



TNOYS
TEXAS NETWORK OF
YOUTH SERVICES

2014 ANNUAL REPORT

We share a vision of Texas where all young people are valued, their strengths are recognized, and they have access to the resources, support, and opportunities they need to lead healthy, fulfilling lives.

Thank you for your support of Texas Network of Youth Services. Looking back on 2014, we were incredibly excited to grow our programs, offer more trainings and consulting services, strengthen our community partnerships, and host our 31st Annual Conference. We are proud of the meaningful conversations we had with youth service providers working to reduce seclusion and restraint practices, integrate trauma-informed care best practices, and strengthen youth engagement in program development and assessment. Our members are doing incredible work across the state and we are able to strengthen their work because of your support. We appreciate all you do for Texas youth and families.

Christine Gendron
Executive Director

Kellie Stallings
Chair

Their future is our business.



Consulting Success: Montgomery County Youth Services

MCYS was exploring opportunities to better serve their community. They had open beds in their shelter and an extra building after the closure of their transitional living program. TNOYS interviewed MCYS stakeholders, analyzed local data, and researched best practices to identify opportunities to make services stronger.

"We found their work to be top notch and thorough and the report that followed was extremely well written. They provided solid recommendations which we have implemented and which has resulted in a 25% increase in shelter placements over the last year."

John Bracken, MA, LPC
Executive Director, MCYS

TNOYS recommendations included better coordinating services across the agency, strengthening partnerships to increase referrals, and equipping programs to serve the children and youth most in need. After implementing the recommendations, MCYS has experienced a 25% increase in shelter placements in the last year.

In 2014, TNOYS lead three initiatives in partnership with the Hogg Foundation for Mental Health: Transition-Age Youth and Families Initiative, Creating a Culture of Care, and the Seclusion and Restraint Reduction Leadership Group. This work is exciting for us at TNOYS because we are able to work closely with 17 Texas organizations impacting over 120 programs across the state. Our work focuses on integrating best practices into daily practice realities. We work with service providers to support visible, positive culture change at all levels among administrators, clinicians, youth workers, caregivers, youth and advocates.

This year was the first year for TNOYS leading the Transition-Age Youth and Families (TAYF) initiative. This program aims to improve service delivery for transition-age youth with mental health conditions in Houston. Engaging transition-age youth and their family members and caregivers in program planning, design, and implementation is an important and unique component of initiative. In year one, TNOYS focused on gathering input and collaborating with key stakeholders to plan this 4-year project. We were excited to being implementation at the end of 2014.

The Creating a Culture of Care Initiative is an initiative to reduce the use of seclusion and restraint at residential treatment centers by implementing trauma-informed practices. In 2014, TNOYS was in year 3 on this project to provide training and technical

With your support, we were able to

Train **600+**

Youth & Youth Workers

Provide **54 organizations**
with training, technical assistance
and consulting.

assistance to RTC's in Texas seeking to implement the *Six Core Strategies to Reduce the Use of Seclusion & Restraint*. In addition to our work with our 10 intensive support sites, TNOYS also coordinated regional trainings featuring experts in the field of Trauma-Informed Care. In 2014, TNOYS trained 27 residential treatment facilities on Trauma-Informed Care.

The Statewide Leadership Group builds on this work by providing expertise and tools to a variety of settings including adult services, youth services, and consumer and family services. Our focus in 2014 was to kick-off this group with quarterly meetings providing training, planning, and networking opportunities. The Group outlined areas of interest including: advocacy/policy, peer support, communications and outreach, program support and evaluation and youth-focused programming.



Advocacy Spotlight: *Uncovering the Scope of Youth Homelessness in Texas*

A barrier to providing services for homeless youth is the lack of accurate data on the number of young people ages 16-24 who do not have stable housing. Homeless youth are difficult to count for several reasons.

TNOYS, along with National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth and the Texas Homeless Education Office, was successful in advocating for the addition of two questions to the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, which is distributed by the Texas Department of State Health Services to selected high schools in Texas every other year.

The questions will ask survey participants where they typically sleep at night and if they have lived away from parents or guardians in the past 30 days. The questions will be included in the 2015 survey and the data will be available by spring of 2016. The data gathered from these questions will provide invaluable insight into the scope of youth homelessness in Texas and will allow both public and private agencies to respond and develop appropriate services for homeless youth.



Image taken at Austin State Hospital.

“We had to get past our own history of the way we were accustomed to working and realize this was different.”

As we look to next year, we are thrilled to build on our work in 2014 and begin growing these programs to reach more youth service providers across the state.

