

THE MOCKINGBIRD SOCIETY ADMINISTRATIVE AGENDA



NORTHERN CHAPTER ENSURING CASEWORKERS ARE ASSIGNED TO YOUNG PEOPLE

Overview

The Northern Chapter aims to start a multiyear plan to ensure that young people experiencing homelessness are appointed a caseworker.

Solution

The chapter meets regularly with the Office of Homeless Youth (OHY). The chapter has also proposed surveying young people and service providers to determine what practical casework would look like and what resources would be needed to make that possible.

YAEH* CHAPTER EXPANDING CRISIS CARE AND MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Overview

In King County, the inadequacy of mental healthcare, particularly for young people, has reached a critical limit. Currently, those under 18 are left with limited support and no designated facilities catering specifically to young adults aged 18-25. This pressing issue, exacerbated by experiences of trauma, such as homelessness and mistreatment, demands a targeted solution.

The Solution

In collaboration with the Office of Homeless Youth (OHY) and The Bridge, the chapter has established a workgroup to advocate for and address the implementation and amendments of SB 5120. This strategy aims to create and structure crisis relief centers across Washington State.

*YOUTH ADVOCATES ENDING HOMELESSNESS

TACOMA CHAPTER SUPPORTIVE LEASING FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Overview

The Tacoma Chapter is dedicated to enhancing awareness among service providers about what the chapter has termed as Supportive Leasing. Supportive Leasing empowers a lessee, like a service provider, to sublease to clients, enhancing housing access and eliminating conventional lease barriers for Young People.

The Solution

A workgroup has been assembled to increase awareness around Supportive Leasing, gather the most up to date tools, and create recommendations for how service providers can best support Young People using this model.



KING COUNTY PEER 2 PEER PROGRAM

Overview

The Seattle Chapter identified a lack of support and guidance for young people in the foster care system.

The Solution

The chapter proposes creating a Peer 2 Peer program that gives job opportunities to people who have lived experience in foster care while providing mentorship from lived experience experts for youth and young adults navigating the system. The chapter is developing a model based on an existing and successful Parent 4 Parent program. They are doing this with the support of the Office of Public Defense (OPD), Children’s Home Society of WA, and other community partners.

CENTRAL CHAPTER THE 3-CHECK SYSTEM

Overview

Recognizing the need to address the relationship between the right to autonomy and abuse facing foster youth, The Central Chapter proposes a 3-check system to address youth that slip through the cracks to give them a sense of choice and safety:

- 1) Allow foster youth to define and select their ideal home
- 2) Identifying abuse: provide training for young people to identify abuse and unsafe behaviors in their foster homes.
- 3) Being able to leave their home with no repercussions.

The Solution

In collaboration with Office of Civil Legal Aid (OCLA), the chapter is working to improve the current Know Your Rights pamphlet, making it more accessible for all youth and young adults. The pamphlet is essential for young folks to know their rights around the 3 check system.

EASTERN CHAPTER INCLUDING YOUTH VOICES IN CREATION OF SCHOOL POLICIES

Overview

In Washington's school districts and Educational Service Districts (ESD's), insufficient funding creates disparities, particularly in low-income areas. This financial challenge hinders resources and programs, deepening educational inequalities for BIPOC students and marginalized communities.

The Solution

- Youth Inclusion: The Chapter prioritizes underprivileged students by advocating for youth inclusion in funding and program discussions. Ensuring young people have a voice in their educational experience aligns policies with their needs.
- Government Oversight: Office of Superintendent Public Instruction’s (OSPI) pivotal role in overseeing fund utilization promotes transparency and accountability in schools and ESDs. This ensures fair fund allocation for a more equitable distribution of resources, with a specific focus on increased funding for rural and low-income schools, coupled with a strategic and accountable approach.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, USE THE QR CODE TO CONTACT:
CHARLES SMITH, MOCKINGBIRD’S PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY DIRECTOR
CHARLES.SMITH@MOCKINGBIRDSOCIETY.ORG**



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