Proposed Vision Statement from Santa Clara County YAB :

We envision a community where youth homelessness comes to an end in Santa Clara County by [date].

- YHDP implementation and all responses to youth homelessness are spearheaded by youth and young adult leadership.
- Our community uses a holistic, intersectional, trauma-informed approach to understand the individual and collective needs and experiences of youth.
- We use this lens to provide a support net that meets the diverse needs of youth, including underserved groups such as LGBTQIA+ youth; Black, Indigenous, and other youth of color; youth with experience in the criminal legal system; youth with experience of intimate partner violence and trafficking; refugees and undocumented youth.
- Our community has a support net for youth's basic life skills, healthcare, social connections, housing and economic stability to open up opportunities that lead to mental and physical health, safety, and empowerment.
- The support net we create prioritizes genuine, lasting relationships and avoids transactional and exploitative treatment of youth seeking support.

Visualizing USICH Benchmarks
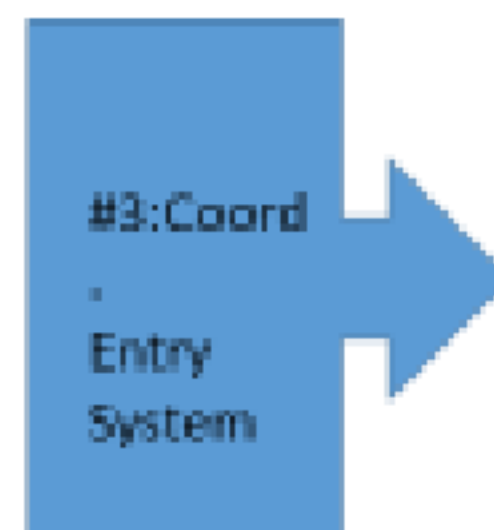
Visualizing YHDP Goals

Goal #1: **Identify** all young people *USICH*

Goal #2: **Prevent and divert** young people from entering the homeless response system and provide emergency **shelter** where needed *USICH*

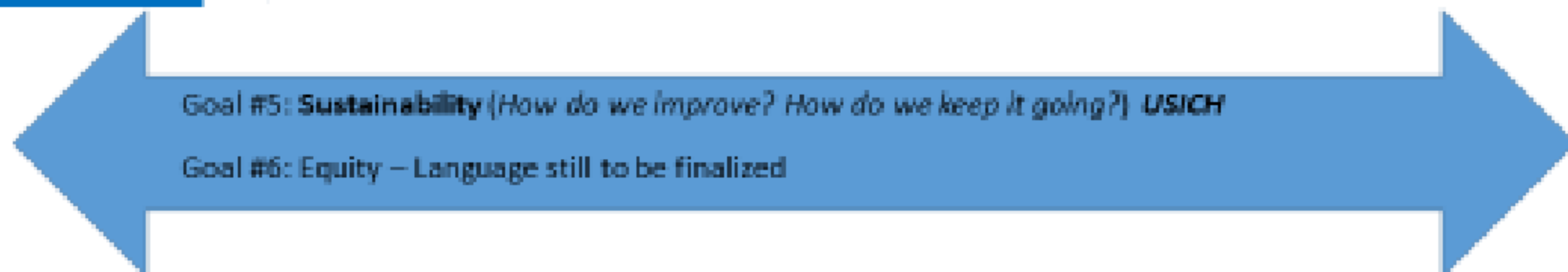Goal#3: **Coordinated Access** to Supports *USICH*

Goal #4: Quickly move to **rehouse** people *USICH*

Emergency Housing

#3:Coord. Entry System

Prevent/Divert

Prevent/Divert

Goal #5: **Sustainability** (*How do we improve? How do we keep it going?*) *USICH*

Goal #6: Equity – Language still to be finalized

Goal #1: The community identifies all unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness.

What SMARTIE actions does the community need to take to make this goal a reality?
EQUITY: How can we center equity within these action steps?
STRENGTHS: What already exists in our community that we can we build on to meet this goal?
NEEDS: What new action steps should we set to address gaps or barriers related to this goal?

