1.C.1.a(5) Project admin funds used to employ youth with lived experience for project implementation, execution, and improvement</p>

	<p>1.C.1.a(6) Project admin funds used to attend non-HUD sponsored or approved conferences (must be relevant to youth homelessness)</p> <p>1.C.1.a(10) Provide payments for families that provide housing under host homes and kinship care (up to \$500 per month)</p> <p>1.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.</p>
Target Number of Youth Served	15
Target Number of Host Home Beds	15
Staffing	1 FTE Case Manager
Projected Cost	2-year costs totaling \$349,127, including: Supportive Services: \$320,300 – includes host home stipends Admin: \$28,827

Coordinated Entry	
Project Summary	The Coordinated Entry project will operate a designated access point for youth experiencing homelessness and housing instability to deliver housing services. Such services will include diversion, prevention, or family reunification when appropriate and keeping with the client's choice, assessment and prioritization for the coordinated entry system, and housing planning. In partnership with the Youth HUB described above, any youth household experiencing homelessness or housing instability will be able to access the coordinated entry system through this project. Project components include two full-time coordinated entry specialists – 1 funded with YHDP funding and 1 funded with CDBG funding through Hillsborough County.
Needs Met	This project reflects our community's commitment to coordinated entry as a KEY Principle, ensuring that all projects participate fully in the high-functioning coordinated entry system designed to be youth-appropriate, operate with transparency, and address the unique needs of YYA.
Special YHDP Activities	1.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.
Target Number of Youth Served	300 youth households will be assessed and prioritized for housing services via the YHDP coordinated entry project.
Staffing	1 FTE Coordinated Entry Specialists (funded by YHDP)

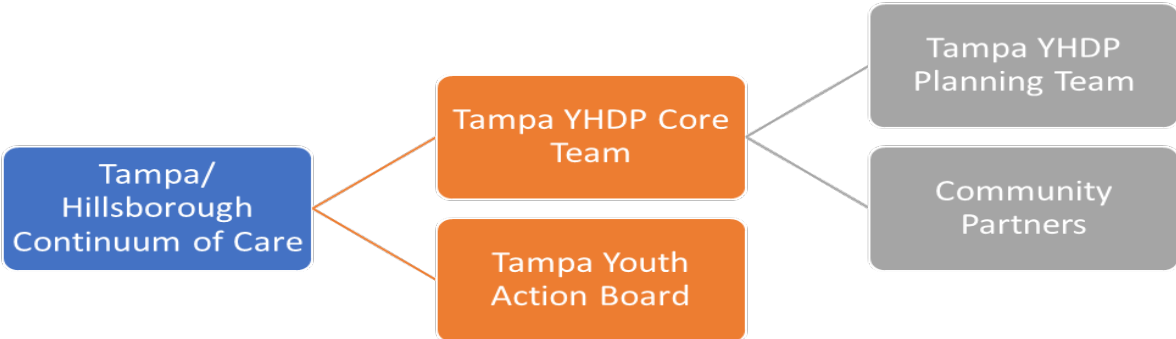


Projected Cost	2-year cost totaling \$152,600 including Supportive Services/Staff: \$140,000 Admin: \$12,600
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HMIS	
Project Summary	The HMIS project will ensure the CoC Lead, HMIS Lead, YHDP Continued Quality Improvement (CQI) Team, and the YAB can monitor project performance of all YHDP projects and comply with all YHDP program reporting requirements.
Needs Met	Reporting and monitoring requirements of YHDP.
Special YHDP Activities	I.C.1.b(3) Recipients will not be required to meet the 25% match requirement provided for in III.C of the YHDP NOFO and 24 CFR 578.73 if the recipient is able to identify multiple non-YHDP resources in the community that assist youth experiencing homelessness and can provide a narrative description of 1) how the resources will assist youth who are clients under the YHDP project and 2) how the recipient will facilitate connections to these resources to ensure that youth are aware of them and able to access the resources.
Target Number of Youth Served	N/A
Staffing	1 FTE HMIS Manager - YHDP
Projected Cost	2-year cost totaling \$187,481 including: HMIS Staff, Software and Licenses: \$172,00 Admin: \$15,481

### Governance Structure

The Tampa-Hillsborough Continuum of Care (CoC) is a broad-based partnership facilitated by the Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative (THHI) as the CoC lead agency. Through interagency coordination and collaboration, the CoC provides homeless households with effective services and helps them obtain affordable housing. Organizations and individuals committed to making homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring make up the body of the CoC.



