

YIT PROGRAM PROGRESS REPORT

1. Grant Number: 03150-5259
2. Grantee Name and Address: Boys and Girls Club of Rutland County
44 Evelyn St, Rutland, VT 05701
3. Telephone Number: 802-747-4944
4. Project Title: Youth In Transition Center
5. Period of Performance from July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013
6. Approved Project Period from July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2014
7. Author's Name and Telephone number: Jaymie Freidank, 802-747-4944 x16
8. Date of report: January 8, 2014
9. Comments (if any):

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

Total unduplicated Youth served: 123
Total visits to the Center: 346
Lunches served: 256
Referrals: 17

The Drop In Center had 7 youth who use our resources on a regular basis find jobs in the last six months.

Jaymie and Sarah attended the YIT Lake Morey Sharing day on October 1st. This is always a great event offering the opportunity to team-build, get to know and learn from other YIT groups around the state. As well as providing our youth with the techniques to build leadership skills.

The Drop In Center and the Boys & Girls Club has hosted two more cycles of our PREP sexual education program since July. This program is available for youth age 12 to 21. We hosted this program for any qualified youth interested in participating. It is an 8 week information intensive sex-ed program based on the Vermont PREP Program (Personal Responsibility Education Program). *This is an evidence-based program* We plan to begin our next cycle (first of 2014) January 21st. We have 10 young adults enrolled at this time.

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>Goals for strengthening the systems of care</p>	<p>1: Young adult (YA) leadership is developed in VT.</p> <p>By getting to know our key stakeholders, this will allow us to know what is expected of us from our stakeholders, and how we can continue to strengthen the systems of care. We hold collaborator meetings in April, August and November where our area stakeholders and collaborator's meet at "The Drop In Center" to discuss our successes and challenges. We discuss ways to better provide for our youths and talk about additional resources and trainings available to "The Drop In Center" staff and youths.</p> <p>Center staff participates in Rutland County's Adult Workforce Workshops to better prepare us in helping our young adults find and keep jobs.</p> <p>We participate in Rutland Area Prevention meetings (RAP) monthly to collaborate with multiple agencies in the county to discuss solutions to preventing alcohol and tobacco use among area residents in particular, youth in the Rutland area</p> <p>In addition, we regularly attend Rutland County's Women Collaborative meetings to discuss ways to better meet the needs of unemployed, untrained young women in the area.</p> <p>Jaymie and Sarah attended the YIT Lake Morey Sharing day on October 1st. This is always a great event offering the opportunity to team-build, get to know and learn from other YIT groups around the state. As well as providing our youth with the techniques to build leadership skills.</p>
	<p>2: Family/adult allies support young adults....</p> <p>We were able to form allies with our young adults with area artists through the Youth Initiative Grant.</p>

Area artists and our youth worked together to make art pieces that represent the youths feelings of their community and how they view Rutland.

This art was then displayed in the Boys and Girls Club for family and community members to view and discuss with both the youth and the area artists.

Many worthwhile and lasting relationships with adult allies were formed through this project.

Sarah and Jaymie participated in Project Vision's Baxter St. Block Party on October 5th. We hosted a table providing information about the resources available at the Drop In Center. There were approximately 300 community members present throughout the day.

3: Workers use caring practices known to be helpful for young adults and families.

Our plan to accomplish this is continued training, participation in stakeholder and neighboring agencies meetings/projects, and continued conversation with our youth.

Center staff regularly attend monthly meetings with the Women's Collaboration in Rutland. This is a wonderful program for young women to learn a skilled trade and life skills through Stafford Tech in Rutland.

The Center staff regularly attends the Housing Trust and Housing Coalition meetings for Rutland. We are able to have the latest information on housing available for our youth and work towards a transitional living program for area youth.

Jaymie attends Rutland's Continuum of Care meetings at the Rutland Police Department on a regular basis

Jaymie attends the Project Vision Meetings at the Rutland Police Department every other Thursday. This committee is working to finds ways to help Rutland's residence feel safe from crime by reducing the drug and gang presence in the community. This project is a great way to collaborate with many new agencies around the area and within the state.

4: System of Care partners gain cultural & linguistic competence (CLC)....

