Homeless Youth and Runaway (HYR)
FY2016 MSHMIS Report

10/1/2015 – 9/30/2016

A Closer Look at MDHHS funded Homeless Youth Programs in Michigan

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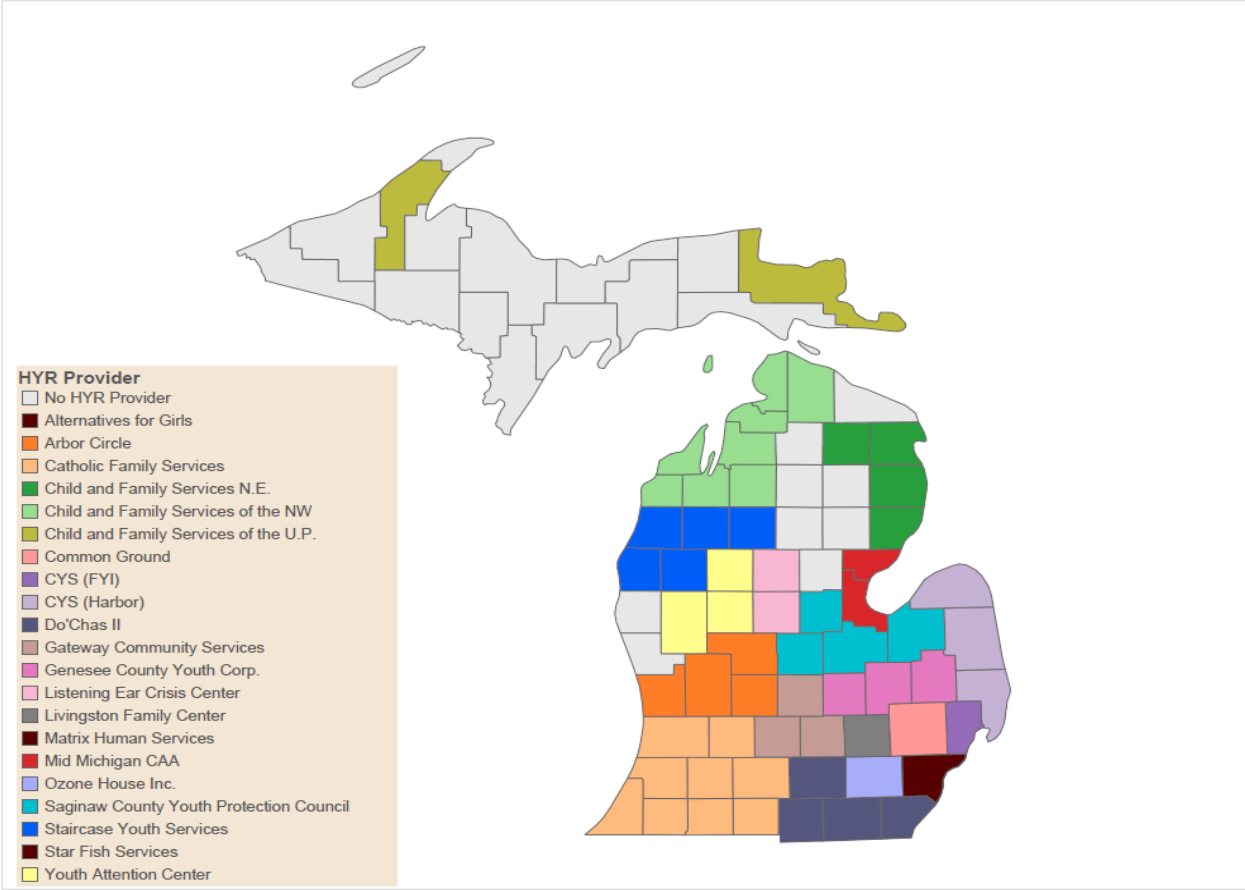
There were twenty-one homeless youth and runaway (HYR) providers operating across the state of Michigan during FY2016. The overall goal of Michigan's HYR programming is to strengthen and enhance services for the state's homeless and runaway youth population, age 12 through 20. This is done by providing a continuum of services, including but not limited to, crisis intervention, recruitment, outreach, prevention, case management, counseling, basic care emergency shelters, transitional living programs (TLP), graduated housing and aftercare. All HYR providers are mandated to collect and record information on the youth they serve using Michigan's Statewide Homeless Management Information System (MSHMIS). MDHHS collaborates with the Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH) to report out on the statistical information and performance outcomes captured.



