HomeRoom Network
Community of Practice

Introduction to Community of Practice: Getting to Know Your District & Homelessness Response Team

Session One

March 16th, 2022
1. Welcome & Community Agreements
2. Announcements
3. Team Building Activity
4. Team Introductions
5. Objectives for Session One
6. Jamboard 101
7. Small Group Activity & Report out
8. Next Steps & Closing
Community Agreements

- Be present & engaged in the conversation - join us on video!
- Take Space, Make space
- Be curious & open minded
- Own your intentions and your impact
- Listen to one another with compassion and curiosity
- Choose courage over comfort
- Take care of yourself
- Be aware of time

Have grace for yourself & others!

Use terms "like people under 18", "people under 25" & "Youth and young adults" instead of "kids"
"youth in care" instead of "wards"
"youth experiencing homelessness" not "homeless youth"
Any other agreements you'd like us to abide by?
Principles of HomeRoom Network

We recognize that all communities and districts are unique but have some shared challenges and can learn from each other's experiences.

We embed youth and young adult leadership in decision-making, designing and implementing strategies.

We ensure strategies and approaches improve equity, including racial & LGBTQia+ equity.

We are solution-oriented and creative in our planning and problem solving.

We promote peer support and shared learning opportunities.

We explore, develop and integrate best practice core principles.

COHHIO is here to facilitate conversation and share knowledge learned from working with other communities, not to own the space.

What other principles are important to you to uphold in this space?
## Announcements

**COHHIO**

### Core Roles & Responsibilities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Training</th>
<th>System Coordination</th>
<th>Community of Practice</th>
<th>Practice Guidance</th>
<th>Technical Assistance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide frequent training on meeting the needs of youth and families at-risk of or experiencing homelessness; including e-learning and support to Ohio’s school districts, liaison(s) and key partners.</td>
<td>Provide capacity development support and assistance furthering districts ability to collaborate as strong partners in the coordinated local responses to preventing and ending homelessness among youth and families.</td>
<td>Coordinate peer to peer learning opportunities -- implementing innovative practices and evidence-based models to support students at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.</td>
<td>Provide frequent guidance materials to equipped districts with needed tools to support students at-risk of or experiencing homelessness.</td>
<td>Provide homelessness focused – direct individualized support, assistance, problem-solving, linkages, referrals, resources, and information, upon request, to Ohio’s school districts.</td>
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Request Technical Assistance

Send an email to
homelesseducation@cohio.org
Which picture best captures your state of being today?
Which picture displays your kind of cozy/comfort?

A

B

C

D

E

F
Which picture best describes your kind of fun?

A

B

C

D

E

F
Your New Homelessness Support Team

Lisa Brooks, Director
She/her/hers

Ami Diallo, Specialist
She/her/hers

Deanna Perdana, MSW Intern
She/her/hers
Guest Facilitators Today

Today's intended audience is MKV sub-grantees, ARP-I & ESC Liaisons

We want to meet you:

- Name
- Pronouns
- District Name & Location

- What's one *nugget* you want to share about something that's working for you as a McKinney-Vento / ARP-I /ESC Liaison?
Goals for today's call -

a. Get to know each other
b. Develop peer relationships between sub-grantees
c. Focus conversations on COMMUNITY & SYSTEM-LEVEL work (project-level and household specific implementation is a different discussion)
d. Share strategies for moving this work forward
e. Gather information & identify how the TA team can support this district role.
Hi!

Hello All

Cari Wynne

50/50

Bright spots: strong coalition, more resources than normal, attention of key government funders.

Challenges: lack of affordable housing, shelters that are full.

Lags in transportation for students experiencing homelessness

Hi

We are consulting with families currently and are trying to recruit some youth experiencing homelessness to serve on our coalition.

LISA

SC

Use the pen & draw a squiggly line!
Breakout #1 - Board 1 (Lisa)

What percentage of your job is student vs. system/community work?

- 50% - 50%
- 60% - system
- 40%

30% direct services with students/parents, 70% program coordination. Shannah Akron

What bright spots & challenges are appearing in your role?