Jaymie participated in the Personal Responsibility Educational Program on addressing LGBTQ special issues and needs

	<p>Jaymie participated in the “Myth of the Culture of Poverty” workshop. This workshop addressed and examined how poverty has harmful effects in school and in human services</p> <p>The Drop In Center staff and youth attended cultural competency training in Rutland. This workshop was offered in October and sponsored by YIT. The training covered many areas of cultural and linguistic competency. Both staff and youth found the training very informative and helpful with everyday communications.</p> <p>Jaymie attends regular PREP trainings throughout the year that deal with delicate cultural issues regarding youth sexuality.</p> <hr/> <p>5: Local communities (including young adults) change their perceptions of young adults and of mental health issues, reducing stigma....</p> <p>The Drop In Center hosted another “Sk8te Night” for local youth at our area skate hall. We had a great turn out of almost 90 young adults. Admission was a canned good or \$5.00. Many youth also donated other items. Total donations came close to \$200.00</p> <p>We had free pizza and giveaways of skate helmets, 2 skateboards, and skate lessons.</p> <hr/> <p>6: Effectiveness of the Vermont System of Care for young adults with SED is evaluated.....</p> <hr/> <p>7: The State supports and sustains regional services for young adults....</p> <p>This is being met by continued reporting and is more useful following every reporting period.</p>
<p>Desired outcomes for young adults of transition-age</p>	<p>1. Decreased number of young adults involved in the corrections system (including an increase in the number who are free of incarceration).</p> <p>The Center staff continues street outreach, Center open hours for drop in, serving lunch/dinner, and engaging youth to build trust and caring relationships. The Center offers volunteer, service learning and internships for youth referred from many local organizations including Restorative Justice/ Diversion, Drug Court, Rutland High School, Vermont Adult Learning, and many more. Youth volunteering at the Center are also given career exploration, resumes, references, and job skills to help them succeed and reach their goals.</p> <p>We regularly attend local RAP Coalition meetings. RAP is the Rutland Area Prevention group that looks to find ways to prevent drug, alcohol, and tobacco use among the area residents, particularly among its young adults.</p>

The Drop In Center has been able to provide community service hours for youth in diversion programs. This gives youths opportunities to give back to the community it has harmed while avoiding time in juvenile facilities or local/county jails. We have been able to help several youth avoid incarceration by giving them another chance to prove themselves as contributing members of society.

Every month, our initiative is to continue collaboration with Restorative Justice/Diversion, Juvenile Court Services, DOC, and probation and parole. Our goal is to aid in the reduction of the area crime rate committed by youthful offenders.

Jaymie attends the Project Vision Meetings at the Rutland Police Department every other Thursday. This committee is working to find ways to help Rutland's residents feel safe from crime by reducing the drug and gang presence in the community. This project is a great way to collaborate with many new agencies around the area and within the state.

2. Increased number of young adults who are employed....

The Center has been able to increase youth employment with mock interview workshops, more extensive resume help, multiple job search resources, providing interview clothing through donations and thrift shops, providing work attire through other funding, and transportation (bus passes) privileges.

We were able to connect 7 young adults who access the Center regularly with jobs during this last reporting period. We are very proud of this, especially in the current economic crunch.

The Center staff regularly attends the Rutland area workforce development meetings. This allows us to stay current on workforce development trends as well as provide our youth with the most up to date job openings in the area.

3. Increased number young adults participating in (or who completed) educational programs....

The Center currently has had 2 youth graduate from VAL. We had helped these youth enroll in this program and have provided guidance and motivation to continue and complete their HS equivalency. We are very proud of these individuals and hope for a bright future for them.

The Drop In Center and the Boys & Girls Club hosted seven cycles of our PREP sexual education program thus far. We have been able to serve 60 youth thus far and look forward to serving more this coming 2014.

