

**PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT
COVER SHEET**

1. Grant Number: #03150-5247
2. Grantee Name and Address: Northeast Kingdom Community Action
10 Main Street
Newport, VT 05855
3. Telephone Number: (802) 334-7316
4. Project Title: Youth in Transition Grant
5. Period of Performance: July 1, 2010 thru December 31, 2010
6. Approved Project Period: July 1, 2010 thru December 31, 2010
7. Period Covered by Report: July 1, 2010 thru December 31, 2010
8. Author's Name and Telephone number: Brooke Everton and Kathy Metras
(802) 334-7316
9. Date of report: January 31, 2011
10. Comments (if any):

1. Major Activities and Accomplishments during this Period –

We were able to hire a Peer Outreach Worker in Aug. 2010. The Peer Outreach Worker's hire date was Aug. 10th, 2010 and she hit the ground running by attending a conference in Chicago with NEKCA Youth Services Manager.

The ONE Youth in Transition Facilitator also attend 2 trainings on implementing youth boards and working with youth and young adults. The training date for the first one was July 27th and 28th and the follow up training took place November 10, 2010. The follow up training is where YIT and YDP members came up with an action plan to help move forward on the Youth Advisory Board.

September 23, 2010: The YIT facilitator and several members from NEKCA traveled to Lake Morey to attend YIT sharing day.

In October the Youth in Transition Facilitator attended a Bob Bertolino, PH.D training called Thriving on the Front Lines. The training was about strength based practices for youth care workers, front lines staff, supervisors; this training was provided through VCRHYP.

On November 3, YIT Facilitator attended Mary Childers training around supervision.

The last thing we have to report is that we had two young adults enrolled into the YIT program. One was a self-referral and the other was referred to the YIT Transition Facilitator via transitional housing and Job Corps.

2. Problems –

Enrollment has been a problem and at this point in time we are starting a new year and having to make up the numbers we didn't hit as well. We had a phone conference meeting on December 14th with the State YIT committee about what we can do to help enroll more youth and young adults within the parameters of the grant as written.

As of the end of this reporting period the Youth Advisory Board has not gotten up and running. There is a plan in place and the beginning of the next reporting period the YIT facilitator will be having her first meeting.

3. Significant Findings and Events –

At end of report please see the ad and job description for the Peer Outreach Worker position.

4. Dissemination activities –

October 13th, 2010 went and met with Mental Health in the area to discuss what the Youth in Transition grant can do and what it is all about.

November 2nd, 2010 met with the director of our Community Justice Center to discuss collaboration and let them know about YIT.

5. Other Activities –

The YIT Facilitator helped organize and execute the Highlow Project exhibit that NEKCA was hosting during the month of December.

The YIT Facilitator has also been providing outreach to youth and young adults even if they do not want to participate in the YIT program; as well as go out on cases with other NEKCA programs to see if those cases might be a YIT eligible case.

6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period –

YIT Facilitator in coordination with YDP will be conducting a community meeting with area agencies to help create a youth advisory board that should be sustainable. After the initial meeting YIT Facilitator will look for nominated youth and then have fist YAB meeting.

It has been approved that the YIT Facilitator position will become a split position starting next reporting period. The logistics have not been set but will be discussed during the ONE LIT meeting on Jan. 11th, 2010. Look for all reports about this during the next progress report.

NEKCA
JOB OPENING

Posting Date: June 22, 2010

Closing Date: July 16, 2010

Job Title: Peer Outreach Worker

Site Location: Community Action Youth Services, Newport Non-Exempt X Exempt _____

Hourly Range: \$9.00/hr Hrs/Wk 10 Wks/Yr 52

Apply online at www.jobsinvt.com or send

- Cover Letter
- Resume
- Three References to:

jevans@nekcavt.org

or mail to:

NEKCA Human Resources
PO Box 346 – 70 Main Street
Newport, VT 05855

(802) 334-7316

Fax: (802) 334-5249

For more information, see attached or contact the person above.

NEKCA Mission Statement

Believing in each individual's potential for positive growth and change, NEKCA is committed to empowering those who seek assistance to improve the quality of their lives. We provide direct program activities, referrals, advocacy, and education in a non-judgmental manner to people and communities in the Northeast Kingdom.

NEKCA is an Equal Opportunity Employer

JOB DESCRIPTION

II. Scope:

This youth liaison position provides peer outreach/support to youth ages 16-21 with Severe Emotional Disturbances. Responsible for building and supporting strong relationships. High level of communication and collaboration with team members and community partners. Peer Outreach Worker will build trust and rapport with peers and staff while setting and maintaining appropriate limits and boundaries.

III. Minimum Requirements: (Must comply with NEKCA Policies if Hired)

All staff will be required to authorize and pass NEKCA's criminal record check process.

- Must be able to satisfy the travel requirements of the position

- Must be a minimum of 16 years old
- Strong communication skills required
- Good computer skills desired
- Strong knowledge of family systems
- Familiarity with community resources

To perform the job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed above and on the following page(s) are representative of the knowledge, skill and/or ability required. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

IV. Essential Duties

RESPONSIBILITIES

Demonstrate competency in all eight (8) areas of NEKCA's Core Values

Support at-risk youth ages 16-21, especially those with Severe Emotional Disturbances (SED)

Attend required meetings, including Local Interagency Team (LIT)

Help organize and supervise the Teen Center and events in collaboration with CAYS staff

Tailor services and supports to be accessible, coordinated, appealing, developmentally-appropriate, and build on strengths to enable young people to pursue goals across all transition domains

Engage peers through relationship development, person centered planning and a focus on the future

Acknowledge and develop personal choice and social responsibility with peers while enhancing young persons' competencies to assist them in achieving greater self-sufficiency and confidence

Help young people maintain caring relationships (with adults who nurture positive youth development) by strengthening relationships for all students, families, and participating collaborators through the development of a common language of trust, respect, responsibility, and support

Be familiar with and network with all providers to help secure the most developmentally appropriate programs to ensure young people can access post-secondary education and options for completing high school, including training

Ensure and document that young people are accessing mental, oral and physical healthcare, health insurance and substance abuse treatment if necessary

Help young people gain employment by networking with various agencies and community partners

Recruit, train and retain youth/young adults for the Youth Advisory Board

Help create and maintain focus group style gatherings, hearing and validating the voice of youth and young adults

All other duties as assigned by the supervisor consistent with the job description