

## **Quarterly Youth and Young Adult Services Committee - June 5, 2024**

*In attendance; Tanja Alessi, Friends of the Homeless, Olivia Bernstein, MHA, Emily English, Gandara Center, Pam Fitzpatrick, CHD, Keith Hedlund, CHD, Yeisie Mateo, My First Place, Hayley Nelson, Hampden YHDP, Declan Nolan, HopeWell, Phil Ringwood, DIAL/SELF, Pamela Schwartz, WMNEH, Mark Watkins, Gandara Center, Kat Wong, Hampden YHDP*

## **Hampden County Youth Update**

Kat Wong is leaving her position as of July 5 (returning to CA) and will be replaced by Hayley Nelson. We took the opportunity to relay our deep thanks to Kat for her tremendous work! Hampden data points:

- 425 YYA served
- 163 YYA on the by-names list (60 literal homeless, 11 outdoors; 58 pregnant/parenting)
- most programs are full; a new pregnant/parenting transitional housing programs has capacity to house 18 families but needs to ID more units
- FYI program: 6 with vouchers in hand, 28 on waitlist (SHA approved for 19 more vouchers)
- New North Citizens Council is opening a 20 bed YYA shelter expected 1/25
- YAB Program Coordinator slated to start mid-July
- 42 participants in FY24
- 2024 PIT Count - [go here for findings](#)

## **Three County CoC YYA Update - April - May 2024**

- 62 YYA engaged
- 11+ supported with flex funds
- 15+ new intakes
- North Adams Bracewell House for youth coming together.
- 2024 youth PIT data [here](#)
- many trainings on deck - [see offerings here](#)

## **Network Updates:**

- Network's Annual Event took place May 31 - a great success! Read all about it [here](#).
- The Affordable Homes Act was just voted on in the House (read recent advocacy [here](#)) - did not include the transfer fee for affordable housing or eviction record sealing. Will keep pushing in the Senate - stay tuned for action alerts.
- The FY25 budget is in Conference Committee. The Youth line-item was cut \$500,000 but is still at \$10.5 million which overall is a solid investment and will not result in substantial cuts to the program.
- Built for Zero has issued a new report on youth homelessness - [go here](#) to learn more

**Next quarterly meeting date: Wed., 9/18, 11 am, stay tuned for zoom link**