

YOUTH NETWORK INITIATIVE EVALUATION

Appendices

Appendix A: In what ways did You’N-I succeed?

Community Foundation Staff Responses:

1. Increased community awareness, RenoYouthNetwork.com, YOUth Drop in Center
2. Youth having a voice!
Revised ID policies
Increased Awareness
Reno Youth Network and coordination with WCSD
The YOU
Streetsmart 4 Youth
Nevada Mentors
3. Partnership with WCSD Children in Transition has been vital.
No doubt there has been increased coverage and awareness of youth homelessness, the CF, and our partners.
The Community Foundation is now known for addressing persistent problems in the community.
Streetsmart 4 Youth involved members of the community who would never have interacted with the CF otherwise.
4. The tangible activities and resources developed are successes, and also the changes/improvements by service providers, increased community awareness, new funding by donors (much directly to charities), and additional leaders (i.e., Renown) in this effort.
5. awareness of the issue, better relationships with community leaders, Foundation having a more substantial impact on the Community
6. I was pleased to see the large turnout for Homestretch and think that more films/plays etc. could be featured - maybe an annual event. I love that it was at the University and open to the public. EddyHouse - terrific (wish was open more) RenoYouthNetwork - I think is most valuable to service providers (unsubstantiated opinion)
7. YOUth Resource Center, RYN started, nonprofits serving youth had their awareness raised about needs and gaps.

Community Foundation Board Responses:

1. Cannot recall any at this time.



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2. The restaurant program seemed to garner some support. The numbers and results that have been reported seemed to indicate that there has been some success.
 3. Greater awareness, more press
 4. Improved delivery of needed services to the youth/significant awareness of CFWNV as THE neutral party convener
 5. Community awareness
 6. Greater awareness of the challenges facing homeless youth. Better job connecting them to available services. Establishing a framework for the board to use in other initiatives.
 7. Community awareness
 8. It's good to have a tool that informs the youth about the resources available to them. It was good to get all the people involved with this issue together, hopefully it will continue the collaboration and conversation so that resources are efficiently used.
 9. Resource list and community awareness
 10. Collaboration among area nonprofits, new services for youth
 11. providing safe place, giving the homeless youth help, and showing that we careReno Youth Network and coordination with WCSD
The YOU

You’N-I Stakeholder Reponses:

1. Drop in Center
2. No answer
3. No answer
4. restaurant campaign which was action oriented.. all else are just meetings and same talk amongst same people
5. Awareness
6. Increasing public awareness of youth homelessness and the issues that arise from it
7. No answer
8. No answer
9. awareness
10. Incredible participation by community members!
11. Increased awareness regarding youth homelessness
12. community conversations
13. Not many within the rural communities
14. Youth are receiving more access to information about the services that are available to help them.
15. good coverage
16. Awareness & fundraising
17. I see more people gaining community awareness.
18. Helping other organizations be aware of each other.
19. not much



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20. No answer
 21. My focus on homeless individuals as a whole and also youth without family.
 22. They have definitely grown in size and are trying as best they can to keep people involved!
 23. community awareness around topic of homelessness and opening of the YOU
 24. Increased awareness
 25. A very important cause. Some more public dialogue and collaboration.
 26. More media awareness, more awareness with public administrators like the Reno City Council, the web site lists assistance & resources for homeless youth which seems a big success & the Eddy House! The restaurant "add a dollar" campaign was very successful! When those eateries saw their name printed in the media, indicating they were participants, it was a way to thank them & those participating enjoyed the status it gave them as altruistic donors.
 27. No answer

You’N-I Steering Committee Responses:

1. No answer
2. No answer
3. No answer
4. I use the You’N-I as a great resource for myself, students, and staff
5. No answer
6. None
7. RYN, Youth drop-in center, community advocacy, Streetsmart 4 Youth, awareness of available resources
8. None
9. The YOU Drop-In Center
10. the joint fundraising and the sharing of information
11. Great follow through with ideas during meetings
12. Streetsmart for Youth
Just bringing folks together and having the conversation is important. I hope there are more conversations/collaborations – this is a very important issue.
Love the youth participation!
13. No answer
14. No answer
15. Participation
16. Great youth voice
Increased awareness of struggles for young people
Mobilized community efforts around issue
Creation of the YOU
Development of online resource guide that stays updated!
Mentoring website bringing resources to one central location



Appendix B: What were the failures of You’N-I?