I think starting an online resource center is a good idea. Going to City Hall is daunting. more reassuring for young people. it's easier for YA to connect and use

Create a collaborative task force that identifies YYA. That meets monthly.

Create marketing around identifying YYA across sectors and provide education around resources that are available

online spaces can be much easier, effective and cheaper. Like a having a wiki with youth resources

Ways in which to identify youth exiting Juvenile Justice

establish measures to identify undocumented youth experiencing homelessness or are risk

also working with non religious / faith based orgs.

like a website, and having a person they can talk to in realtime

identify spaces YYA can go to identify and obtain resources

County Hotline: Identify YYA-provide proper resources Are they reporting into HMIS. Follow-up?

once identified youth connect them directly resources warm handoff

some safe space are not safe i.e BWC

Goal #1: The community identifies all unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness.

Data and information gathering processes focused on young people experiencing homelessness

Ability for homeless youth to self identify

Look to incorporate multiple languages in the methods and processes for engaging young people.

Create partnerships across the community to help identify young people experiencing homeless

Ensuring that community connections go throughout Santa Clara County and not just urban hubs.

1 vote

Creating space and resources for young people experiencing homelessness (to build trust and connection)

That are youth focused, culturally specific, and peer run

5 votes

Yes, it's a cheat vote, sorry

Increase the quantity and quality of outreach happening across the community focused in on engaging all young people experiencing homelessness

12 votes

Goal #2: The community uses prevention and diversion strategies whenever possible, and otherwise provides immediate access to low-barrier crisis housing and services to any youth who needs and wants it.

What SMARTIE actions does the community need to take to make this goal a reality?
EQUITY: How can we center equity within these action steps?
STRENGTHS: What already exists in our community that we can we build on to meet this goal?
NEEDS: What new action steps should we set to address gaps or barriers related to this goal?

Need to understand the reasons homelessness is occurring to develop prevention and diversion strategies? And how young people are able to and prefer to access supports (i.e. phone, in-person)?

Engage landlords to identify affordable units for young people who are being diverting but need assistance to find a place.

Should have a variety of diverse crisis housing options for young people to choose from based on their preferences (shelter, motels, tiny homes, transitional housing, etc.) that provide different settings and supports.

Financial counseling and support to increase income.

Immediate access should include a hotline and ability to speak to a case manager right away to develop immediate steps.

Need a centralized directory of possible services available to youth that they can access.

Interagency collaboration that fosters linkages and referrals to services early and provides necessary supports with applications, etc.

Need safety net services designed as affirming and safe specifically for LGBTQ+ YYA, especially trans, nonbinary, gender expansive YYA – including shelter

Make homeless shelters safer and divided with youth-specific spaces. Allowing youth choice in selecting shelters based on their gender and preferences.

Create a pilot cash assistance program.

Need services that specifically address the needs of young people.

Prevention/diversion services should link young people to benefits (SSI, Medical, etc.) and education and employment supports to increase income.

Continued communication and wraparound supports to ensure diversion is successful long-term.

Explore partnerships that will build a safe community and define what collaboration with police would look like and how they can support this effort.

I think starting an online resource center is a good idea. Going to City Hall is daunting

Partnership and communication across service agencies - should be able to make strong referrals to other agencies that can meet the young person's needs.

Explore advocacy agenda that will address root problems (lack of affordable housing and living wage jobs) and set clear goals to increase affordable housing availability.

Programs that support people where they are so they can stay there (for example, providing rental assistance).

Prevention/diversion services that address the mental health and family needs of young people. And address intergenerational poverty.

Goal #2: The community uses prevention and diversion strategies whenever possible, and otherwise provides immediate access to low-barrier crisis housing and services to any youth who needs and wants it.

Themes from 1.25.22

Create easy ways for young people to ACCESS supports

3 votes

Social media

Make sure that young people are safe and have supports that are designed to meet the young people where they are (e.g. culturally reflective of young people; safe shelters for all identities, etc.)