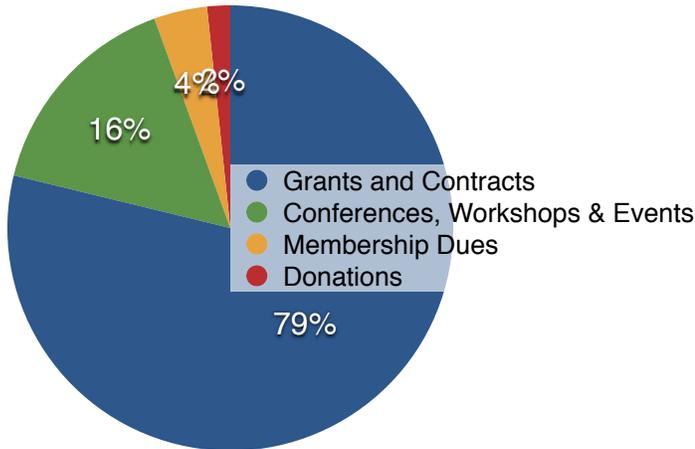
In addition to these three programs, TNOYS also worked to provide other assistance to youth service programs through training and consulting. In 2014, we are proud to share that we trained over 600 youth and youth workers through these various training and events. Our largest training event, our annual conference, brought together over 300 youth workers for trainings on topics related to trauma-informed care, prevention, engaging youth and caregivers in service planning, self-care, empowering youth and families in crisis, creative programming to heal trauma in juvenile justice settings, providing services to LGBTQ youth, legal rights of youth, and much more. Thank you to all who collaborated with us to make the best of 2014!

Agency Members

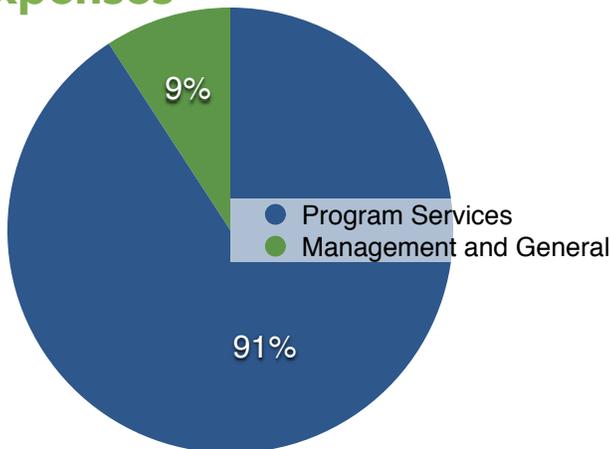
ACH Child & Family Services, Fort Worth; Angel Reach, Conroe; Andrews Center, Tyler; Boys Haven of America, Beaumont; Boys Town Texas, San Antonio; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, Amarillo; Catholic Charities, Lubbock; CCD Counseling, Denton; Central Texas Youth Services, Belton; Children's Aid Society, Wichita Falls; Children's Hope Residential Services, Lubbock; Colorado County Youth & Family Services, Columbus; Connections Individual and Family Services, New Braunfels; Covenant House Texas, Houston; East Texas Open Door, Marshall; El Paso Center for Children, El Paso; Family Service Center of Galveston County, Galveston; Greater San Marcos Youth Council, San Marcos; Harmony Family Services, Abilene; Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults; High Sky Children's Ranch, Midland; LifeWorks, Austin; K'Star, Marble Falls; Kid Net Foundation (Jonathan's Place), Dallas; Montgomery County Youth Services, Conroe, TX; North Texas Youth Connection, Sherman; Promise House, Dallas; Rio Grande Valley Empowerment Zone Corp., Alton; Roy Maas' Youth Alternatives, San Antonio; Serving Children and Adolescents in Need (SCAN), Laredo; Sinclair Children's Center, Woodville; STARRY, Round Rock; Texana Center, Rosenberg; The Brownson Home, Inc., Victoria; The Children's Center, Galveston; Twin City Mission Youth and Family Services, Bryan; and Williams House Emergency Shelters, Lometa.

2014 Financial Report

Revenues



Expenses



2014 Staff

Christine Gendron, Executive Director
 Lara O'Toole, Program Director
 Duncan Cormie, Policy Specialist
 Jack Nowicki, Senior Program Development Specialist
 Althea Pestine, Evaluation Specialist
 Elizabeth Flint, Youth Programs Coordinator
 Sinclair Walker, Communications Coordinator
 Beth Duke, Administrative Specialist

2014 Board of Directors

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