Areas Serving the Greatest Number of Homeless Youth Statewide

This graphic reflects all youth captured in MSHMIS and is not restricted to HYR programs only

For purposes of this report, “homeless youth” are defined as individuals under the age of 21 who are on the street or in shelters or are living with family/friends (due to a housing crisis) and facing immediate eviction with no other resources to obtain housing.

HYR Basic Care Center and outreach services are provided to youth age 12 through 17 while HYR Transitional Living services are provided to youth age 16 through 20. Services are offered to youth who are either homeless or at-risk of homelessness.

Annual Comparison of Youth Served via HYR Programming

Fiscal Year	Overall Unduplicated Youth		Unaccompanied Youth		Youth with Children Youth Head of Household (HoH)		Children and Youth in Families	
	All	Homeless Only	All	Homeless (Category 1&2)	All	Homeless Category (1&2)	All	Homeless Only
FY2013	3127	2002	2946	1884	95	67	318	221
FY2014	3319	2100	3100	1917	73	64	406	304
FY2015	3517	2106	3247	1919	78	70	587	434
FY 2016	3265	1846	3001	1631	79	68	387	263
% Difference (FY15-16)	**7%**	**-12%**	**-8%**	**-15%**	**1%**	**-3%**	**-34%**	**-39%**

Breakdown of Youth Served by HYR Program Type (Annual Comparison)

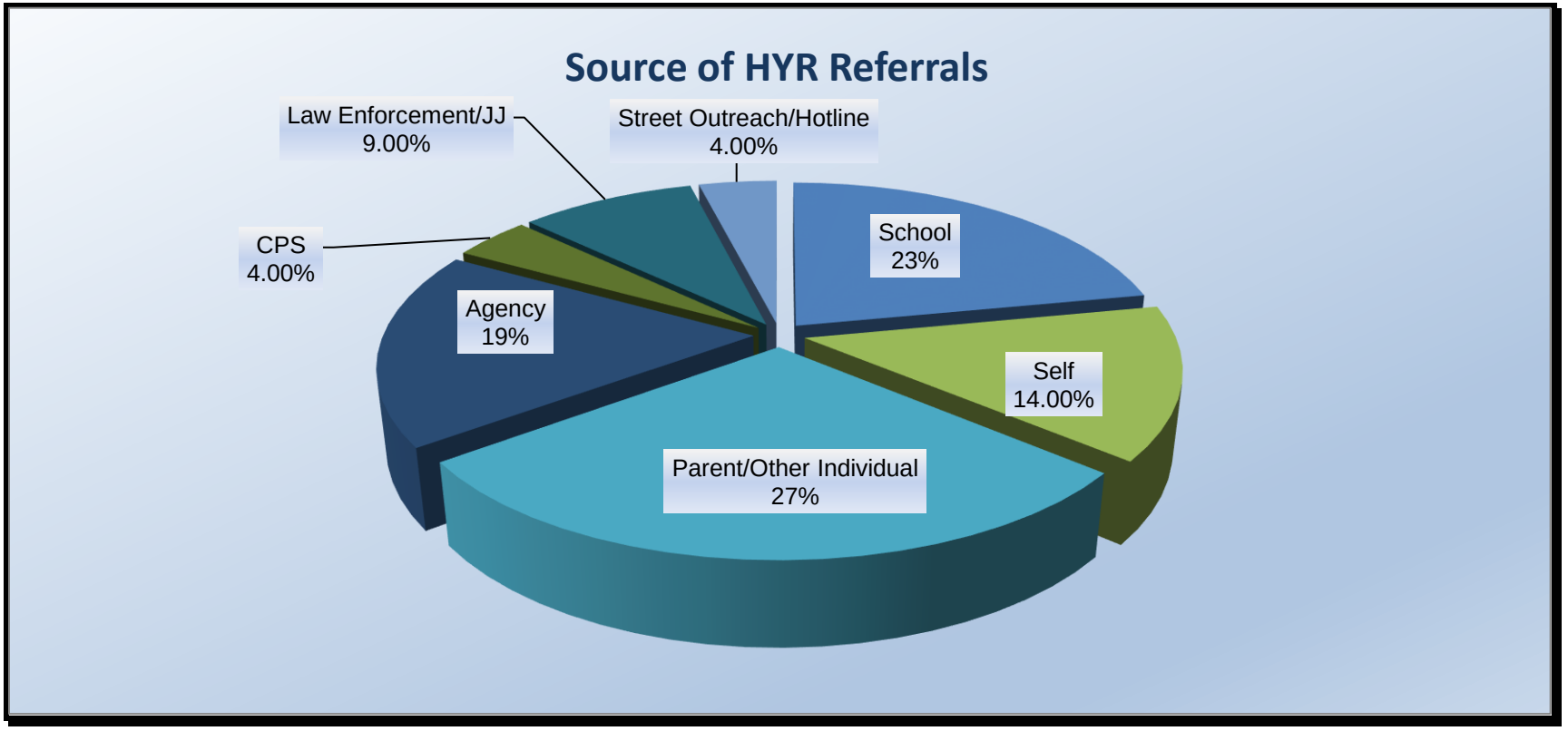
(Homeless and At-Risk)