	<p>4. Increased number of young adults who have access to, and are using, a medical home....</p>
	<p>5. Increased number of young adults living in safe and stable housing....</p> <p>Jaymie attends monthly meetings for the Partnership for Homeless Youth Association. These take place one to twice a month at the Rutland Housing Trust or at “The Drop In Center”.</p>
	<p>6. Increased number of young adults who have caring & supportive relationships....</p> <p>The Center also provides a strong support system for all youths that come to us involved in the criminal justice system or not. We provide community service “volunteer opportunities for those who have been court mandated for hours or those just looking for job experience. It seems that if The Center has a working relationship with a youth, they are less likely to follow a path of crime. This may be because the youth does not want to disrupt the relationship or disappoint those who support him/her at The Center</p>
	<p>7. Increase in young adults’ strengths and protective factors....</p>
	<p>8. Improved mental health for young adults.</p> <p>This is slowly being addressed in the Rutland area.</p> <p>“The Center” is in the process of locating a new JOBS (VOC REHAB) volunteer to help us with our cleaning and general maintenance. In return, we will be able to offer this person work experience and a possible job reference</p> <p>The Drop In Center was able to provide two young adults with clothing from Kmart, track-phones and minutes from Wal-Mart as well as other needed items. Both individuals are seniors at Rutland High School and were in dire need of our resources.</p> <p>**attached is a thank you letter from of the individuals expressing her gratitude for the help she received from the YIT grant.</p>
<p>System of Care Infrastructure Indicators</p>	<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....</p>

(for federal TRAC):	Unknown
	<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....
	None at this time
	<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....
	Unknown
	<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....
	Unknown

2. 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.

None at this time

3. Significant Findings and Events

For special notice to Principal Investigator, State Outreach Team for Youth in Transition, Federal Project Officer, etc. This should include any changes in staffing, including of persons, time spent, and/or responsibilities. Attach resumes and qualifications of new staff.

Reference **Desired results for young adults of transition-aged #8

4. 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.

Jaymie was on PEG TV (once again) to talk about “The Drop In Center” on July 15th. This was an opportunity to offer information about the Center and the resources we offer during a half-hour television program.

We were also able to do a radio blog with a local radio station in August to provide Center information to a new audience.

5. Other Activities

The Center staff continues street outreach, Center open hours for drop in, serving dinner, and engaging youth to build trust and caring relationships. The Center offers volunteer, service learning and internships for youth referred from many local organizations including Restorative Justice/ Diversion, Drug Court, Rutland High School, Vermont Adult Learning, and many more. Youth volunteering at the Center are also given career exploration, resumes, references, and job skills to help them succeed and reach their goals.

The Center also provides a strong support system for all youths that come to us involved in the criminal justice system or not. We provide community service “volunteer opportunities for those who have been court mandated for hours or those just looking for job experience. It seems that if The Center has a working relationship with a youth, they are less likely to follow a path of crime. This may be because the youth does not want to disrupt the relationship or disappoint those who support him/her at The Center.

Sarah, our outreach coordinator, has left the Center staff as of December 31st. She will be continuing her career in human services with the housing coalition. She will be missed tremendously and will be very, very hard to replace.

6. Activities Planned for Next Reporting Period

Plans for community outreach in 2014 include continued collaboration with Rutland Police Department, Restorative Justice/ Diversion, Juvenile Court Services, DOC, and probation and parole, Stafford Tech, RRM, RMH. This will help us bridge the gap between young repeat offenders and the CRJ system. We are doing this in hopes of decreasing young offenders’ participation in re-offending. Our goal is to aid in the reduction of the area crime rate committed by youthful offenders while providing them with needed resources.

Jaymie will be attending the Civic Engagement YIT Day at the State House on January 31st.

“The Center” is in the process of locating a new JOBS (VOC REHAB) volunteer to help us with our cleaning and general maintenance. In return, we will be able to offer this person work experience and a possible job reference

The Center staff will continue to attend the Women’s Collaborative meetings.

Jaymie will continue to attend the Partnership for Homeless Youth meetings monthly.

“The Drop In Center” staff will be holding a Collaborator’s meeting in early April. The “Drop In Center” staff will perform Street Outreach every Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday during after Center hours. We hope to locate new youth who are in need of our resources or who are just looking for a place to hang out, have lunch, and stay out of the cold.

The Drop In Center and the BGCRC are hosting a their first cycle of our PREP sexual education program for 2014. The program will begin January 21st and is available for youth ages 12-21. We will be hosting this program for any qualified youth interested in participating. It is an 8 week information intensive sex-ed program based on the Vermont PREP Program (Personal Responsibility Education Program). *This is an evidence-based program*

We anticipate beginning our evening basketball at the Knights of Columbus for our YIT population once again. The anticipated timeline for this is beginning February 2014.

DMH only:

Date received: _____

Approved by: _____

Date approved: _____

Approved by: _____

Date approved: _____