The key bodies within the decision-making and governance process are:

The Tampa-Hillsborough **Youth Action Board** (YAB) comprises young people ages 24 and under from Tampa and Hillsborough County who have real lived experiences with homelessness. They lead with youth voice in the planning process and serve on the Core Team and the Planning Team. In their role as a YAB member, a Core Team member, or a Planning Team member, these YAB members help assess the needs of the community, support program selection, aid in project evaluation, and spread awareness about youth homelessness and resources within the community.

The Tampa-Hillsborough YHDP **Core Team** is composed of YAB Coordinators (YYA), the Planning Team, and community partners who work in youth-serving programs and organizations. The purpose of the group is to gather a wide range of adult and youth perspectives to inform the CCP and other parts of the process. Core Team members represent a diverse range of public sector organizations. Currently, the team members are the two Tampa YAB Coordinators, staff from the CoC, the Early Learning Coalition, Healthy Start Coalition, Tampa Housing Authority, Success for Kids and Families, Camelot Community Care, Hillsborough County Children’s Services, CareerSource Tampa Bay, and Hillsborough County Public Schools.

The Tampa-Hillsborough YHDP **Planning Team** outlines and facilitates the planning process and is responsible for the ‘behind the scenes’ work to ensure all parts of the process move forward. The Planning Team includes lead agency staff, YAB Coordinators, and the TA team.

Tampa-Hillsborough County Continuum of Care Board, known as the Executive Planning Committee is made up of the chairs of each CoC committee – Consumer Advisory, Coordinated Entry, Outreach, Point in Time Count Lead, Service Delivery, Ranking and Review, UNITY (HMIS) Advisory, Veteran’s Leadership, and Youth Action Board – and 5 at large members from other systems of care including law enforcement (Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office Behavioral Response Unit), justice system (13<sup>th</sup> judicial circuit public defender’s office), higher education (University of South Florida), public child welfare agency (Children’s Network of Hillsborough), and one other organization/system not already represented by the other members.

As the CCP and youth housing crisis response system was being developed, the YHDP Planning Team was responsible for the overall process of obtaining information and data from community partners, members and YYA. The information and data obtained was then provided to the YHDP Core Team and YAB for review, discussion, and decisions on how to include and implement into a youth housing crisis response.

At every step, all information and recommendations from the Core Team was presented to the YAB for approval before being finalized and included in the CCP. The Executive Planning Committee was kept informed along the way to allow for any questions or clarifications as they are required to approve the CCP.

Moving forward with the implementation of the CCP, YHDP processes and youth crisis response system, YAB members will be part of various work groups – such as a scoring team for project proposals and renewals, continued quality improvement teams (CTI), review of policies and procedures, development of the coordinated entry process for YYA – working alongside adult partners. Adult partners will help

ensure that the data and information necessary for these functions is provided as well as assisting with the understanding and application of federal regulations and requirements.

Recommendations from these work groups will be presented to the YAB for discussion and decisions. A representative from/for the YAB will then bring the YAB recommendations to the Executive Planning Committee for CoC Board review and approval.

## Youth Recruitment and Integration

The Youth Action Board (YAB) hosts regular weekly meetings, most of which are held virtually to meet the expressed needs of the young people involved. The YAB consists of 10 voting members, of which at least 2/3 has lived experience and all are between the ages of 16 and 24. The YAB has elected youth Co-Leaders who equally share the responsibility to report out to the CoC, Planning Team, and Core Team during meetings, and a secretary to maintain accurate minute, as well as membership and email list. The YAB email list is used to relay information back to peers and interested parties. To ensure transparency, all meeting minutes are disseminated and discussed with the entire YAB.

Currently, the YAB officers (Chair, Co-Chair and Secretary) receive \$100 per meeting or event attended; other YAB voting members receive \$50 per meeting or event attended. First-time YAB attendees and guests receive \$25 per meeting or event. The meetings and events include not only regular YAB meetings but also participation in meetings such as project evaluation/scoring, project design, monitoring, and more. Currently, YAB-related stipends are covered by YHDP planning funds. Previous to receiving the YHDP award, payments were provided through private funding. Once YHDP planning funds cannot be utilized, amounts will be paid through either funding from a Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI) award in partnership with other Florida CoCs, YHDP project admin funding, CoC planning and/or, through private funds.