Fiscal Year	All HYR Services (Residential and Nonresidential)	Basic Care Center Shelters**	Transitional Living Programs***	Graduated Housing
FY2014	3319	1349	495	1
FY2015	3517	1251	469	2
FY2016	3265	1239	429	
% Difference	**-7%**	**-1%**	**-9%**	**N/A**

** Basic Care Center (BCC) is short term shelter for youth (up to 21 days)
***Transitional Living Programs (TLP) is longer term transitional housing (up to 18 months).

HYR Crisis Intervention (Annual Comparison)

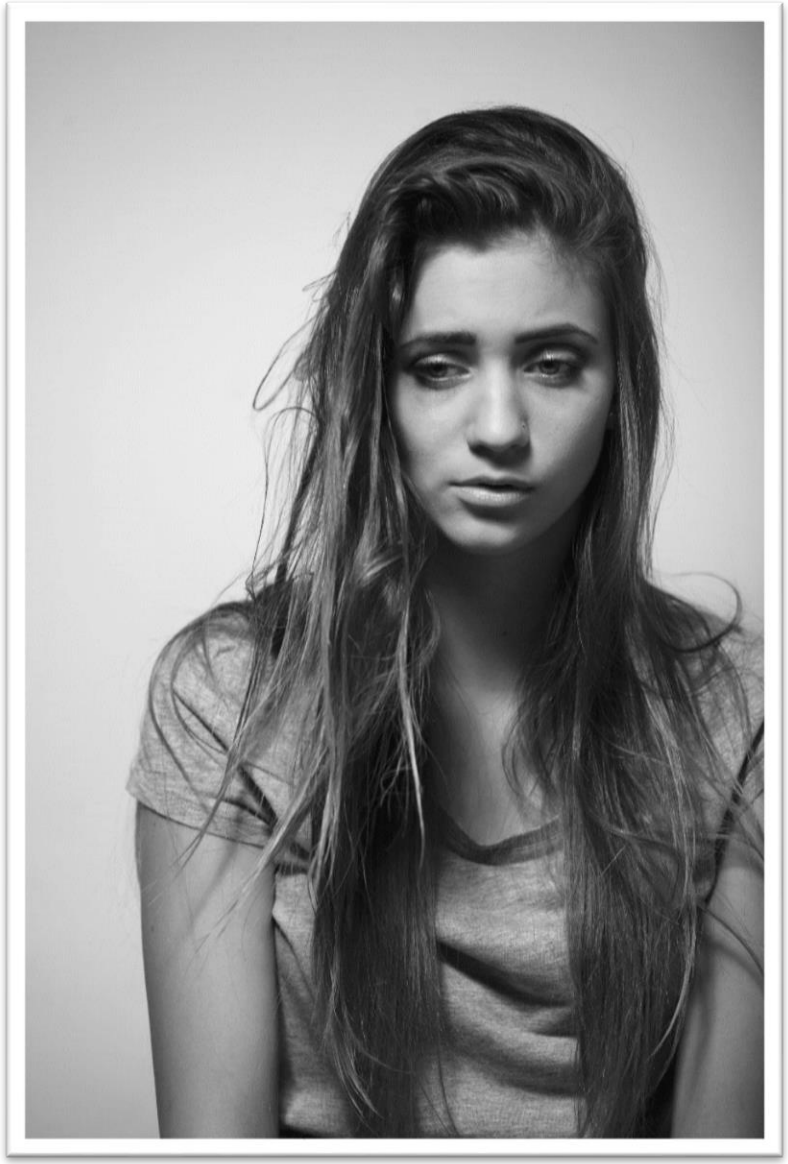
Fiscal Year	Total Calls Received by HYR Providers Statewide	Average Time To Address Crisis (Per Youth)
FY2014	14,366	39 Minutes
FY2015	24,026	32 Minutes
FY2016	11,707	54 Minutes



