



State of Maryland Executive Department

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To: Local Management Board Chairs and Points of Contact

From: Kim Malat, Deputy Director

Date: October 22, 2015

Re: Question and Answer Recap #5

1. For the definition of disconnected youth (not working or in school), how many hours of schooling is required for a youth not to be disconnected?

Disconnected youth are defined as “teenagers and young adults between the ages of 16 and 24 who are neither working nor in school.” If a youth has a job or is in school they are not disconnected.

2. What is the age range for childhood hunger vs. youth hunger?

There is no differentiation between childhood hunger and youth hunger. The Reducing Childhood Hunger Strategic Goal addresses food insecurity defined by “the limited or uncertain availability of nutritionally-adequate and safe foods, or limited or uncertain ability to acquire acceptable foods in socially acceptable ways.”

3. Is there going to be a technical assistance for hunger? The Regional Hunger Summits that were held focused on School Breakfast and lunch and after-school meals. There was a small part on grocery store tours but no discussion on moving towards transformation.

No, but we will continue to share information about the topic as it becomes available. If the Local Management Board (Board) needs technical assistance related to this issue, please contact your designated Governor’s Office for Children (the Office) Technical Assistance staff person.

4. Are there impending policy changes at the State level to address homelessness? There's not much we can do to help individuals and families in this area. Examples given were long waiting lists, and little to no transitional housing resources and subsidized housing vouchers available.

The Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness (which includes representatives from State agencies, Continuums of Care, and advocacy organizations) is working on assessing the needs and gaps in services and supports at the State level. However, there are strategies that can be put in place locally to address Youth Homelessness, depending upon what your data and resource gap assessment indicate are needed in the jurisdiction. For example, a Local Management Board may need to start with data gathering, focus groups and convenings about youth homelessness in order to better understand the specific characteristics of the population in the jurisdiction.

Examples of local planning processes:

- <http://www.unitedwaykfla.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/powerpoint-oct-2013.pdf>
- http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/Housing/ServicesAndPrograms/Programs/Homeless/~/_media/socialServices/housing/documents/YYA/YYA_Convening_6,-d,-27,-d,-13.ashx?la=en
- <http://www.kamloops.ca/socialdevelopment/pdfs/13-01-22-MLCSummaryReport.pdf>

3. Homelessness can include a parent (under the age of 25) and child/ren living together, with no fixed address count. Correct?

Yes – if the youth under age 25 is the parent. Please refer to the definition for youth homelessness in the PowerPoint presentation from September 10, 2015, *Looking Ahead: FY16-FY19*. As identified in the PowerPoint and in Recap #4, the definition of youth homelessness excludes parental/guardian involvement, unless the youth is under age 25 and is the parent.

4. Will the Governor's Office for Children only fund programs that serve 100% of a target population from the four strategic goals?

No, under very limited circumstances the target population can be less than 100% of the population served. Examples of such circumstances include, but are not limited to: 1) the funding is used solely for the target population within the program, or 2.) the geographic area has a majority of the target population and the program does not draw from any other geographic area, or 3.) the Local Management Board can document that a significant majority of the program participants are from the target population. Significant majority is not defined but should be considered close to 100%.

5. Does the Governor's Office for Children maintain a list of consultants which can be shared with LMBs for needs assessments and community planning?

No, the Office does not maintain such a list. When seeking references, the best option is to speak to the other Local Management Boards or other community partners about the consultants they have used in the past.

6. Do Local Management Boards have two years to transition programs that do not impact one or more of the Strategic Goals?

Yes, but it is important to note that, beginning with the Notice of Funding Availability to be issued in January 2016, all the programs that the Local Management Board seeks to fund with Children's Cabinet funding must be demonstrated to be a critical need in the community plan. This applies to programs funded under the base and programs funded by new resources. The only difference is that programs to be funded by new resources must also address one the Governor's Strategic Goals.

As indicated in Recap #4, if the community plan demonstrates that those programs currently funded by the Children's Cabinet are critically needed in the jurisdiction, the Board will be allowed time to transition the program, not to exceed two years. Critical need should be demonstrated by:

- 1.) county-specific data that shows this is a significant problem in the jurisdiction (high rate of child poverty, high rate of single mothers under 24 living in poverty, high rate of youth homelessness, etc.);
- 2.) an assessment of local resources included in the plan that shows there are no, or insufficient, programs addressing this issue/need, and;
- 3.) the members of the Board ranked the problem among the top issues needing to be addressed in the county, above all other problems identified in the community plan, based upon input from the community and their own assessment of the data.

If critical need is not clearly demonstrated (both in the needs of the population and the gaps in resources in the County) in the community plan, the program will not be funded with Children's Cabinet funds beginning in FY17 regardless of whether it is currently funded through the Children's Cabinet.

In either case, the Local Management Board should begin the transition planning immediately, as this will become a part of the FY18 process for continued funding of those programs.

7. I believe we're creating a large scale community plan that will include all needs and whatever strategic goals are indicated by our needs. We would then do some capacity assessment/building for the agency. When I read the Notice of Funding Availability again, it was clear we are only addressing the 4 strategic goals so the large scale community plan would not be part of this? Right?

No. The Notice of Funding Availability that is out now (responses are due 10/30/15) is to assist with the planning, data collection, focus groups, etc. related to Governor Hogan's Four Strategic Goals. The information related to the Strategic Goals would then become a part of the overall community plan that will be needed for the FY17 Community Partnership Agreement application.

The Notice of Funding Availability that will be released in January 2016 will be for FY17 funding and will require a community plan that demonstrates the need for all the strategies the Board seeks to fund with Children's Cabinet funding; both those funded by the base allocation that do not address the Governor's Strategic Goals and those that would be funded with new resources that address one or more of the Governor's Strategic Goals.

8. When participating in the Results Scorecard Webinar, the wording for the 8 Results has changed. Are there different Results and Indicators?

The Manual effective 7/1/2015 included new wording for some Results. These are not new Results - they are the same Results that were re-worded to align with the principles of the Results Accountability framework. Results Accountability uses “results statements” that explicitly present the desired result and also serve to inspire collective action. Thus, “School Readiness” became “Children Enter School Ready to Learn”, for example.