Support young people in creating and maintaining a network of people in their lives that they can depend on moving forward

4 votes

Create/expand services focused on engaging and supporting young people

Creation specifically of targeted diversion services for young people (cash payments, etc.)

Create affordable housing/ opportunities specifically for youth -L

1 vote

Create targeted advocacy/policy work focused on addressing the issues that are leading young people to experience homelessness

3 votes

Work to develop networks and relationships across systems and community stakeholders, to prevent young people from falling into homelessness

5 votes

A vote for something that focuses on Prevention and another that focuses on Diversion

Goal #3: The community uses coordinated entry processes to effectively link all youth experiencing homelessness to housing and services solutions that are tailored to their needs.

What SMARTIE actions does the community need to take to make this goal a reality?
EQUITY: How can we center equity within these action steps?
STRENGTHS: What already exists in our community that we can we build on to meet this goal?
NEEDS: What new action steps should we set to address gaps or barriers related to this goal?

Youth have guarantee that they won't lose their children, face immigration consequences, have other negative outcomes

A prioritization system that is designed to reverse existing racial, ethnic and other disparities in the population of youth and young adults experiencing homelessness.

where assessments are accessible, but we aren't referring everyone to a coordinated entry system that cannot provide housing referrals for everyone (Prevent people from being on the community queue waiting for a referral

Easy for youth to get into the system, they can do it where they're already connected (e.g. probation, hospital, school, etc)

For access, use organizations & locations that have youth's trust, connections to communities

A wide variety of people need to know about the system/process/way to access

All providers & orgs working with youth can connect them to CE

Chance for youth to see the assessment & the process ahead of time, so they can know what to expect

Pre-VI-SPDAT to get basic information first, wait to go into details once a relationship is developed

Ensure consistent case management connection for all youth post-assessment

Goal #3: The community uses coordinated entry processes to effectively link all youth experiencing homelessness to housing and services solutions that are tailored to their needs.

Themes from 1.25.22

Reverse existing racial, ethnic, and other disparities in the population of unhoused youth

5 votes

Prioritize relationship-building and minimize trauma within the Coordinated Entry System

Transparency on waiting time

8 votes

Expand access to and utilization of the Coordinated Entry System by unhoused youth
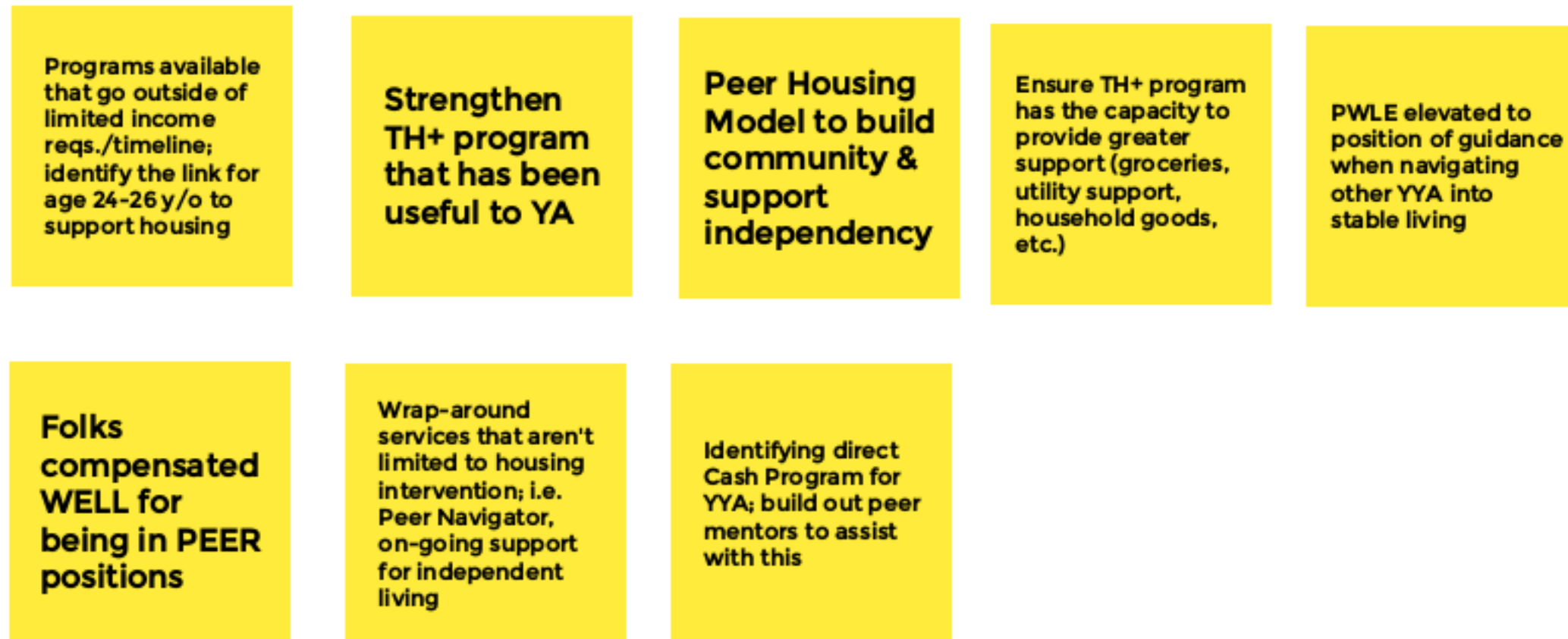
1 vote