THHI currently employs two part-time YAB Coordinators who are young adults with lived experience of homelessness and previous YAB chair and co-chair. Their responsibilities include active and ongoing recruitment of YAB members and YAB guests. To aid in ongoing recruitment and engagement, there is a dedicated YAB website and email address (<https://www.thhi.org/yab> and [YAB@THHI.org](mailto:YAB@THHI.org)), consistent participation in community events, distribution of flyers throughout the community and among service providers, and peer-to-peer outreach to include intentional efforts to engage YYA who may be members of the most vulnerable groups and to ensure ongoing diversity with respect to race, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation/identity, and experiences (e.g., involvement in the justice and/or foster care systems). Engagement with especially vulnerable groups is supported through connections with local providers and systems. For instance, the provider offering Independent Living Services for youth aged out of foster care is a long-time partner in the youth homelessness response system and helping recruit YYA for the YAB. In addition, active partnerships with the 13<sup>th</sup> judicial circuit Public Defender's Office and Hillsborough County Children's Services help engage YYA involved in the juvenile and/or adult justice systems. The YAB Coordinators also work closely with our McKinney-Vento school liaisons to ensure ongoing positive engagement of YYA in the school system.

Currently, the YAB has ten (10) voting members as determined by the YAB policies and procedures, ranging in age from 16 to 24, with a representative diversity similar to the broader population of YYA experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Eighty percent (80%) of YAB members identify as Black, 60% as males, 10% LGBTQ+ and 10% parenting youth. The YAB includes members who have both present (20%) and past experiences (60%) of homelessness. Some have had involvement with the child welfare system or identify as LGBTQ+. Further, some YAB members are parents, and many are engaged in education and/or employment. In addition to the YAB voting members, more than a dozen other YYA have participated in YAB meetings over the last three months.

The YAB has been actively involved in developing all aspects of the CCP and will remain engaged in the project selection, design, and monitoring processes. The YAB held two focus groups for YYA to solicit input for the CCP, including, but not limited to, developing the vision statement and clearly identifying the needs and priorities of YYA with lived experience to lead project design and selection. YAB members were engaged in the development of the Request for Applications for YHDP projects, including project types and scoring criteria. They will also be the leaders in the evaluation and scoring proposals, with their input regarding funding decisions weighted more heavily than those of older adult partner evaluators. YAB members will meet with selected project agencies regarding final project design and implementation to ensure that projects are youth-focused, youth-friendly, and youth-inspired. They will also be engaged in continuous quality improvement, and, ultimately, monitoring of YHDP projects. THHI, as the lead agency for the youth homelessness response system, will ensure that project grantees involve and listen to YAB members as an essential component of project implementation and improvement.

## Partners

Preventing and ending youth homelessness requires intentional and continuous collaboration across sectors. The partner chart below highlights the type of partner, their names, and how they have been involved in the work to prevent and end youth homelessness in Tampa and Hillsborough County.

Partner Type	Partner Names	Involvement
<b>Youth Action Board</b>	Youth Action Board (YAB)	YAB representatives serves on the Core Team; facilitated youth input sessions for the CCP; provided input into, helped draft, and approved the CCP; and provided input into the RFA for YHDP projects. YAB members also served on the project selection committee and will be involved in the project implementation, monitoring, and CQI efforts.
<b>Public Child Welfare Agencies</b>	Children’s Network of Hillsborough  Camelot Community Care (ILS)	Children’s Network provided input into and approved the CCP; MOU with agency for partnership.

