

## YIT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

1. Grant Number: 03150-5247
2. Grantee Name and Address: North East Kingdom Community Action Inc.  
PO Box 346  
Newport Vermont 05855
3. Telephone Number: 802-334-7316
4. Project Title: Youth in Transition Grant
5. Period of Performance from January 1st through June 30, 2012
6. Approved Project Period from through
7. Author's Name and Telephone number: Kathy Metras 802-334-7316
8. Date of report: 07/24/2012
9. Comments (if any):

### Attachments:

- 1) Last 6 months of Teen Center activities
- 2) Pictures from a few events in the Teen Center
- 3) Posters for outreach purposes
- 4) Kathy Beauvais' Resume

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The federal Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) primarily focuses on demonstrating accountability and achieving meaningful outcomes for all federally funded programs. Please make sure to include information on the outcomes of your project activities and the impact of your project on improving the lives of Youth in Transition and their families in the Program Progress Reports submitted.

### **Two Program Progress Reports must be submitted for this sub-grant:**

1. one for the time period from July 1 – December 31, 2011 (due by January 31, 2012), and
2. one for the period from January 1 – June 30, 2012 (due by July 30, 2012).

### **Report Contents**

#### **1. Major Activities and Accomplishments During this Period**

Report both quantifiable and non-quantifiable accomplishments for the General Expectations and Regional Goals listed in Attachment A (see pages 3-5 of the grant award):

- 1 Quantifiable accomplishments include numbers of youth/families served, people trained,

- support groups established, etc.
- 2 Non-quantifiable accomplishments should be listed in chronological order. Describe any draft/final products in this section.

**Please report major activities and accomplishments for the following goals, outcomes, and indicators as relevant for the sub-grant. [This section of the report may be entered directly into the table below.]**

	<p>1: Young adult (YA) leadership is developed in VT.</p> <p><b>Required activity:</b></p>
	<p>2: Family/adult allies support young adults....Every young person we work with we work through family connections or a genogram. This is to help the young people understand how different people can support them throughout transitioning into adulthood. This also helps the Youth Worker understand where to put some extra energy helping the young people find some good supports to help them with their future.</p>
	<p>3: Workers use caring practices known to be helpful for young adults and families.</p> <p><b>Required activity:</b></p> <p>The YIT facilitator completes a 'Planning my Future' worksheet with the youth which assists the youth and facilitator in completing the Transition Planning Form with measurable goals/objectives. The Transition Planning Form allows the youth to work towards their vision for the future and plan of care. This will allow youths to see action steps to reach each objective and a target date to reflect back to, like a check list.</p>
	<p>4: System of Care partners gain cultural &amp; linguistic competence (CLC).... Still needing the training for staff and the YAB.</p>
	<p>5: Local communities (including young adults) change their perceptions of young adults and of mental health issues, reducing stigma....</p> <p>The Peer Outreach Worker has been assisting with this. She has been locating and scheduling volunteer opportunities for youth which has greatly changed local employers' perceptions of the youth, who are attending the Teen Drop-In Center. Our Peer Outreach worker has brought 3 youth to our Newport Natural Food Store.</p> <p>Both Youth Support Workers and the Peer Outreach Worker have been completing outreach in the community by providing information about the various programs offered and about the various activities the youth are engaged in and working towards.</p> <p>This summer we also were able to offer a day long Positive Youth</p>