Goal #4: The community acts with urgency to swiftly assist youth to move in to permanent or non-time-limited housing options with appropriate services and supports.

What SMARTIE actions does the community need to take to make this goal a reality?
EQUITY: How can we center equity within these action steps?
STRENGTHS: What already exists in our community that we can we build on to meet this goal?
NEEDS: What new action steps should we set to address gaps or barriers related to this goal?

Identifying low barrier system & strong case mangement for those who need it

Outreach to promote to/bridge YYA into immediate housing services available; if YYA don't know-not helpful

Support for TH/RRH/PH - for YYA; to allow for greater economic building for YYA

Identify shared housing/housing pool for housing interventions that identify shared/multiple person housing; (limit to each person having own bathroom/bedroom)

Life/Living Skills to support YA transitioning into 1st apartment

Programs available that go outside of limited income reqs./timeline; identify the link for age 24-26 y/o to support housing

Strengthen TH+ program that has been useful to YA

Peer Housing Model to build community & support independency

Ensure TH+ program has the capacity to provide greater support (groceries, utility support, household goods, etc.)

PWLE elevated to position of guidance when navigating other YYA into stable living

Folks compensated WELL for being in PEER positions

Wrap-around services that aren't limited to housing intervention; i.e. Peer Navigator, on-going support for independent living

Identifying direct Cash Program for YYA; build out peer mentors to assist with this

Goal #4: The community acts with urgency to swiftly assist youth to move in to permanent or non-time-limited housing options with appropriate services and supports.

Themes from 1.25.22

Create and expand targeted housing programs for young people experiencing homelessness (housing programs)

A well compensated and trained staff that is made up of people with lived expertise, peer workers and are reflective demographically, of the people accessing programs (staffing)

2 Votes

Create supports and programs to build relationships with young people to bridge access and entry into services (Outreach and Communication)

Focus in on developing specific support services that should be available to young people in supportive housing programs (support services)

2 Votes

Goal #4: The community acts with urgency to swiftly assist youth to move in to permanent or non-time-limited housing options with appropriate services and supports.

Yellow as umbrella priority, with others that need to necessarily follow.

Create and expand targeted housing programs for young people experiencing homelessness (housing programs)

5-ish votes

Is a theme across goal areas.

A well compensated and trained staff that is made up of people with lived expertise, peer workers and are reflective demographically, of the people accessing programs (staffing)

Language suggestion for "include" (not exclusively made up of)

Define living wage; create career pathways, racially representative staffing

Important to pair this with expansion of housing programs.

