



# TCYSD COMMUNITY UPDATES

## JANUARY 2016

We are honored to be charged with investing time, resources, and funding in local Tompkins County communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life, and hope that this quarterly communication will serve as another resource to help create a community where all youth are given the opportunities to thrive.

## Looking Back at 2015

The beginning of the New Year often offers an opportunity for reflections of the past year. For the Youth Services Department a lot of amazing accomplishments occurred in 2015.

We closed the year on a relatively high note as the 2016 budget includes a slight restoration of funding for our Municipal Youth Services System (reduced by over 50% in fiscal year 2011). This restoration came in time to support rising costs of the program providers and while it does not replace the full reduction, it is a step in the right direction.

Working with the Office of Children and Family Services the Youth Services Department launched **Achieving Youth Results**, an action plan for the community by the community. Read on below for more information on Achieving Youth Results and the next steps.

In 2014, the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children estimated that 1 in 6 endangered runaways reported to them were likely sex trafficking victims. With a consistent focus on ensuring that all youth have the resources they need to thrive throughout childhood and into adulthood this year, we were able to provide additional resources to service providers around **commercial sexual exploitation of children** (CSEC) through a three-day training series provided by Girls Educational and Mentoring Services (GEMS) from New York City. On the third day of the CSEC training 12 local community members were trained

as CSEC trainers. In the coming year, we look forward to expanding our training opportunities and providing even further community outreach materials around CSEC in Tompkins County.

Working with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Rural Youth Services program, we monitored program quality through the evidence based **Youth Program Quality Assessment** of the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality. Utilizing the eight domains of youth development the Weikart Center's research-based improvement system helps youth programs set meaningful improvement goals based on data, enact new practices, and create powerful developmental environments for youth.

To support the development of youth serving agencies and organizations, the Youth Services Department launched the **2015 Youth Worker Training Series**. Over a dozen trainings were held to support youth workers, their agencies and organizations. Training topics in 2015 included CPR and First Aid, Approaches to Mentoring, Inclusion, and much more.

As we look at 2016, we will continue to build off of the strong foundation for youth laid over the past 39 years of the County Youth Services Department. In 2015, we expanded and supported our services on this foundation and we look forward to the ways which we will continue to support our foundational mission of providing all youth of Tompkins County the opportunities to thrive.



# Achieving Youth Results (AYR) : Creating an Action Plan

Throughout the last 4 months, the Youth Services Team has held over 20 *Community Convening Meetings* consisting of 75+ *Turn the Curve Tables* which has included brainstorming and discussion among over 450 individuals. As a result of all of these discussions we have all we need to turn all of these ideas into one community-wide action plan for youth in Tompkins County.

The Tompkins County **AYR Action Plan for Youth** will be created in conjunction with a variety of organizations, individuals, and agencies. At this time, all of the information from the community convening meetings is being pulled together contrasted and compared to create a synthesized report related to each of the six goal areas and twelve indicators. Once the information is coalesced it will be shared widely with the community so that we can



learn from each other what things our community feels we need to support to help youth thrive in each of the six goal areas. These actions will not be completed by one organization, individual, or agency. In the same way, none of the indicators will change without the support.

## Youth Worker Training Series

Using Outcomes to Produce Results (and bring in funding!)

Presented by Jennifer Sutton

January 28, 2016

9:00 AM – 3:30 PM at the Tompkins County Human

Services Bldg., Beverly Livesay Conference Room, 320 W. State/MLK Jr. Street, Ithaca NY 14850

This free training will provide organizations and individuals with interactive discussions and information sharing on program improvement based on outcomes (those defined by the program as well as those defined by funders).

Participants will also discuss how to use outcomes to increase the likelihood of receiving funding - through grants as well as fundraising. This training will transform how you look at and use outcomes and will give you tools to make reaching work (and life!) goals and objectives easier and more fun.

