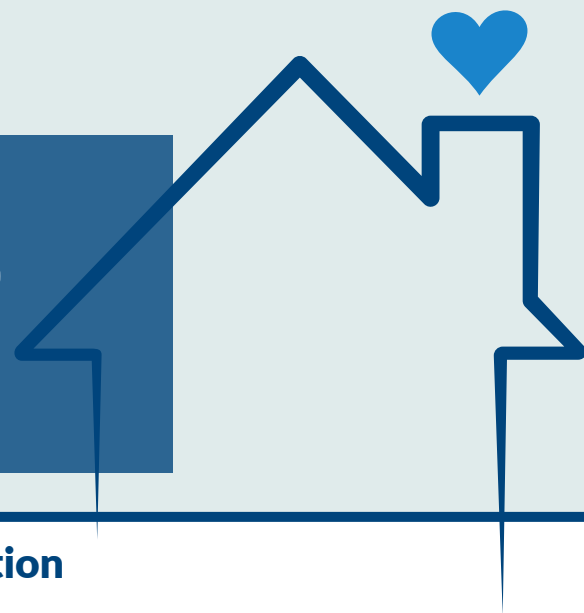


YOUTH HOMELESSNESS SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT (YHSI) PROGRAM: EASTERN & WESTERN PA COCS



Peer-to-Partnership (P2P) Pilot Program Description

Using funds awarded through the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development's Youth Homelessness Systems Improvement (YHSI) Program, the Eastern and Western PA Continuums of Care (CoCs) are launching an exciting youth-focused systems coordination pilot program called the **Peer-to-Partnership (P2P) Pilot**. The goal of the P2P Pilot is to meet communities where they are at and assist them in building effective systems to prevent and end youth homelessness. The P2P Pilot will bolster cross-system collaboration at the county-level and across the Eastern and Western PA CoCs using strategies that center Youth and Young Adults (YYA) voice and expertise.

The CoCs are soliciting 10 communities from across both CoCs' geography ([map here](#)) to participate in the P2P Pilot. The P2P Pilot will include the hiring of YYA with lived experience/expertise of homelessness and housing instability. One YYA will be placed in each participating P2P Pilot Community with oversight provided by a P2P Project Manager. The P2P YYA will work with local service providers and representatives from various youth-serving systems to:

- Identify the strengths and gaps of the county's youth homelessness response system
- Work collaboratively to create a county-wide plan for reducing youth homelessness & amplifying the current youth homelessness response system
- Begin implementing the agreed upon plan within the pilot county

The CoCs will select a management entity to handle recruitment, hiring, payment, and HR-related activities for the P2P YYA.

Responsibilities of the Selected P2P Pilot Communities:

Coordinate and Collaborate

Assemble a county-wide team to improve coordination with "feeder systems" of youth homelessness and work collaboratively to identify and address the pathways into homelessness among youth, and resources available and needed to prevent and respond to youth homelessness.

Data Matching Evaluation and Pilot Evaluation

Participate in a data matching evaluation to have a better understanding on YYA homelessness within our community to inform P2P program work. Also, participate in a P2P Pilot evaluation to ensure successful implementation and long-term sustainability.

Ongoing Training

Participate in ongoing training to understand how to better work with YYA and create change.

Host A Youth/Young Adult

Local providers are expected to host and provide daily supervision to a YYA assigned to work with them for 24 months (7/1/25-6/30/27) for 30 hours/week, and help to support their work in partnership with the YHSI-funded project manager who will support local implementation across the CoCs.

Participate in an Equity Analysis

Participate in an equity analysis of race and gender across the CoCs to identify disparities and barriers that impact YYA housing instability.

Authentic Engagement for Systemic Change

Authentically engage with hired YYA to support voice for systematic change and recommendations for strengthening processes.