FY2016 - HYR Client Characteristics Overview (Homeless and At-Risk Under 21)

Client Characteristic:	Total Unaccompanied Youth	Total Youth HoH	Children and Youth in Families	202 Youth were reported in more than one category during the year (i.e. family or unaccompanied)	Overall
Includes all HYR clients (homeless and at-risk)	**3001**	**79**	**387**		**3265**
Overall Homeless (Category 1& 2)	54%	86%	68%		57%
Literally Homeless (Category 1 ONLY)	*30%*	*63%*	*35%*		*31%*
At-Risk (Prevention)	46%	14%	32%		43%
Female	59%	100%	60%		59%
Male	40%	0%	40%		40%
Transgender	1%	0%	0%		1%
Age 0 to 4			17%*		2%*
Age 5 to 10			0%*		1%*
Age 11 to 14	25%	0%	22%		24%
Age 15 to 17	47%	11%	35%		44%
Age 18 to 20	28%	89%	26%		29%
Average Age	16 yrs.	19 yrs.	13 yrs.		16 yrs.
White	55%	13%	33%		53%
African American	41%	83%	64%		43%
Other	4%	4%	3%		4%

*Children under the age of 12 captured in the chart above consist of those who entered services as part of a youth only household.



Risk Factors

1. **School Failure:** While 89% of school age youth were enrolled in school at the time of program entrance, a significant portion (22%) were attending school irregularly and/or were suspended. Additionally, 61% of the youth served reported school or educational issues as an area of concern.

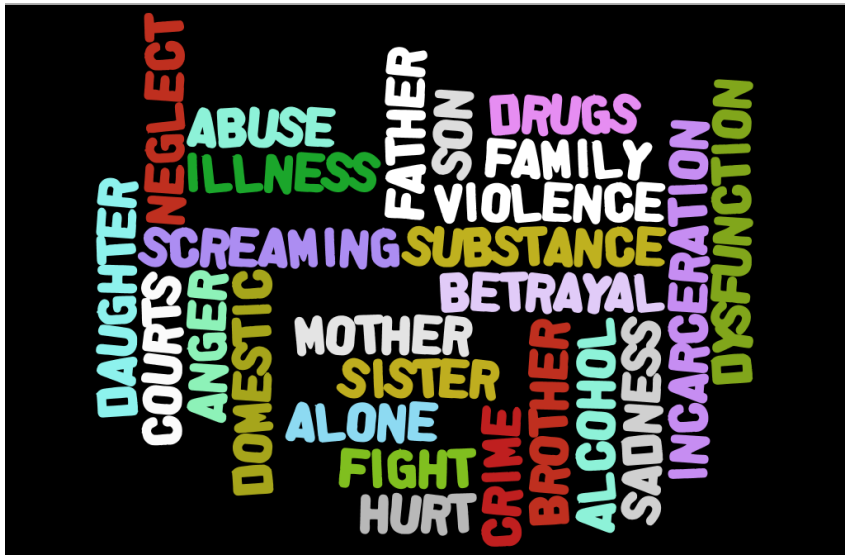
2. **LGBTQ Youth:** 14% of youth served identified as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgendered putting them not only at increased risk of homelessness (due to family rejection) but also at higher risk for victimization once they become homeless.

3. **Substance Abuse:** 17% percent of all youth served admitted to having alcohol and/or other drug abuse related issues.

4. **Disability:** 34% of the homeless youth served had a diagnosed disability. The most common disability reported was mental health related (81%), with developmental disabilities (20%) ranking second.

5. **Teen Pregnancy:** At the time of program entrance, approximately 6% of female participants reported that they were pregnant. While this number remained the same as 2015, it remains an issue.

