

2/4/2011

## 2009-2010 YMCA Young Adult Services Priorities

**YMCA of Greater Seattle Mission Statement:** Building a community where all people, especially the young, are encouraged to develop their fullest potential in spirit, mind and body.

**Commitment:** Young Adult Services will further the mission of the YMCA of Greater Seattle by delivering outstanding housing and programs to young adults leaving foster care or homelessness, being a model for youth-driven service delivery, and creating a “One YMCA” culture that reduces barriers to service.

<b>Priorities</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Results</b>
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<b>Practice commitment to young adult development and leadership.</b>		
1. Integrate the Ladder of Young People’s Participation into programs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Educate YMCA staff and volunteers about Ladder</li> <li>• Engage Member Advisory Committee (MAC) in leading Ladder work</li> </ul>	Movement to steer philosophy toward Ladder began in 2009 with increased youth voice and leadership in 2010. Increased youth in internships and jobs; Member Advisory Committee active in driving events and policy.
2. Demonstrate cultural competency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement cultural competency strategic plan, including job metrics and training</li> </ul>	Plan was successfully implemented; all staff have cultural competency metrics in 2009.

<b>Engage the community in support of young adults.</b>		
1. Improve messaging of services and eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage youth in peer outreach</li> <li>• Unify program goals, outcomes, language and messaging</li> </ul>	Increased peer outreach and tailored outreach to Spanish speakers. New website framed services as seamless continuum.
2. Increase community engagement in young adult programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create resource development plan that includes financial, in-kind and volunteer goals</li> <li>• Partner with other organizations to better serve young adults</li> </ul>	New plan focused on extending services beyond contract end dates. Increased collaboration in services and grantseeking.
3. Strengthen and expand housing and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase housing by 40% (shelter, short-term and/or long-term)</li> <li>• Focus resources on high quality housing &amp; services that engage youth</li> <li>• Expand services in south King County</li> </ul>	Increased long-term housing more than 50%. Pilot programs offered in south King County with workgroup formed to identify sustainable site(s).