- Resource room: supplies, clothing, food, sanitary supplies
- Lack of landlords accepting vouchers
- More accurate school counts and reporting
- Streamlined processes with housing authority choosing vouchers
- Designing coordination with consortia
- Team with shared goals and vision added bonus extra funds give us more capacity!

Engaged Staff who have the capacity to work closely with families. Shannah Akron

- Challenges: lack of affordable housing options, lack of drivers for transportation impacts attendance
- Bright spots: Deeper level of services, increased support, increased enrollment into preschool programs, increased graduation support

How are students and families with lived expertise engaged in the work?

- Akron YAB group with local CoC. Our Unaccompanied youth advocate is attending meetings, Shannah
- One on one asking youth what works & what doesn’t
- Parent panels/surveys guiding programming
How are you building up structures that are sustainable beyond the funding period?

Advocating for more engagement with other funding streams in your community

What kind of support could benefit your work in this role (think about both community support & TA support)?

best practice

Sustainability continues to be a big concern of mine. MOU agreements have the requirement that the subc contractor looks for continued funding while the systems is built. Shannah Akron

Other thoughts or questions....

RAN OUT OF TIME

Howling resources, especially long term, transportation is a continued barrier as well
Breakout #2 - Board 1 (Ami & Pete)

What percentage of your job is student vs. system/community work?

50/50

20% student and 80% system/community

100% system/community

What bright spots & challenges are appearing in your role?

Challenges - are the youth and families still displaced due to COVID and are now in shelters or on the street.

Bright spot - The ability to help families who are often in crisis.

Having people to collaborate with to help the families

Challenges - TRANSPORTATION for students living outside of our district.

To be honest... I do not know. I work with schools on resources.

Challenges would be available and affordable housing for the families experiencing the moment of homelessness. Bright spot would be the kindness of involved community.

How are students and families with lived expertise engaged in the work?

That is still a work in progress for our district.

Families are actively calling the resources but still a work in progress as well.
How are you building up structures that are sustainable beyond the funding period?

What kind of support could benefit your work in this role (think about both community support & TA support)?

Other thoughts or questions....
Breakout #3 - Board 1 (Josh)

What percentage of your job is student vs. system/community work?

100% system/community work
100% Systems

10% with students, 90% system/community work.

90% Community
10% Students

What bright spots & challenges are appearing in your role?

Bright spots - the great community agencies I have been able to network with

COHHIO contract Bright spot!

COHHIO contract Bright spot! Ability to raise the awareness with community partners/county agencies of students experiencing homelessness in our region. Differentiating DOE and HUD definition of homelessness.

Keeping up with all the districts needs

Challenge - getting the school districts to reach out to me as an ESC employee to assist them

Challenge - Transportation - we are having issues with private vendors - Cost of gas, capacity, and driver issues

Bright spots - hiring staff. Part time staff now full time

Unfortunately, at this point, it is not happening.

I definitely think this is an area that we are lacking—would love to get more family and youth voice into the conversation.

Work in progress

This is a challenge. We had interns start a Youth advisory board, but participation was impacted due to Covid.

Unfortunately, at this point, it is not happening.

We did focus groups to get more specific information on how students are really doing.

Student engagement impacted due to COVID. Has been primarily community work.

75% student

lot of places to go when people are experiencing homelessness. Working with other school districts to organize transportation. Covid impacted available drivers. Have been successful with
How are you building up structures that are sustainable beyond the funding period?

- EC rules were for a year. Extended another 2 yrs. Focus has not been on sustainability. Just now at the point of thinking through sustainability.
- We are working on creating a point person in each of our buildings.
- Trying to implement a referral process where school districts could contact respective agencies to assist with the rehousing process.
- Tracking everything to know what the needs are in the future.

What kind of support could benefit your work in this role (think about both community support & TA support)?

- Our District has created McKinney Vento teams in each building training those members in identification and support that can be continued beyond grant funds.

Other thoughts or questions....
Thank You