Create supports and programs to build relationships with young people to bridge access and entry into services (Outreach and Communication)

Focus in on developing specific support services that should be available to young people in supportive housing programs (support services)

Goal #5: The community has resources, plans, and system capacity in place to continue to prevent and quickly end future experiences of homelessness among youth.

What SMARTIE actions does the community need to take to make this goal a reality?
EQUITY: How can we center equity within these action steps?
STRENGTHS: What already exists in our community that we can we build on to meet this goal?
NEEDS: What new action steps should we set to address gaps or barriers related to this goal?

Increase administrative capacity that can be responsive to the support that is needed for this detailed system work to continue and improve (expansion of SCC OSH roles as well as other system partners)

Find a way of talking about the comprehensive community need - what is the real need in our community to help elevate the gap we are trying to meet

Increase targeted training and competency development systems

fear that people perceive the YHDP award is all we need to end homelessness for young people

Communication about the system and the capacity - where to send young people who are in need of the supports out there.

Connections from all stakeholders and system partners

Focus expansion on serving young people who are underserved in the homeless respo... line w... ident... the v... and l...

ways to include young people in paid positions and leadership roles within the system (salaried positions - move beyond stipends!!) - is this through Destination Home or OSH or another system ...

Expanding provider capacity - increase administrative capacity to be able to access complicated funding streams (HUD/HHS/State/etc.)

Expand the number of providers that are focused on YYA housing - both existing providers to expand their expertise and also being in new providers to support system...

...made available to community to increase the access to those funding streams in line with the the vision and values of YHDP (Connect with providers who have articulated the challenges they have experienced) - ensure ...

experiment with different ways of making funding accessible to the community

Clear communication about existing resources and what it takes to access those resources now

Seeing broader policy change that decreases barriers to access system supports (mental health, physical health, substance use disorder supports, etc.)

reprioritize or realign existing resources that better meet the needs that YYA are sharing

Make sure there is funding that is ongoing and long term (compared to one time funding that ends)

Goal #5: The community has resources, plans, and system capacity in place to continue to prevent and quickly end future experiences of homelessness among youth.

Increase capacity of key partners throughout the system

YAB/YYA

"continuing to prevent and quickly end future experiences"; ideal coordination and communication across all community members and partners would include comprehensive resources, plan and

Communicate and coordinate with the entire community and specific partners to ensure the continued operation of the homeless response system for young people

3 Votes

Develop a coordinate policy/advocacy plan to address barriers young people experiencing homelessness are encountering on their journey to housing stability

Housing plan changes overtime

Develop a plan to address barriers young people experiencing homelessness are encountering on their journey to housing stability

1 Vote

Elevate and support roles for young people throughout every step of the system, including leadership and administration.

Address funding barriers and evolve funding processes in line with vision and values of CCP

Themes from 1.25.22

Goal #5: The community has resources, plans, and system capacity in place to continue to prevent and quickly end future experiences of homelessness among youth.

Increase capacity for youth-centered programs and all programs to have competencies in serving young people.

Increase capacity of key partners throughout the system

Consider splitting administrative and provider capacity.

Training and development; administrative capacity; provider capacity; expanding and diversifying providers.

Elevate and support roles for young people throughout every step of the system, including leadership and administration.

Streamline and remove bureaucratic roadblocks (also connects to green objective)

Cross-system collaboration

Communicate and coordinate with the entire community and specific partners to ensure the continued operation of the homeless response system for young people

Develop a coordinate policy/advocacy plan to address barriers young people experiencing homelessness are encountering on their journey to housing stability

Address funding barriers and evolve funding processes in line with vision and values of CCP

Create a journey mapping effort to identify and remove bottlenecks in system.

Continuous quality improvement, evaluation, and/or low barrier feedback mechanisms to identify what is or isn't working.

Who is responsible for making these goals a reality?

What specific stakeholders are key to our success? What
specific role should they play?