**Notes from call with Erin Wixsten, OrgCode, 1/**29/19

**Re: Sheltering the young adult population – tailoring to the population**

Participants: Pamela Schwartz, Lisa Goldsmith, Emily English, Sharon Hall-Smith, Rebecca Muller

Foundational-youth choice, youth voice, PYD, youth specific services - make sure you're targeting young people for youth appropriate services/developmentally appropriate interventions - make system design a match for youth specific systems, focus on reunification/family mediation/intervention, youth targeted outreach, sheltering, youth diversion, housing stabilization services.

make sure there is flexibility for youth to experiment - young people need to have that fluidity to be able to move and adjust into different program interventions as you and they learn more.  Sometimes systems will match with score for PSH but then quickly realize that's too much support -PSH is fiscal cliff - youth get stuck in that. try out progressive engagement - looking at RRH first for youth and intense, robust stabilization services that are targeted for youth - make sure they are culturally competent, meet needs of LGBTQ youth, e.g.,

what are the services that are being provided  - big range of RRH (need to standardize definition)

for young people - make available up to 24 months of a full subsidy, 1:15 case load - not all young people will need that but we can build programs that way - programs could serve double what they committed to b/c the resources could go further than what they planned on but important to have the option

people should not have to re-enter homelessness to find a better match - people project values onto this because it's "unfair" b/c they already have some housing - having people become homeless again is not the answer - how do we float people when first or second match isn't working -

Suggests using prevention money to keep them out of homelessness and transitional housing as bridge housing, which maintains their homelessness status. Communities aren't using prevention dollars for most at-risk households - how do we use it for people who we know are super vulnerable to homelessness - on purpose targeting the household that is most vulnerable

**Coordinated Entry**-Must utilize data to inform decisions.  Get away from anecdotes. Need to look at what systems are in place to collect data and ask ourselves:  how does our community make decisions about the resources we are asking for? Should include-Youth voice, youth counts, cross sector data sharing-Child welfare, juvenile justice #’s aging out of systems into homelessnes, must have collaborative approach to y/yahomelessness and work across systems.  CT Coordinated Entry System-A good model of collaborative system, but there are dedicated staff and resources for this.

Has our region gotten permission from HUD to use "Category 3" for defining chronic homelessness (persistent housing instability) This can increase numbers in count but helpful to serving youth.

New research: length of wait impacts ability to stabilize.  Ending homelessness for 18-24 year olds impacts CH in future.

**Assessments-**Complete once we know prevention, diversion, and self-resolving did not work or happen.  Don't automatically put youth on by-name lists.  Assessments help determine interventions, but need to use dynamic process to look at eligibility.  Create dynamic prioritization.  Need to complement assessment with drilling down on a particular case. Assessment is step 1. Case conferencing is step 2. While HUD funded housing may not work, should look at RHY or other sources where eligibility is different.   She likes TAY questions on the TAY-VISPDAT (Eric Rice’s 6 questions) and feels they can determine future Chronic Homelessness.

HUD has guidance on creating housing history log.  Takes training to get answers. Must have seasoned trauma informed person to do intake around assessment and housing history. TRAINING KEY .Youth savvy and trauma-informed. Be careful that assessment tool does not exclude people who should not be excluded.

youth advisory board is key, key key.  Can help identify access points, types of interventions.  Erin used to think she had to get youth who were already engaged...WRONG. Do not cherry-pick youth.  Youth need high level of support to participate.  Do the extra work, the extra cost - pay for ubers, dinner, etc. - to create engagement.

How are we going upstream in the system - we don't want youth to come in deeper to get out - Data is a huge part of this - how can we encourage cross-sector data and collaboration.