**To RSVP please contact Theresa Albert by January 21, 2016. 607-274-5310**



# Point in Time Count

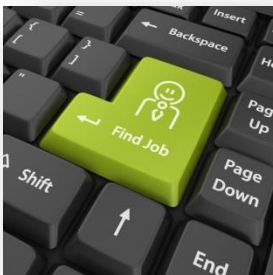
In conjunction with the Tompkins County Continuum of Care Committee (CoC), the county's planning entity for homeless services; the Youth Services Department will be helping to coordinate the annual Point-in-Time Count. The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless persons on a single night in January. In Tompkins County the PIT count will occur on January 28, 2016.

Each count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally. The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) is a point-in-time inventory of provider programs within a Continuum of Care that provide beds and units dedicated to serve persons who are homeless, categorized by five program types: Emergency Shelter; Transitional Housing; Rapid

Re-Housing; Safe Haven; and Permanent Supportive Housing. If you would like to participate in distributing the PIT count survey, please contact Rich Bennett at [Richard.Bennett@ithacarescuemission.org](mailto:Richard.Bennett@ithacarescuemission.org).



## What's Next?



On March 17, 2016, ~350 juniors, seniors, and out-of-school youth ages 17-24 from the Ithaca/Finger Lakes Region will explore **What's Next?** for them. **What's Next?** will showcase careers available without a four-year college education.

The **What's Next? Career Expo** will include a career fair, college fair, five workshops for students to choose from and panel discussions with Keynote

Speaker including Short Stop Deli Owner, Chuck Dong and G.I.A.C Administrator, Travis Brooks.

The **What's Next? Career Expo** is FREE of charge for ALL and will be held at Ithaca College, Emerson Suites on Thursday, March 17th, 2016, 10:00am - 2:00pm.

If your organization is interested in tabling at the event, please contact Heather Cooper at [hcooper@tstboces.org](mailto:hcooper@tstboces.org). If you are a young person or agency interested in attending the event please contact Jasmin Cubero at [jcubero@tompkins-co.org](mailto:jcubero@tompkins-co.org).

# Community Forum on Heroin and Opioids: Focus on Treatment

Thursday, January 28

5:00-6:30 PM

Location: Borg Warner Room Tompkins County Public Library

This second forum\* about the heroin and opioid epidemic will continue with a focus on treatment options in this area, including medical, outpatient, residential, and self-help.

Representatives will include:

- Alcohol & Drug Council of Tompkins County
- Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services (CARS)
- Ithaca Health Alliance Self-Help

There will be time for questions & answers.

Planning group:

- Community Coalition for Healthy Youth
- Alcohol & Drug Council
- Mental Health Association in Tompkins County
- Tompkins County Youth Services Dept.
- Tompkins County Health Dept.

\*Info from forum 1 and event details can be found at [www.healthyyouth.org](http://www.healthyyouth.org)



**Tompkins County  
underage drinking**

**tipline**  
**1-800-851-1932**

Your call  
could save a life!

**When to call -**  
✓ When **YOU** are aware of an underage drinking party  
✓ Anytime, 24 hours a day

**Who should call -**  
✓ Concerned adults, community members, **YOU!**

**Why it matters -**  
✓ 5,000 people under age 21 die from alcohol-related injuries each year in the U.S.  
✓ 90% of teen alcohol use is dangerous binge drinking  
✓ Alcohol harms the developing teen brain

Confidential & anonymous More info at [www.healthyyouth.org](http://www.healthyyouth.org)  
A joint project of Tompkins County Sheriff's Dept. and Community Coalition for Healthy Youth

# Opportunities for Involvement

Do you support the mission of investing time, resources and funding in communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life? Are you willing to commit to providing your thoughts, insights, and time to help advise the Youth Services Department?

If you answered yes to these questions, perhaps membership on either a local youth commission or the Tompkins County Youth Services Board is the right fit for you! Current vacancies include:

- **Tompkins County Youth Services Board** is in need of representatives from Caroline, Danby, Groton, Newfield and Ulysses/Trumansburg, as well as one Tompkins County youth ages 16-21.
- The **Community Coalition for Healthy Youth** continues to meet monthly to bring partners together to reduce youth substance use. Please come to a meeting if you think you might be interested; dates and times can be found at [www.healthyouth.org](http://www.healthyouth.org).



For more information on ways you can get involved, please contact Amie Hendrix at [ahendrix@tompkins-co.org](mailto:ahendrix@tompkins-co.org).



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