

## **Youth Action Board Governance**

### **Vision**

Our vision is to create within our communities a safe place in which all youth and young adults (YYA) have a safe and stable home and the resources needed to maintain it. Youth homelessness in the Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care (BoS CoC) will be rare, brief and a onetime experience. This group seeks to eliminate racial bias and inequality related to ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender identity. When YYA experience homelessness, they will have quick access to all necessary supportive services, including trauma and domestic violence counseling, educational assistance, and employment assistance. They will receive meaningful connections to local service agencies that will assist with creating positive outcomes.

### **Statement of Purpose**

This Youth Action Board (YAB) is a formal committee of the BoS CoC and exists to provide the BoS CoC staff and Board input on the development and implementation of a coordinated community plan to prevent and end youth homelessness; ongoing policy making decisions, particularly related to preventing and ending youth homelessness; and ensuring housing interventions for young people address:

- Stable housing
- Permanent connections
- Education
- Employment
- Health and well-being

### **Membership**

The Youth Action Board will consist of 3-12 members, aged 18 through 24 years old, 2/3rds of whom must either be currently experiencing or have formerly experienced homelessness or housing instability. Member terms are two years and renewable for multiple cycles. Members will represent a diversity of Georgia's population and be from varied geographic, experience, and identity backgrounds. To retain active membership, members must be present for at least 50% of meetings in a twelve-month period. New or renewing membership requests are approved by the BoS CoC Board.

### **Leadership**

The YAB is led by a chairperson and vice chairperson. Through majority vote, the YAB will elect the chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members who will serve a term of one year. The chairs may serve more than one term but must be elected for each term. The chairperson and vice chairperson will help define the YAB meeting agendas with input from CoC staff and the Youth Homelessness Advisory Group (YHAG) and facilitate the YAB meetings. When appropriate and needed, the chairperson and vice chairperson are the designated signatories for partnership and support agreements, as approved by the YAB.

**Support**

The YAB is supported by the Collaborative Applicant (referred to in this document as CoC Staff), the YHAG, and the BoS CoC Board. As needed and/or when appropriate, youth serving on the YAB will be supported by their caseworkers or other youth serving personnel to encourage meaningful participation.

**Meetings**

YAB meetings will be held at least quarterly. These meetings may happen in-person or through phone/video conferencing. Each meeting will last for approximately two hours and scheduling will be determined based on the availability of members. Additional input will be solicited on an as-needed basis throughout the year through electronic and phone communication. Minutes will be taken at each meeting and will be sent to all YAB members after meetings occur.

**Voting**

50% of YAB members must be present for a vote to take place. Votes will be conducted by majority. Votes should be recording in official meeting minutes. On occasion, CoC staff may identify a need for YAB members to vote via email. In that case, CoC staff will maintain a record of votes and actions taken via email and will enter them into the meeting minutes at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

**Member Compensation**

Members will be compensated for their time participating in YAB activities. Compensation will be at the rate of \$20 per hour. The CoC will cover reasonable travel costs associated with in-person meetings, training, or focus groups.

The YAB chairperson and vice chairperson will be compensated an extra \$20 per YAB meeting for their facilitation role. Compensation for planning time working with the YAB support person before the YAB meetings will be provided at \$20 per hour. Additionally, if the chairperson or vice chairperson must attend BoS CoC Board, YHAG, GSAC, or other related meetings, compensation at \$20 per hour will be provided.

**Representation on the Georgia Balance of State Continuum of Care Board**

The YAB is an official committee of the BoS CoC Board. The chairperson and vice chairperson will work with CoC Staff to relay decisions and agenda items between the YAB and BoS CoC Board.

**YAB Point of Contact**

Josh Gray  
*CoC Manager*  
[Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov](mailto:Josh.Gray@dca.ga.gov)

Charles Wheeler  
*CoC Program Coordinator*  
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### **Youth Action Board**

The Youth Action Board (YAB) is a formal committee of the BoS CoC of youth and young adults in the BoS CoC. It consists of 3-12 members aged 18 through 24 years old, 2/3rds of whom must either be currently experiencing or have formerly experienced homelessness or housing instability. Members will represent a diversity of Georgia's population and be from varied geographic, experience, and identity backgrounds.

The YAB provides input and direct contribution to the work of the YHDP, including the Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness. The YAB also exists to provide input on other ongoing policy making decisions related to preventing and ending youth homelessness. As necessary, the YAB helps gather information and feedback from youth and young adults and various youth stakeholders in the region by running focus groups or other engagement efforts.

#### **Youth Action Board Members:**

**Madison Albritton (22), Dougherty County**

**Amyra Finley (19), Floyd County**

**Jasha Johnson (23), Gordon County:**

**Halle Mickel (19), Gordon County:**