6. **Human Trafficking:** Youth who are homeless are at high risk of being trafficked. In FY2016, contractors were encouraged to incorporate screenings to identify potential victims; however, there was not sufficient data to provide during the time of this report.



Family Issues

1. **Limited Parental Engagement**: 43% of the youth receiving services had little to no parental involvement while they were engaged in services.

2. **Abuse and Neglect:** More than 28% of all youth reported a history of abuse or neglect**.**

3. **Incarcerated Parent:** 6% of the youth served reported coming from a home where one or both parents were incarcerated.

4. **Housing Crisis & Unemployment:** 1 out 4 youth served came from a family that was also experiencing a housing related crisis. Additionally, 16% came from a family impacted by unemployment.

5. **Substance Abuse:** Nearly 1 out of 5 of the youth served reported having an immediate family member who struggles with alcohol and/or drug abuse**.**

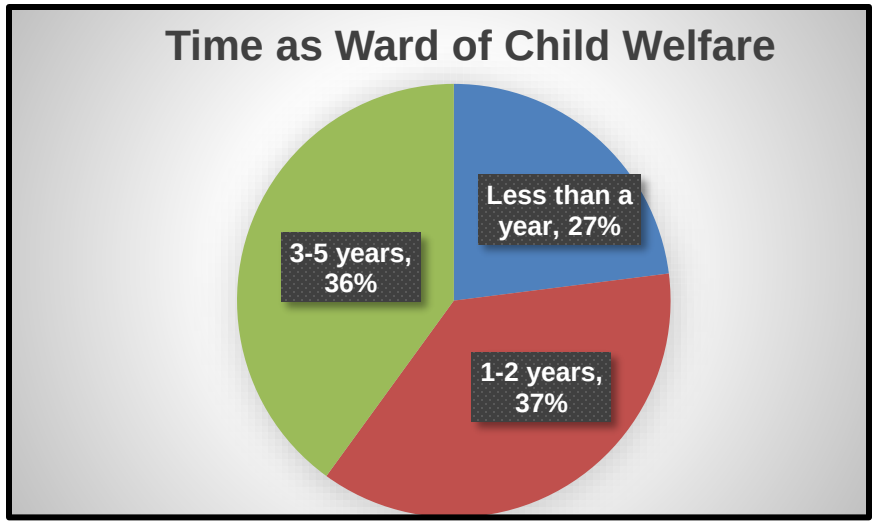
6. **Mental Health:** 21% of all youth served reported that they had an immediate family member who suffers from mental health related issues.

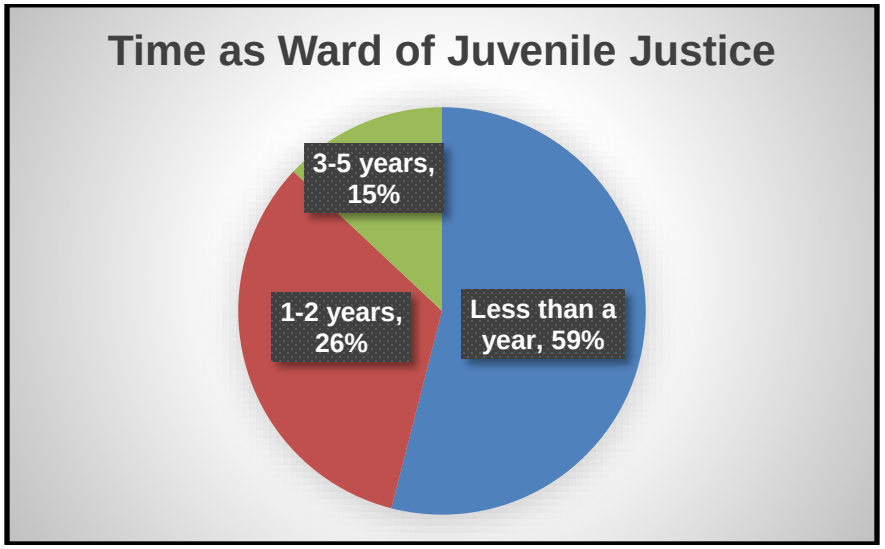
History of Foster Care

**For the purposes of this report, foster care history is determined by whether the youth self-reported as being a ward of the child welfare and/or juvenile justice system.*

1. Approximately **25%** of **all youth seeking HYR services**, **reported a history of foster care**. This percentage is higher for youth receiving intensive services:
    - Former foster care youth make up **34%** of all youth placed in **transitional living programs**.
    - Former foster care youth make up **31%** of all youth placed in **basic care center shelters.**

2. Of the overall youth reporting a history of foster care, the **majority (74%)** had been wards of the **child welfare system,** mainly due to abuse/neglect. While the remaining **26%** had been wards of the **juvenile justice system**.



