

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				
<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will collaborate with county court services/probation agents to identify candidates for WIOA and MYP participation and provide them with meaningful training, workforce preparation assistance, and work-based learning opportunities.</p> <p>Wright Choice and Prairie Lakes Youth Programs-Juvenile Detention Center – Partner to provide work-readiness training geared towards the re-entry process into the workforce. Also, to accept referrals of young ex-offenders in need of employment and</p>	<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will work with other agencies whose primary charge is to serve youth who have a history of out-of-home placement to identify, serve, and support these youth as they transition into the workforce.</p>	<p>Pre-ETS Transition Services CMJTS is a Limited Use Vendor for Pre-Employment Transition Services with Vocational Rehabilitation Services for youth with disabilities. CMJTS staff provide Pre-ETS services (group or individual settings) including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Instruction in self-advocacy ▪ Workplace-readiness training ▪ Job exploration ▪ Work-based learning ▪ Post-secondary education <p>Partners include local school districts, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Special Education staff, and</p>	<p>CMJTS staff are present at Open Doors for Youth in Elk River, one day per week, to provide outreach and wraparound case management services, which has fostered and strengthened a strong partnership. In addition, CMJTS works closely with A Place for You and Lakes and Pines Community Action Agency.</p> <p>CMJTS will assist participants with trying to find stable housing, work experience opportunities, giving them strategies to manage their personal finances, and providing them with financial literacy instruction and resources, as appropriate. Related</p>	<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists make it a priority to encourage and educate the youth on the benefits of remaining in school/earning a high school diploma. Should the youth still decide to disengage with their school, despite encouragement and education from their employment specialist, staff will connect the youth with Adult Basic Education to pursue an Adult Diploma or GED.</p> <p>CMJTS partners with area Adult Basic Education (ABE) providers to provide financial support for their youth and young adults pursuing a GED or Adult</p>

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training services.		<p>employers.</p> <p>CMJTS seeks additional opportunities to work with the Minnesota Department of Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) to find opportunities for co-enrollment and to serve those young people who are unable to receive services from VRS due to their “wait-list” status.</p> <p>Our co-enrollments and partnerships have increased our opportunities and education for serving youth with disabilities. Working closely with community disability employment services and our on-site partners have brought improved services and a more solidified and organized approach to offering services.</p>	<p>topics will include budgeting, use of credit, identity theft, etc.</p> <p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will educate staff from agencies serving homeless youth and/or working to prevent homelessness (e.g., Catholic Charities Supporting Housing for Youth) to educate them on CMJTS Youth Program offerings and solicit for referrals of youth in need of training and employment assistance.</p>	<p>Diploma and will offer employment and training services to these learners, as appropriate.</p> <p>Incentives are offered to youth who complete seat hours or make progress towards their GED.</p>
<p>Connect youth with justice system involvement (past or present) with resources such as: Minnesota Federal Bonding Program Work Opportunity Tax Credit Discussing conviction record (https://careerwise.minnstate.edu/)</p>	<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will connect with public assistance and other employment-related programs to identify young adults who have exited the foster-care system, or who have members of their household currently receiving</p>	<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists utilize Integrated Resource Teams and deliver a full complement of coordinated services to youth with disabilities. These agencies may include, decided by the youth and their employment specialist:</p>	<p>Regional Interagency Team CMJTS will take part in a homeless regional interagency team with Northland Salvation Army that is working on youth homelessness prevention strategies and services.</p>	<p>Work experiences are offered to youth that are making progress towards successfully meeting their educational requirements. Often this is a motivator for youth to continue milestones towards completing their diploma or GED.</p>

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iseek/static/stepahead/worksheets/DiscussingConvictionRecord_p4950.pdf	foster-care services and will provide these youth with information on WIOA Youth and MYP services, as appropriate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Secondary school staff ▪ Post-secondary education staff (professors, advisors, Disability Services coordinators) ▪ Family members of the youth ▪ VRS staff ▪ Probation officers ▪ Domestic violence victim advocacy staff ▪ Mental health professionals ▪ Employers/WEP supervisors 		
<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will connect with public assistance and dislocated worker programs to identify young ex-offenders on their caseloads who would also benefit from WIOA Youth or MYP services.</p> <p>CMJTS Youth Employment specialists will attend training, as budgets allow, so they can be educated on the re-entry process and additional ways to assist offenders who are preparing to re-enter the workforce.</p>	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialist will collaborate with case managers from county social services agencies to provide training and support for their foster care youth who are preparing to enter the workforce.	<p>CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will attend and contribute to Individualized Education Plan (IEP) meetings at area schools, as appropriate, to assist special education students with their employment goals as they approach graduation. In addition, positive and proactive relationships with Special Education staff will be maintained and fostered—specifically for referrals, service coordination, as well as case management.</p> <p>Partners include special education staff, school district, and parents.</p>	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will work with public assistance and other employment-related programs to identify youth and young adults experiencing homelessness and will provide these young people with WIOA and MYP program information. Staff will then co-enroll, as appropriate.	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will provide employment and training services to Alternative Learning Center students, who are often at risk of dropping out of the school system.

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CMJTS will accept referrals of young ex-offenders in need of employment and training services from inpatient and outpatient chemical dependency and mental health treatment facilities.	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will work with area group homes to provide their youth who are preparing to return to their communities with resources, support, and guidance to assist them with their re-integration.	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will participate in Community Transition Interagency Committee (CTIC) activities when possible. Partners include-special education staff, VRS, and community agencies.	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialist will collaborate with county case managers, local foster care agencies, as well as domestic violence advocacy agencies to provide support for youth currently experiencing and/or at-risk of homelessness.	Work experiences are offered to youth that are making process towards successfully meeting their educational requirements. Often this is a motivator for youth to continue milestones towards completing their diploma or GED.
Continue to research occupations that employ ex-offenders. Become knowledgeable of local businesses that can and will hire ex-offenders.		Benefits Coaching CMJTS has three certified work incentives counselors to assist youth in transition in navigating the impact employment will have on their social security benefits.	CMJTS will promote available services to those experiencing serious financial hardship by providing printed information at local food shelves and emergency assistance providing agencies (e.g., Lakes and Pines CAC, Common Cup, etc.).	CMJTS Youth Program employment specialists will work with public assistance and other employment-related programs to identify youth and young adults who lack a diploma or GED. These youth will be co-enrolled, as appropriate, so diploma or GED services can be better supported.