	<p>Development training for youth workers in our area. We had 105 attendees and great feedback on our evaluations. (Attached is the invitation)</p>
	<p>6: Effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care for young adults with SED is evaluated..... Through the studies UVM is conducting we will be better able to show the effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care that serves young adults with SED.</p>
	<p>7: The State supports and sustains regional services for young adults... The DMH and UVM have been a great resource for our YIT team by providing annual conference for all in the state to a statewide youth/young adult voice conference. The state YIT team has been easily accessible and always very interested in what we are doing locally and how they can help.</p>
	<p>1. Decreased number of young adults involved in the corrections system (including an increase in the number who are free of incarceration). <b>Required activity:</b></p> <p>The YIT facilitator continues to build good relationships with Department of Corrections. Meets with youth in corrections and his case manager. Working on transitioning youth for when they returns back to the community and continue attending monthly truancy meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 6 new YIT referrals within the past 6 months.</li> <li>▪ 12 youth currently opened and active with the YIT program.</li> <li>▪ 2 youth, who are currently enrolled in the Diversion Program, are successfully completing all their requirements.</li> </ul> <p>2. Increased number of young adults who are employed...., Community organization, outreach by the YIT Coordinator, agency staff, and management has led to increased employment rates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2 youth are enrolled in and participating in the Jobs Program.</li> <li>▪ 1 youth has successfully become enrolled in the YES Program.</li> <li>▪</li> </ul> <p>3. Increased number young adults participating in (or who completed) educational programs....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1 3 youth are currently enrolled in High School.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•2 6 youth are either working on obtaining their GED or enrolled in college classes.</li> <li>•3 1 youth is currently opened with the Parent Child Center for educational services.</li> </ul>
	<p>4. Increased number of young adults who have access to, and are using, a medical home.... We have not accessed or increased the number of youth/young adults using a medical home. However, every youth/young adult that is enrolled in our program we ensure they have medical insurance or we help them apply for health insurance.</p>
	<p>5. Increased number of young adults living in safe and stable housing...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1 4 youth have obtained stable housing.</li> <li>•2 11 youth from the Teen Center have been referred to TLP</li> <li>•4 10 Youth from the Teen Center were referred to Mental Health</li> <li>•5 25 Youth from the Teen Center were referred to Basic Center</li> <li>•6 8 Youth from the Teen Center were referred to Youth in Transition</li> </ul>
	<p>6. Increased number of young adults who have caring &amp; supportive relationships....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1 All youth develop a genograms</li> </ul> <p>Mediation between the youth and their families continues to be a major part of the YIT Program. We continue to encourage the youth to utilize positive supports and build on their existing relationships. The genograms as well as ongoing discussions of support systems continues to be a major part of the YIT program. The Teen Center Staff strive to build positive relationships between the youth and with the youth through Teen Center activities. The Teen Drop-In Center is a positive, safe environment for the youth to go to hang out with peers.</p> <p>The Teen center is a great place for youth to seek out positive relationships with supportive adults. Through the teen center supportive staffs are available five days a week. We are excited to see the youth come through the door. Staff asks open ended questions enabling them to get know the youth. We</p>

	<p>actively listen to what they have to say and make great efforts to remember what is going on in their lives and fallow through with ongoing conversations about issues and goals in the youths lives.</p>
	<p>7. Increase in young adults' strengths and protective factors....</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All 18 youth have health insurance at this time.</li> <li>• 3 youth have either obtained a driver's permit or a license within the past 6 months.</li> </ul>
	<p>8. Improved mental health for young adults.</p> <p><b>Required activity:</b></p> <p><i>Improve access to mental health services for the young adults most at risk for poor outcomes and use the power of the courts to increase their likelihood of use of those services....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•1 5 youth are currently engaged in some way with Mental Health Services.</li> <li>•2 30 young people in the Teen Center are able to interact with a Substance Abuse Counselor from NKHS.</li> <li>•3 YIT staff attend monthly truancy meetings to increase referrals</li> </ul>
	<p><u>Workforce Development:</u> Organizations or communities implementing mental health-related training programs as a result of the grant. Please enter the number of organizations or communities and briefly describe the training programs.... We attend weekly Creative Workforce Solutions meetings. This full team of community collaboration has been developing employment and training opportunities for all of our participants.</p>
	<p><u>Organizational Change:</u> Organizational changes made to support improvement of mental health-related practices/activities that are consistent with the goals of the grant. Please enter the number of changes and briefly describe them....</p>
	<p><u>Partnership/Collaboration:</u> Organizations that entered into formal written inter/intra-organizational agreements (e.g., MOUs/MOAs) to improve mental health-related practices/activities that are consistent with the goals of the grant. Please enter the number of organizations and briefly describe the agreements.... We have MOU's with a 15-20 organizations. These are a variety of organizations for example umbrella, mental health, education (Mikenny Vento), Planned Parent Hood, Vocational Rehabilitation, Economic Services, Family Services, etc.</p>