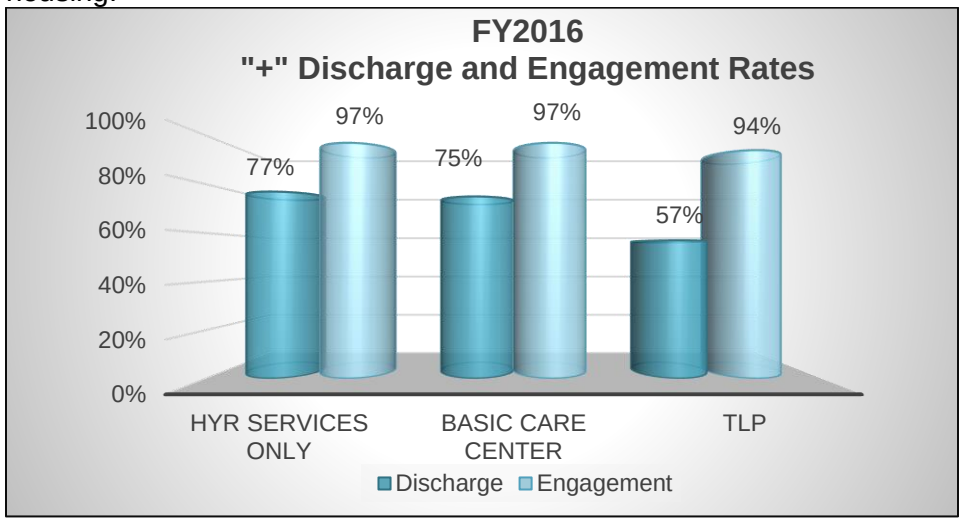


Introduction to Outcomes

In today's economy, programs must demonstrate that they are providing quality and effective services. This is often done by looking at specific outcome performance. This report looks at the following program outcomes: client engagement, discharge to stable housing, recidivism and clients improved functional status.

Discharge to Stable Housing & Client Engagement

Relationship is core to program success. ***Client Engagement*** is all about building relationships with clients so we know where they go at exit. ***Discharge to Stable Housing*** looks at the percentage of overall clients that are discharged from the program into positive/stable housing.



Positive Housing Placement Breakdown

In FY2016, a total of 1,065 runaway and homeless youth exited **Basic Care Center Shelters** to a positive housing situation. Of these, **96% youth** were **reunified with their family of origin**.

Basic Care Center Positive Housing Placement Breakdown

Discharge Type	% of Overall Positive Discharges
Youth Reunified	96%
Living with friends (permanent tenure)	2%
Independent Living (Own Rental)	2%

In FY2016, a total of 196 runaway and homeless youth exited **Transitional Living Programs** to a positive housing situation.