Community Foundation Staff Responses:

1. The lack of engagement of "partnering" organizations.
2. See my answer to question 5. Neutrality is definitely beneficial- I doubt another organization could conduct initiatives like this, but the neutrality sometimes inhibited progress. There has been true collaboration with the Eddy House, WCSD CIT, and the Streetsmart 4 Youth charities, but collaboration has been lacking with the other organizations. Attending a meeting is not true collaboration in my opinion. More could be done if we had active participation by steering committee members, but our neutral stance prevented the Community Foundation from enforcing accountability. Since 2015, You'N-I was no longer a community-wide initiative, but more so the job of Nick and Camille. Just like we see with the board, the results are up to the staff. We need to find a better way to keep initiative stakeholders engaged.
3. Neutrality hinders how much can get done. By not working for policy change, it can seem like we are taking the easy way out. I have heard it expressed that these were surface solutions. Creating, maintaining, and marketing websites is a full-time job, and can take away from directly helping youth.
While the CF has become known for this initiative, we are still not being invited into efforts that align with ours. Even Steering Committee members have failed to be ‘ambassadors’ for this initiative, and providers remain in silos.
4. On the process side it was new so it was difficult for people to understand what we were doing. Should be easier now, but more education on the process (perhaps a one-page flow chart?) with narrative description would help. On the impact side, if we can somewhat predict/guess on potential action items that may help us include more key stakeholders from the beginning (mentor orgs for example).
5. Issues with community leaders were ignored and brought to my attention. Some members of the npo community were not happy with our direction and felt they gave opinions on direction and they were ignored, so they stopped participating.
6. Streetsmarts - really needs tweaking. I think it was a lot of work for a marginal amount of money. Good publicity for Community Foundation.
7. We (CFWN) didn't have money to put behind the issues. I'm glad we did what we did, but the community wants us to be able to make an impact with finances as well.

Community Foundation Board Responses:

1. Cannot recall any at this time.



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2. Possible opportunity cost for the CF. Possible dedication of staff resources toward this and away from efforts that might do more to strengthen the CF.
 3. We could have more board engagement
 4. Honestly, none come to mind. I wish all Board members were engaged, but that is not the fault of the staff. I may be unaware of this, but have major donors been engaged/taken on tours?
 5. keeping the community engaged with this issue and continue reaching out to the homeless youth.
 6. Not enough knowledge to answer this
 7. None that I can see
 8. The problem is so deep, but it feels like we are just scratching the surface. I know our job is to be the catalyst, but it seems there's still a long way to go to fix the problem. I know we will be working on transitioning out, over time, but I hope we don't transition too fast to the point all of the work we have done unravels.
 9. Unable to answer
 10. Have none in mind
 11. Mentors needed

You'N-I Stakeholder Responses:

1. No housing for youth
2. No answer
3. No answer
4. talk talk talk talk and not enough action from the community participants
5. having more resources available and money
6. Please see my response to #9
7. No answer
8. No answer
9. There could be advantages to alignment with State of Nevada/Financial Guidance Center on the NV 211 database - You/N-I database.
10. I think there is probably room, through partnerships, for life skills classes and other resources for aging out foster youth. There may be some legislative solutions to explore as well.
11. Need to identify larger funding streams to support the community need
12. appearance of 'reinventing the wheel'
13. Outreach to areas that have no formal services available
14. Mostly that it's internet based. If youth don't have a smartphone they are limited in being able to access the information.
15. restaurants I went to didn't promote the fundraiser, not sure what the long term successes were?
16. Outcomes reporting?
17. It needs to grow, and will do so.



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18. Lots of focus on particular agencies like the YOU or NYEP and little attention on other agencies/programs who are working just as hard to deal with youth homelessness.
 19. not understanding the complexities of youth homelessness - looking for a project to complete (youth resource database) instead of actually putting together a plan to start solving the problem - over publicizing community foundation and the eddy house and alienating all of the other major players involved
 20. No answer
 21. What about youth outside of Washoe County.
 22. Maybe be a little more organized. (I understand it is hard to maintain)
 23. always needing community awareness. cant take foot off of the gas
 24. Sometimes appears a bit disjointed, i.e. the restaurant where I wanted to contribute was not prepared and struggled to figure out how to take the contribution, also the server was not well-versed in what the donation was for.
 25. The focus on the issues and community collaboration were great. Was somewhat disappointed in the choice of an online database/clearing house as the project's main initiative. Not sure of the overall reach/efficacy. Direct investment in the many well-established non-profits doing this work would be better in my opinion. The more on-the-ground support for/through the case managers already doing this work the better.
 26. I don't know.
 27. No answer

You’N-I Steering Committee Responses:

1. No answer
2. No answer
3. No answer
4. the lack of affordable housing
5. No answer
6. None
7. lack of youth participants, inconsistency of stakeholder attendance
8. No answer
9. No answer
10. Clearer purpose of our participation. What should we contribute to the committee? Goal setting or an annual work plan.
11. No answer
12. I’m not familiar enough to know – maybe need to get the word out more?
13. No answer
14. No answer
15. Need more PR
Greater outreach to community leaders
16. No answer

