[Attachment 3]

MINNESOTA BLUEPRINT FOR SHARED VISION FOR YOUTH
Interagency Projects Supporting Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Youth

Vision: "By Age 25, Minnesota's young people will be ready for the responsibilities and rewards of economic self-sufficiency, healthy family and social relationships, community involvement, stable housing and life-long learning."

MISSION STATEMENT: ***State and local agencies will collaborate to assure that Minnesota's neediest youth will acquire the talents, skills, and knowledge necessary to ensure their healthy transition to successful adult roles and responsibilities.***

Outcomes				
Improve Transition Outcomes for Ex-Offenders	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities	Prevent and End Homelessness	Reduce High School Dropout Rates
Strategies				
Youth Intervention Program (YIPA) WDI provides targeted services to youth involved with the criminal justice system, mostly youth who are in a diversion program, by providing shoplifting diversion program, career development and job search curriculum (Blue Print for Success curriculum), and Independent Living Skills classes. Partners Include: Local county Human Services, Red Wing Youth Outreach Program, Corrections/Probation/Court Services, Juvenile Detention Centers, K-12 schools and Alternative Learning Centers.	**Goodhue/Wabasha Youth Outreach Program** WDI staff partner with this program that provides specific instruction and Independent Living Skills classes for youth in foster care and aging out of foster care. WDI counselors are invited to co-facilitate courses on career development and job search. Partners include: Human Services, K-12 schools, Red Wing Youth Outreach Program.	**Disability Employment Initiative (DEI)** Our co-enrollment and partnership with the DEI funds increased our opportunities and education for serving youth from this population. Working closely with community disability employment services and our on-site partners has brought improved services and amore solidified and organized approach to offering services. Partners include: Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Disability Resource Center, school district staff, employers, YIPA, DEED, Minnesota Family Investment Program/DHS, Adult Basic Education, Community Transition Interagency committees (CTIC's), PACER, Opportunity Services, and	**Homeless Response Teams** WDI has historically served on these teams of professionals who meet on a regular basis and discuss homeless youth and services for homeless youth in each area. Solutions vary across county but in some areas, housing developments and grant proposals have resulted from these teams. Partners include: Human Services, K-12 schools and Alternative Learning Centers, Adult Basic Education, Housing and Re-Development Authority, Corrections.	**Operation Starfish** Operation Starfish is a program through the City of Rochester and United Way to provide additional work experience dollars to youth at-risk of dropping out of high school. WDI counselors use these funds to supplement our work experience and provide services to non-WIA eligible youth who are at-risk of dropping out of school. Partners include: United Way, K-12 schools and Alternative Learning Centers, private business.

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		Southeast Minnesota Center for Independent Living (SEMCIL).		
Diversion Programs Youth Counselors have referrals from diversionary programs for youth with petty offenses. Instead of paying a fine, youth are given the opportunity and choice to complete work readiness training. This has increased referrals and has given youth who need our services more access. Partners Include: County Diversion Programs/Corrections Programs	**Youth Intervention Program (YIPA)** WDI provides targeted services to youth in foster care and aging out of foster care through our Independent Living Skills partnership. Partners Include: Local county Human Services, Red Wing Youth Outreach Program, K-12 schools and Alternative Learning Centers.	**Referrals with VRS** Our counselors have strong partnerships with VRS staff and have developed integrated resource teams with VRS and several other partners. We are also working on developing an organized work experience program with both of our entities that will include experiences for in-school as well as out-of-school youth, private, for-profit, and non-profit business. Partners Include: Vocational Rehabilitation Services	**Host Homes Program** This program will serve 18-24 year olds in non-licensed homes for 3-12 months. The home will be responsible for providing food, shelter, and independent living -- no reimbursement of cost. Plans are in the works to hire a case manager/social worker to establish the homes. Partners Include: MN Housing, LGBT Host Homes Program, Avenues for Homeless Youth, Lutheran Social Services	**We Want You Back Initiative** This initiative brings professionals from across the region out and visits high school dropouts at their homes on a particular Saturday to entice them into returning to school. Area professionals go out in teams and discuss programs and services available. Partners Include: K-12 schools, United Way, Human Services, other youth serving organizations.
Job Search Classes in County Jail WDI counselors offer job search classes and individual job search, resume, and interview assistance in the local jails. We have developed partnerships and referral processes that assist individuals in getting our services prior to release. Partners Include: Olmsted, Mower, Rice, and Goodhue County Corrections.		**Community Transition Interagency Committees** Representatives from a variety of community organizations serving youth come together to develop transition plans for youth with disabilities. WDI participates in these transition meetings and partners to provide more streamlined services. Partners include: K-12, Human Services, Health Industries, Rehabilitation Services, Parents, Community Education.	**Empowerment Center** WDI counselors are closely involved with developing a project for homeless families in Southeast Minnesota called the "Empowerment Center." This building project includes a 55-unit apartment complex for homeless families and youth ages 16-21 and a community center that will have satellite offices of many of the non-profit organizations serving these populations. Partners Include: Mental health and Chemical Dependency services, Early Childhood Education, City of Rochester, Families First, Rochester Public Schools	

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Hire Up Initiative Hire UP is a unique summer jobs program that provides youth and young adults with paid work experience to develop work and career readiness skills, engage youth into the workforce, and generate hands-on learning involvement, with a focus on serving under-represented youth. Hire Up also builds a partnership between businesses and youth workers. Businesses have the chance to hire summer workers and give back to the community. Youth and young adults have the ability to make money over the summer and engage in the workforce earlier. Partners Include: K-12 schools, private businesses, non-profit businesses, non-profit organizations serving youth, Chamber of Commerce.			**Continuum of Care** Mission is to prevent, respond to and help homelessness in Southeast Minnesota by coordinating services and maximizing resources. Partners Include: Human Services, HRA, Salvation Army, three Rivers Community Action Program, Partners for Affordable Housing, Veterans Administration, Southern MN Regional Legal Services, Lutheran Social Services, Transitional Housing, HOPE Coalition, K-12 schools	