TLP Positive Housing Placement Breakdown

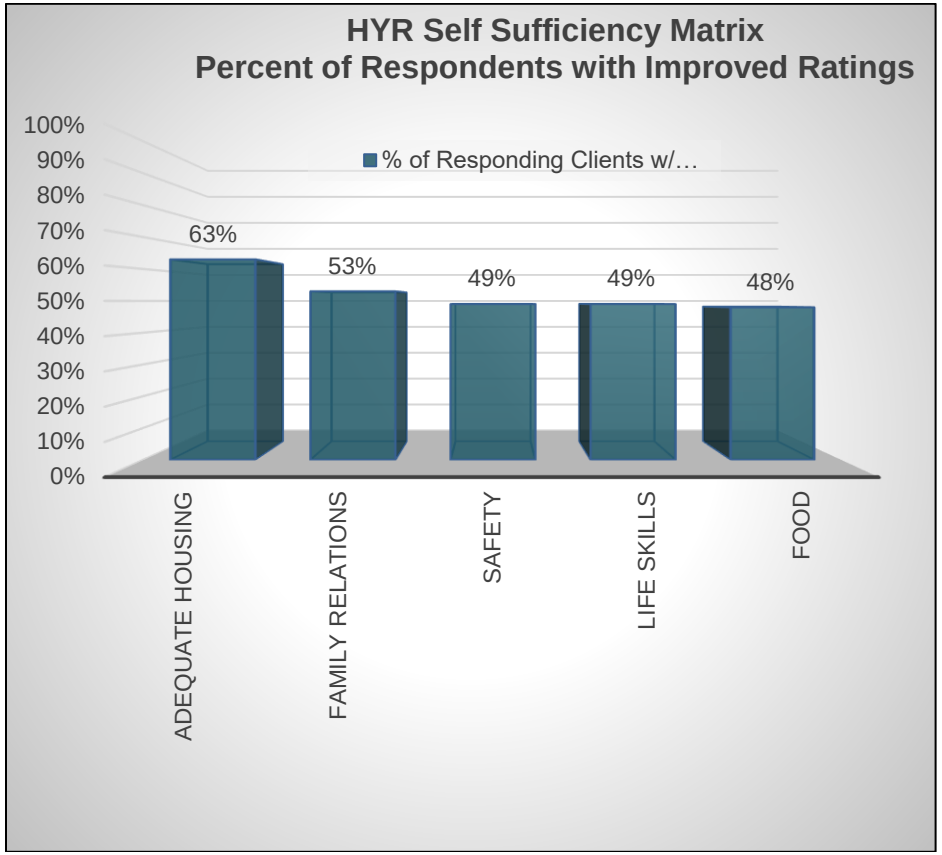
Discharge Type	% of Overall Positive Discharges
Youth Reunified	48%
Living with Family/Friends Permanent	33%
Independent Living (Own Rental/Other TH/PSH)	19%

Improvements in Client Self-Sufficiency (Older Youth – Goal: Independent Living)

The Self-Sufficiency Matrix (SSM) is a tool designed to measure client progress in achieving improved functional status with regard to 19 domains.

The client and case manager complete the matrix together upon entry and exit, and every 3 months for transitional housing programs. Clients are given a score on the various domains, ranging from 1 ("in crisis") to 5 ("empowered").

SSM Domain	Scale
1. Income	1 = In Crisis
2. Employment	
3. Housing	
4. Food	2 = Vulnerable
5. Childcare	
6. Children's Education	
7. Adult Education	3 = Safe
8. Legal	
9. Health Care	
10. Life Skills	4 = Building Capacity
11. Mental Health	
12. Substance Abuse	
13. Family Relations	5 = Empowered
14. Mobility	
15. Community Involvement	
16. Safety	Red Domains – Michigan Adapted
17. Parenting Skills	
18. Credit (Optional)	
19. Disabilities (Optional)	



Improvements in Reunification Matrix Scores (Younger Youth – Goal: Reunification)

The Reunification Matrix was developed due to the rising need for a more appropriate evaluation tool for use with youth under the age of 18. It was designed to measure client progress in achieving improved functional status with regard to 21 domains where the overall goal is reunification with the youth's family of origin.

The client and case manager complete the matrix together upon entry and exit. Clients are given a score on the various domains, ranging from 1 ("in crisis") to 5 ("empowered").

Domain	Scale
1. Housing	1 = In Crisis
2. Access to Food	
3. Pregnancy	
4. School	2 = Vulnerable
5. School Conflict	
6. Legal	
7. Health	3 = Safe
8. Sexual Health	
9. Engagement in Services	
10. Mental Health	4 = Building Capacity
11. Life Skills	
12. Substance Abuse	
13. Peer Conflict and Relationship	5 = Empowered
14. Family Conflict and Relationship	
15. Safety in the Home	
16. Transportation	
17. Community Involvement	
18. Stress Management	
19. Decision Making	
20. Communication Style	
21. Communication (Literacy Skills)	