		Camelot Community Care serve on the Core Team, help recruit for YAB members, assists with Youth Count Event
<b>Continuum of Care and Emergency Solutions Grant Program Recipients</b>	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative (THHI); Agency for Community Treatment Services; St. Vincent de Paul; Metropolitan Ministries; The Spring of Tampa Bay; Dawning Family Services; Catholic Charities, EPIC, Tampa Housing Authority, Gracepoint Wellness	Organizations provided input into data gathered for the CCP.
<b>Local and State Government</b>	City of Tampa; Hillsborough County	City of Tampa and Hillsborough County provided input and approval of the CCP. Hillsborough County Children’s Service serves on the YHDP Core Team.
<b>Runaway and Homeless Youth Program Providers</b>	N/A – There are no RHY providers in the CoC	N/A
<b>Health, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Agencies</b>	Agency for Community Treatment Services (ACTS); Tampa Family Health Centers; Empath Partners in Care; Central FL Behavioral Health Network; Ybor Youth Clinic; Allies for Healing; Hillsborough County Health Care Services; Gracepoint Wellness  Success for Kids and Families (S4KF)	S4KF is a member of the Core Team; written commitment to be a non-funded partner at Youth Hus and providing peer support.
<b>Local and State Law Enforcement and Judges</b>	Hillsborough County Sheriff’s Office; City of Tampa Police Department; Office of the State Attorney – 13th Judicial Circuit; Law Office of Julianne M. Holt, Public Defender	Marie Marino, Assistant Public Defender is an at-large member of the CoC’s Executive Planning Committee
<b>HIV Serving Organizations</b>	EPIC – Empath Partners in Care	While EPIC was not directly involved in the development of the CCP and youth housing crisis response planning process, they have a staff member that is the chair of the CoC’s ranking and review committee and therefore a member of the Executive Planning Committee (CoC Board). EPIC will be a resource for YHDP projects.
<b>Public Housing Authorities</b>	Housing Authority of the City of Tampa – aka Tampa Housing Authority (THA)	THA’s Director of Assisted Housing (Margaret Jones) serves on the Core Team and administers FUP and FYI vouchers with a homeless preference. Jerome Ryans, Executive Director, sits on THHI’s Board of Directors.

		THA has recently applied for more FYI vouchers and there has been a preliminary discussion of how to match YHDP services to these vouchers if awarded.
<b>Affordable Housing Providers</b>	Hillsborough County Affordable Housing Services (AHS)	THHI, as the Lead Agency, has a close working relationship with Hillsborough County AHS. THHI has received funding through AHS to identify partners to develop units. AHS also provides additional 'points' in their RFA process for developers that include units for households exiting homelessness. THHI monitors and coordinates these units.
	Housing First Steps Forward (HFSF)	Since 2016, THHI has worked with HFSF to acquire and rehab property for PSH units dedicated to households exiting homelessness with THHI developer incentives. These units are currently set aside for veterans and persons experience chronic homelessness; development of units for YYA could be a future possibility
	Sabal Place	Sabal Place is an affordable housing development that consists of 112 units with units designated specifically for those transitioning from homelessness. This development by BlueSkies Communities was funded through the Florida Housing Finance Corporation SAIL program, with the support of our CoC. Onsite case management is provided, as needed, by Metropolitan Ministries. YYA assisted through YHDP projects would be eligible for tenancy based on unit availability.
<b>Early Childhood Development and Child Care Providers</b>	Health Start Coalition of Hillsborough; Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough	Healthy Start Coalition and Early Learning Coalition (ELC) both serve on the Core Team. ELC provides a homeless preference for early childcare vouchers.

		Healthy Start Coalition will be a YHDP partner with services offered and provided through non-YHDP funding.
<b>Local and State Educational Agencies</b>	Hillsborough County School Board	Hillsborough County Public School System’s McKinney-Vento Liaison (Dr. Shamara Byrd) serves on the Core Team. Hillsborough County Public School System’s Chief of Student Support and Federal Programs (Tracye Brown) sits on THHI’s Board of Directors
<b>Institutions of Higher Education</b>	<p>University of South Florida ((USF)</p> <p>Hillsborough Community College (HCC) – Ybor Campus</p>	<p>Since 2018, there has been at least 1 representative from the University of South Florida has held an at-large seat on the CoC’s Executive Planning Committee (CoC Board). Dr. Sondra J. Fogel, Ph.D., LCSW Associate Professor School of Social Work College of Behavioral &amp; Community Sciences University of South and Dr. Kathleen A. Moore, Ph.D. Research Associate Professor Mental Health Law &amp; Policy University of South Florida were the first representatives. Since January 2023, the USF representative has been Dr. Joe Bohn, PhD, MBA, USF College of Public Health, Associate Professor and Director of Community Engagement.</p> <p>THHI, as the lead agency, has engaged with HCC representatives on varying occasions regarding resources for homeless students enrolled at HCC-Ybor Campus.</p>
<b>Non-Profit Youth Organizations</b>	<p>Camelot Community Care; Career Focus; Champions for Children; Counseling the Soul; G3 Life Applications; Joshua Way of Hope; One More Child; Peace Outreach Resource Center; Project LINK; Youth Improvement Services; SALT Outreach, Serenity Outreach; Starting Right Now; Success 4 Kids &amp; Families; Tampa Bay Academy of Hope; Youth Improvement Services; AMIkids</p>	Camelot Community Care and Success 4 Kids and Families both serve on the Core Team. Other organizations provided input for data gathered for the CCP.







