Youth Homelessness in Madison/ Dane County

HSC Committee to End Youth Homelessness

4/5/2021

Available services

- Briarpatch youth shelter for 12-17yo's

- Briarpatch street outreach/case management for 24 and under

- Homeless liaison support services in all Dane County schools

- Street outreach for 18+

- Adult shelters for individual women, men and families (Salvation Army and Porchlight)

- Priority List housing programs for 18+ families and individuals (RRH and PSH)

- Couple transitional housing programs for single moms with young kids

Identified service gaps

- Coordinated Entry does not itself provide crisis intervention (does give referrals), only literally homeless applicants get on Priority List

- No shelter for parenting minors

- Almost all adult services are only for "literally homeless" individuals/families

- Adult shelters require a lot of independence

- Adult shelters require you to be very independent, consistent and long-term shelter stayers are more likely to get crisis resolution/case management services

- Not great communication between homeless services and County services

Housing challenges facing youth

- Lacking stable parent/adult and home life or having major conflict with parents

- Can't sign lease if they aren't 18 or emancipated

- No experience renting

- No experience building credit

- No co-signer

- Usually 1st time they are homeless - less likely to know how to access services

- Less likely to qualify for services (ex. under 18, 18-24 not prioritized, not parenting)

Challenges facing our system

- No temporary shelter for parenting minors

- No permanent housing options for minors

- No widespread prioritization of 18-24 yr olds in adult shelters/housing programs

- Minimal resources devoted to individuals-especially men

- Don't share data efficiently across systems

How our system is responding

- *2018 formed HSC Committee to End Youth Homelessness for YHDP*

- HSC Youth Action Board and HSC Board seat

- Building better relationships with other systems

- Improving data collection

- Briarpatch has taken on leadership role in organizing big picture efforts

- Attempting to develop more youth housing

What we still need to do

- Consolidate information across systems (not only data, also reported issues with access, referrals, communication, etc.)
- Develop a shared vision
- Get more young people involved
- **We need a more organized effort to raise awareness and create the community will to address service gaps and the needs of unaccompanied minors and young adults 18-24**

Answering your questions

Q: *Is there any rural data available?*
A: Main source of rural data comes from the schools. Little to no data on out of school 18-24 year olds. National data says rates of youth homelessness are not significantly less than urban homelessness

Q: *How many youth in college are experiencing homelessness? (and other info about homelessness among college students)*
A: Don't know - so far the college reps we spoke to report they don't track housing data. Briarpatch reports there is a significant number of housing insecure MATC students.

Q: *Are there Coordinated Entry points for youth? How are youth getting connected to services?*
A: Main CE points for youth are shelters and street outreach. CE screens individuals/families for the Priority List, the main issues for youth are the Priority List is generally for ages 18+, must be literally homeless, there are much fewer resources for individuals, youth are (generally) not prioritized, and there is minimal follow up after they're on the list.

Q: *Update on Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP), and what help would you need to submit a successful grant application?*
A: Currently waiting for 2019/2020 application, talk about foundational YHDP requirements:

Local Numbers on Youth Homelessness

- 2018-19 Dane County School District data - one school year
  - **82 total unaccompanied youth**, 584 total homeless youth accompanied by parent
- FY 2019 Annual Report on Homelessness (LSA) - one year period
  - **309 total unaccompanied or HOH youth:** 72 unaccompanied minors, 159 youths age 18-24 in households without children (singles), 78 youths age 18-24 in households with children (parenting youth)
- 2020 Point in Time Count - single night snapshot
  - **44 total unaccompanied or HOH youth**: 3 unaccompanied youths under age 18, 13 youths age 18-24 in households without children (singles), 28 youths age 18-24 in households with children (parenting youth), 27 in emergency shelter; 14 in transitional housing; 3 unsheltered
- 2020 Youth Count - 2 week period
  - **65 total all household types**: 30 literally homeless, 35 housed but temporary, unstable or unsafe

2018-2019 School District (Grade 6-12)

School District	Unaccompanied youth	Youth in families	Total # of homeless youth
Madison Metro	32	406	438
Sun Prairie	21	57	78
Middleton/Cross Plains	12	56	68
Stoughton	6	36	42
Waunakee	5	13	18
Monona/Cottage Grove	6	5	11
Deerfield	0	6	6
Wisconsin Heights	0	5	5

Please note: data is incomplete and does not include all Dane County school districts

2020 Youth Count

- Total 65* surveys completed, youth ages 12-24 in all household types. *30 youths were considered "literally homeless"

- 16 said it was first time experiencing homelessness, 4 were chronically homeless

- Length of homelessness 3 days-14 months

- 8 reported fleeing from domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or staking

Where did you sleep last night?		
Location	**Number**	**Percentage**
Emergency Shelter*	**24**	**37%**
Other relative's home	11	17%
Parent's home	6	9%
Home of a boyfriend/girlfriend	5	8%
Friend's home	4	6%
Vehicle*	**3**	**5%**
Own apartment or house	2	3%
Hospital or emergency room	2	3%
Streets*	**2**	**3%**
Home of someone I am having sex with or working for in exchange for a place to stay	1	2%
Foster family home	1	2%
Home of someone I don't know very well	1	2%
Hotel or motel	1	2%
Don't know/prefer not to answer	1	2%
Transitional Housing*	**1**	**2%**

What other info can we get from local data?

- **Overrepresented groups**
  - Black or African American identifying persons - Varies across data points, data coming from homeless services is 50-60% compared to 6-8% Dane County population
  - LGBTQ+ identifying persons - Varies across data points, between 16%-24%
  - Parenting youth - Varies across data points, between 12%-24%

- **Dane County Voice of Youth Assessment consistent with national data**
  - Nationally: About 1 in 10 experiencing some type of homelessness in the last year, Dane County Voice of Youth Assessment was 11% (includes ALL types and lengths of homelessness: homeless with family, on their own, run away from home for at least one night, been kicked out by parents for at least one night)

Thank you!

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Committee to End Youth Homelessness meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 10:00-11:50AM, next meeting April 21st

END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS