

## **Youth and Young Adult Services Meeting - 1/14/25**

*Attending: Sellou Coly, Catholic Charities, Stefan Davis, Found Light, Vilmi Duran, Catholic Charities, Pam Fitzpatrick, CHD, Coral Ferreira, Community Action, Wanda Garcia, Catholic Charities, Austin Hill, Community Action, Vega Johnson, Three County CoC, Irina Leybovsky, Catholic Charities, Ariceli Martinez, Catholic Charities, Marilyn Martinez, Catholic Charities, Hayley Nelson, Phil Ringwood DIAL/SELF, Declan Nolan, Hopewell, Mio Rivas, Springfield Youth Action Board, Shaina Rodriguez, Catholic Charities, Jean Rogers, CHD, Pamela Schwartz, WMNEH, Cinnamon Smith, Westover Job Corps, Heather Warner, Collaborative for Educational Services*

## **Hampden County CoC:**

- **By-names list** (YYA experiencing or at risk of homelessness (including transitional housing or shelter): as of 12/29: 137 young adults; 44% identified as male; 52% as female; less than 1% as non-binary, 4% as transgender; 53% identify as Hispanic or additional; 34% as Black or additional; 15% white - comparison to last March - 20 fewer people on the by-names than last year; an increase in males; race marginal difference.
- # of YYA stabilized in housing in 2025 - 86. 30% male; 64% female, less than 1% non-binary; 2% as transgender; 58% Hispanic; 29% Black; 14% white - fairly close to the demographic data overall
- Hotline call log data from most recent quarter (Oct, Nov, Dec): 191 calls. This is up from previous quarters of 129 and 131 respectively. Outcomes from last quarter: 19 lease-ups.
- Total capacity: 60 Rapid rehousing; 6 bed shelter; transitional housing - 3 beds; young parent transitional housing - 12-14 beds

## **Three County CoC**

- **By- names list:** 101, 21 are new since the last quarter. Over the last quarter: 8 YYA currently in rapid rehousing search; 2 rehoused in transitional housing; 1 in PSH; 2025: 15 youth were housed; another 3 youth housed through CoC housing partnerships
- Demographics: 42 LGBTQ+ on list (7 new assessments in last quarter); 21 trans/non-binary/different identity ; 44 identified as a race other than white; 10 identified as Black; 15 as Hispanic
- Capacity: 21 RRH; 7 Transitional Housing; 16 PSH units

## **Program Updates**

- Founding Light - housing for women 18-20 years old who are leaving DCF custody or seeking post-secondary education - partnering with BHN, HCC, Westfield State - working on finding a home

- Discussed emergency resources:
  - Catholic Charities offers emergency food and wellness resources
  - Network offers list of emergency shelters on its [need help page](#)
  - Cold weather gear - DIAL/SELF, CHD, Community action ( For winter camping supplies, contact Lydia Davis at 413-834-8768)
- Discussed substance use treatment support: The Impact Center at [www.impactcenterspringfield.org](http://www.impactcenterspringfield.org) for ages 16-26. Moms Do Care program with CHD: <https://www.healthrecovery.org/page/moms-do-care>

### **Point in Time Counts**

- CoC counts: [Three County](#) night - Sunday, 1/25; [Hampden County](#) count - Wed., 1/28
- Statewide Youth Count - month of April, 2026 - [read more here](#)

**HUD/COC NOFO Update:** The federal District Court issued a preliminary injunction stopping HUD from imposing a new NOFO that would have resulted in a dramatic loss to permanent supportive housing (see [this blog post here](#) for more details). There is a push to ensure a final resolution of the case on an expedited timeline, hopefully in February. In the meanwhile, advocacy continues on a Congressional level to add language into the appropriations bill that would require HUD to maintain the 2024-2025 NOFO (which would give the COCs stability for this year). Stay tuned on the Network blog for updates.

**State budget update:** Gov. Healey will be releasing her FY27 budget on Jan. 28. The Network's advocacy for its FY27 budget priorities is getting underway at the end of this month. Stay tuned for advocacy opportunities via the Network blog.

**Next meeting date: Wed., April 15, 12 noon - 1 pm**