<b>Continuum of Care</b>	Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative (THHI)	THHI is the Collaborative Applicant for FL-501. THHI serves on the Planning Team and the Core Team. THHI is responsible for co-leading the YHDP effort, alongside the YAB, as well as facilitating the RFA process for YHDP projects on behalf of the CoC.
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## Signatures

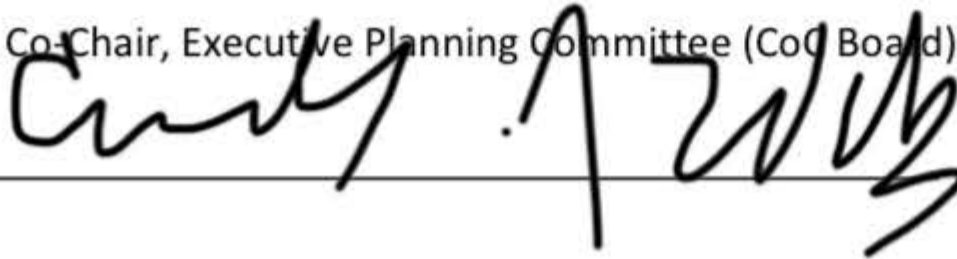
The signatures below attest to the approval and support of the Tampa/ Hillsborough County Coordinated Community Plan to End Youth Homelessness. We will work collaboratively to implement a comprehensive system, including the goals and objectives outlined in this Plan, to make homelessness among unaccompanied youth and young adults rare, brief and non-recurring in our community.

### Continuum of Care

- (1) FL-501 Continuum of Care Board

Cindy Walz , Co-Chair, Executive Planning Committee (CoC Board):

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



- (2) Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative

Name and Title: Jim Shimberg, President, THHI Board of Directors

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

- (3) Tampa Hillsborough Homeless Initiative

Name and Title: Antoinette D. Triplett-Hayes, CEO

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Public Child Welfare Agency: Children's Network of Hillsborough

Name and Title: Terri Balliet, CEO

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Local Government Agencies

- (1) City of Tampa

Name and Title: Kayon Henderson, Director of Housing

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature: AD Hayes - Triplett

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Name and Title: Kayon Henderson, Director, Housing & Community Development

Signature:                     *Kayon Henderson*

(2) Hillsborough County

Name and Title: Cheryl Howell, Assistant County Administrator Equity and Community Impact

Signature: Cheryl Howell

**Youth Action Board**

Name and Title: Ymani Kemp, Chair, Youth Action Board

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



(2) Hillsborough County

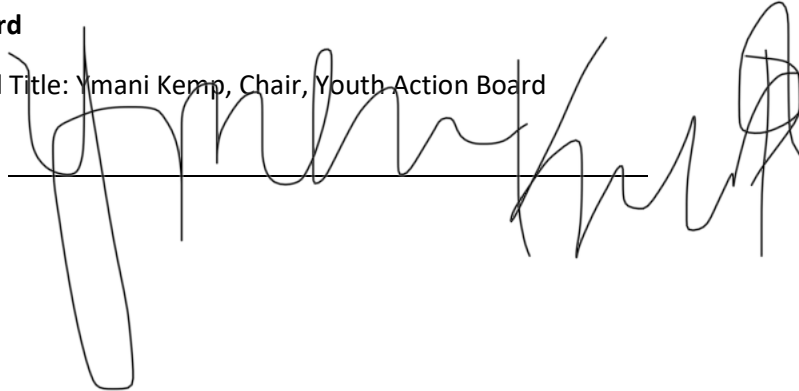
Name and Title: Cheryl Howell, Assistant County Administrator Equity and Community Impact

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Youth Action Board**

Name and Title: Ymani Kemp, Chair, Youth Action Board

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to read 'Ymani Kemp'. The signature is positioned to the right of the 'Signature:' label and extends across the line.