

MINNESOTA BLUEPRINT FOR SHARED VISION FOR YOUTH

Interagency Projects Supporting Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Youth

Vision: “By age 25, Minnesota’s young people will be ready for the responsibilities and rewards of economic self-sufficiency, healthy family and social relationships, community involvement, stable housing and life-long learning.”

MISSION STATEMENT: *State and local agencies will collaborate to assure that Minnesota’s neediest youth will acquire the talents, skills, and knowledge necessary to ensure their healthy transition to successful adult roles and responsibilities.*

Outcomes				
Improve Transition Outcomes for Juvenile Offenders	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities	Prevent and End Homelessness	Reduce High School Dropout Rates
Strategies				
<p>Juvenile Detention Center and Hennepin County Probation assist in outreach and recruitment of Step Up youth. In partnership with Step Up staff, they provide support throughout the work experience process. Step Up provides appropriate work experiences placing at-risk youth in supportive work sites.</p> <p>Minneapolis Youth Works – Agency staff have connections with staff at the Link-Juvenile Supervision Center (JSC) in Minneapolis City Hall, where they provide outreach and recruitment and post WIOA marketing materials.</p>	<p>Hennepin County Foster Care case managers and Fostering Connections (a Hennepin County program) helps inform youth in foster care about Step Up. Their assistance helps provide foster care youth with the information they need to apply and be successful in Step Up.</p> <p>Minneapolis Youth Works – Hennepin County Foster Care case managers and Fostering Connections are our main partners in outreach and recruitment of youth in foster care and aging out of foster care.</p>	<p>Minneapolis Public Schools, Transition Plus and Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) all provide outreach, recruitment and support for the Step Up program.</p> <p>Minneapolis Youth Works continues to partner with Minneapolis Public Schools special needs programs, VRS, MN State Services for the Blind, Minneapolis CareerForce Center, Transition Plus and Minneapolis Public Schools ABE/GED programs.</p>	<p>Youthlink, and other agencies that serve homeless youth provide outreach, recruitment and support for the Step Up program.</p> <p>Minneapolis Youth Works service provider, HIREd, employs a staff who offices out of YouthLinks’s Youth Opportunity Center and other providers maintain office hours and/or provide outreach and recruitment at a variety of homeless shelters and transitional housing programs including Avenues for Homeless Youth, Catholic Charities-Hope Street For Homeless Youth, St. Barnabus, Mary’s Place, Lutheran Social Services of MN Safe House and Nicollet Square.</p>	<p>Step Up offers accepted applicants the opportunity to participate in the annual Step Up Work Readiness Training which provides contextual learning and assists interns in earning academic credits.</p> <p>We’ve successfully aligned our work readiness curriculum to align with the Minneapolis Public Schools Career readiness Seminar course so eligible students can earn academic credit. In 2020, 918 youth earned academic elective credit for their work readiness training experience.</p> <p>Minneapolis Youth Works provides program information at agencies that offer ABE and GED programs.</p> <p>Both Step Up and Minneapolis Youth Works coordinate and partner closely with Minneapolis Public Schools, charter and alternative schools.</p>