

A Request to the Mayor for TAY Funding - DRAFT

San Francisco TAY ED Network

March 2014

Introduction

The **San Francisco TAY ED Network**, a group of executive directors representing nonprofit TAY providers in San Francisco, envisions a support system through which TAY have access to the education, employment, housing, and health services they need to be successful. Together, we have assessed the current system's strengths and service gaps, concluding that a **\$5M investment in new TAY services is required in the coming budget year.**

Need Statement and Context

In 2007, the Mayor's Transitional Youth Task Force published *Disconnected Youth in San Francisco: A Road Map to Improve the Life Chances of San Francisco's Most Vulnerable Young Adults*. Since that time, San Francisco has taken several significant steps toward addressing the unique and entrenched challenges that disconnected TAY face in today's difficult job and housing markets. The Mayor's Office and the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF) have built a strong collaborative network through TAYSF, and we commend their ongoing work to keep the needs of TAY central to policy and funding decisions across the city. We urge the City to maintain the momentum of TAYSF by ensuring sufficient dedicated staffing to coordinate and monitor San Francisco's progress toward TAY policy priorities.

Despite progress and the important work of TAYSF, significant service gaps persist, and San Francisco's disconnected TAY continue to struggle with housing, education, employment, health, and wellness. TAYSF's February 2014 *Policy Priorities for Transition Age Youth* paints a grim picture for the estimated 8,000 disconnected 16 – 24 year olds in San Francisco:

- 9,000 18 – 24 year olds are neither working nor attending school.
- 7,700 18 – 24 year olds have not yet obtained a high school diploma.
- 6,000 16 – 24 year olds lack health insurance coverage.
- 5,700 12 – 24 year olds are homeless/marginally-housed or at risk of becoming homeless each year.
 - 1,902 young people under age 25 were identified as homeless in San Francisco's 2013 Point-In-Time Count.
 - LGBTQ and former foster youth are overrepresented among them.
- 700 students drop out of middle or high school each year, resulting in over \$122 million in lost earnings and societal costs.
- 554 students in SFUSD are currently at risk of not graduating with their peers.
- 42% of San Francisco's homicide victims in 2012 were 25 or younger.

San Francisco's TAY service providers offer proven programs that support thousands of disconnected TAY every year through education support, workforce development, housing, and primary and behavioral health care. Despite the breadth and depth of our programs, however, there is continued unmet need. TAY were disproportionately affected by the economic downturn beginning in 2008, and they have not shared in the benefits of San Francisco's economic rebound. Caught in San Francisco's growing

skills-to-jobs gap and fierce rental housing market, TAY needs are growing as providers struggle to keep up.

Request

Based on our combined experience providing housing, education, employment, health, and wellness services to disconnected TAY in San Francisco, the TAY ED Network assessed the highest priority areas for dedicated resources. These recommendations are aligned and in support of TAYSF's 2014 *Policy Priorities for Transitional Age Youth*, which was developed by more than 100 City department staff, community service providers, and young people.

Service Area	Intervention	Year One	Year Two	Department
Education & Employment	Launch a Re-engagement Center with satellite access points/multiple doorways and holistic case management to assess and track out-of-school, out-of-work TAY into appropriate, existing education and employment programs.	\$450,000	\$470,000	DCYF
	Create 100 slots of intensive, blended learning with holistic case management for highest risk TAY, with both full-time and part-time subsidized employment options, to prepare them for success in school and/or the workforce.	\$1.5M	1.575M	DCYF
	Create 300 – 400 slots of subsidized summer employment for TAY with a focus on education, with holistic case management and an option to extend beyond summer.	\$1M	\$1.05M	DCYF
Housing	Expand emergency housing fund with a highly flexible pot of funding to provide a continuum of housing subsidies/assistance (including eviction prevention and short-term emergency housing) to be used at the discretion of CBOs to meet the needs of TAY who are homeless or at immediate risk of homelessness.	\$500K	\$500K	HSA
	Create 15 beds of service-rich transitional housing for TAY.	\$500K	\$525K	HSA
Health & Wellness	Develop 12 beds of residential mental health and substance abuse treatment focused on TAY, and provide daytime, non-residential mental-health crisis services.	\$700K	\$2.2M	DPH
	Add five case managers citywide to focus on the integrated housing, education and employment, health and wellness needs of TAY.	\$350K	\$365K	DCYF
TOTAL		\$5M	\$6.685M	