	<p><u>Types/Targets of Practice:</u> Programs/organizations/communities that implemented evidence-based mental health-related practices/activities as a result of the grant. Please enter the number of programs/organizations/communities and briefly describe the evidence-based practices.... The YIT staff has continued their TIP training.</p>
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### 3. Problems

Describe any deviations or departures from the original project plan including actual/anticipated slippage in task completion dates, and special problems encountered or expected. Use this section to describe barriers to accomplishment, actions taken to overcome difficulties, and to advise DMH of any needs for assistance.

Teen Center staff held a dinner for Youths and their families to come and get an idea of what the Teen Center is all about. The projects and activities that the youths have done and accomplished when at the Teen Center. it was a little discouraging when none of the families showed. For future the staff will explore other ways to gain parents attention, one will be advertising in the paper and posters thought out the community.

Two youth have unfortunately violated their Diversion and obtained new charges. Both Youth are currently serving time in a correctional facility.

#### Progressive Employment

The Youth Employment Specialist has proven a much-needed position for the young people we serve. However, many of the young people served do not have consistent transportation. In addition, our local transportation company does not have a flexible schedule. With many employment opportunities, lurking our agency along with other community partners has started a transportation committee working towards a community solution versus agency per agency solution.

### 4. Significant Findings and Events

Staff attended numerous trainings/seminars during this period. March 8, 2012 staff went to Burlington for Positive Youth Development. On April 4 2012 "Your Jobs Our Lives: Every moment is an Opportunity for Change" which was held at Johnson State College. May 17, 2012 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Working with Youth Conference in Burlington. On May 22, 2012 Youth Services conducted a training in Newport, VT at The Eastside Restaurant. The training was from local business, law enforcement guidance counselors, head start and teachers. Staff members took three youths to Job Corps in Vergennes, VT. The youths found it very interesting. On June 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Staff and two youths went to Castleton State College to attend Young Adult Voice Movement conference. It was an overnight, everyone stayed in the dorms. We attended workshops and made new friends.

The past six months NEKCA Youth Services has been implementing the blended positions Youth in Transition and Runaway, homeless youth programs. The past six months has been challenging with employee turnover. After a few challenging months we are now fully staffed with incredible, hard working professionals ready to take on the world.

Kathy Beauvais has been hired on as the second Youth In Transition Facilitator

## **5. Dissemination activities**

Briefly describe project related inquiries and information dissemination activities carried out over the reporting period. Itemize and include a copy of any newspaper, newsletter, and magazine articles or other published materials considered relevant to project activities, or used for project information or public relations purposes.

- 1 Attached you will find Teen Center photos, the Teen Center Calendar,

## **5. Other Activities**

Briefly describe other activities undertaken during the reporting period.

The Teen Center Coordinator has taken the youths to Crystal Lake and Willoughby Lake swimming. She has youths participate in community service to earn hours for new computers in the Teen Center.

We are also offering a Sex Education class. This class meets for two hours for four weeks. If the youths complete the class they will receive a \$100.00 stipend paid from a grant through Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) the class has nine youths that are currently attending. We had 6 youth successfully complete the class.

Youth Services and the Teen Center is also on Facebook.

We had two youth from our Youth Advisory Board go to New Orleans. They had their picture taken with Curtis Porter and participated and reported back in our annual meeting.

## **6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period**

Briefly describe the project activities planned for the next reporting period.

We are hoping to have a follow up training within the next year regarding Positive Youth development.

We are also working on public relations with our youth. We have been making videos with our youth/young adults and we are hoping to create our own kind of commercial with the youth in our teen center.

**DMH only:**

*Date received:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Approved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date approved:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Approved by:* \_\_\_\_\_

*Date approved:* \_\_\_\_\_