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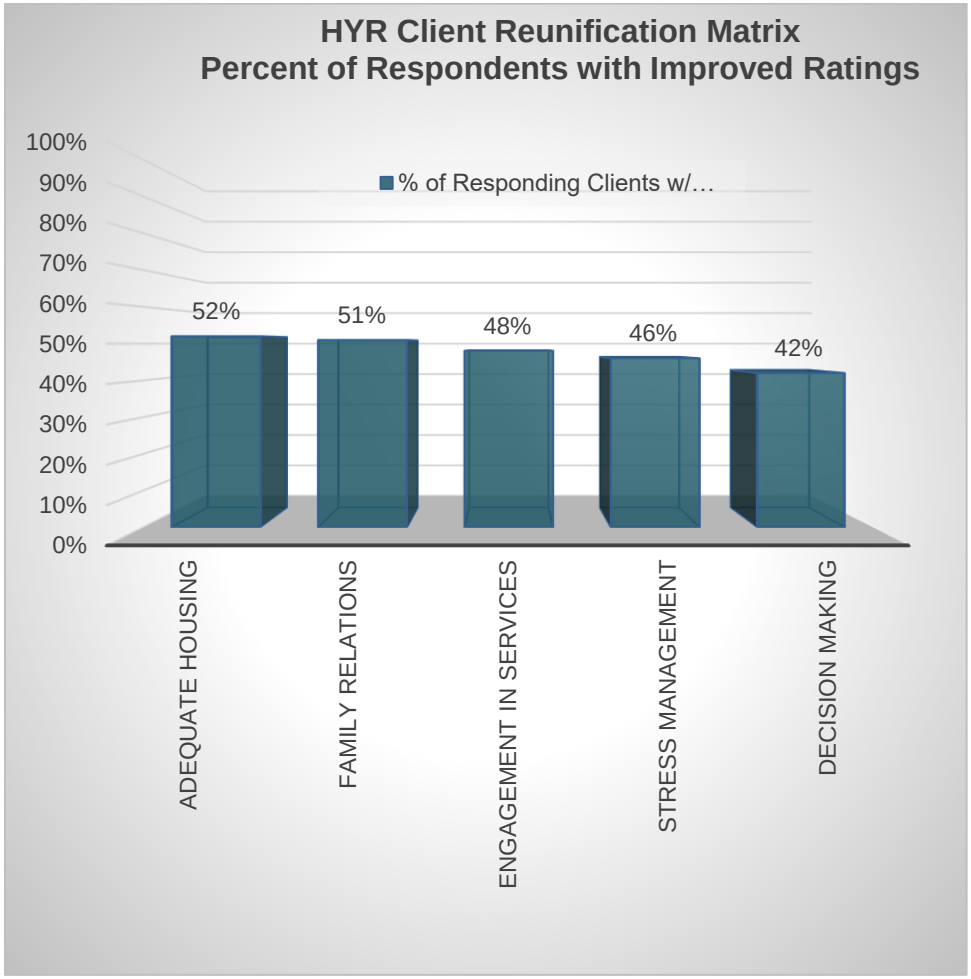


FY2016 Length of Stay and Recidivism

Basic Care Center Shelter
Average Length of Stay: 13 days

Total Discharges:	1459	**Total Returning Clients:**	267
Total Unique Clients:	1192	**Recidivism Rate:**	**22%**

Length of Stay	Total Discharges	"+" Housing Destination	Engagement Rate
0 to 7 days	549	79%	95%
8 to 14 days	303	83%	98%
15 to 21 days	495	69%	98%
22 to 31 days*	42	48%	98%
2 to 3 months*	23	65%	96%
3 to 6 months*	5	0%	100%
6 to 9 months*	2	100%	100%

**Probable Data Quality Issue*: *Youth are generally only allowed to remain in Basic Care Center Shelters for up to 21 days.*

TLP
Average Length of Stay: 6 months

Total Discharges:	345	**Total Returning Clients:**	15
Total Unique Clients:	330	**Recidivism Rate:**	**5%**

Length of Stay	Total Discharges	"+" Housing Destination	Engagement Rate
0 to 7 days	11	36%	73%
8 to 14 days	11	55%	91%
15 to 21 days	10	40%	70%
22 to 31 days	19	63%	100%
2 to 3 months	90	44%	94%
3 to 6 months	91	59%	96%
6 to 9 months	49	57%	96%
9 to 12 months	25	80%	96%
12 to 15 months	20	65%	95%
15 to 18 months	13	85%	100%
18 to 21 months	3	67%	100%
21 months to 2 years	2	100%	100%
Over 2 years	1	0%	0%

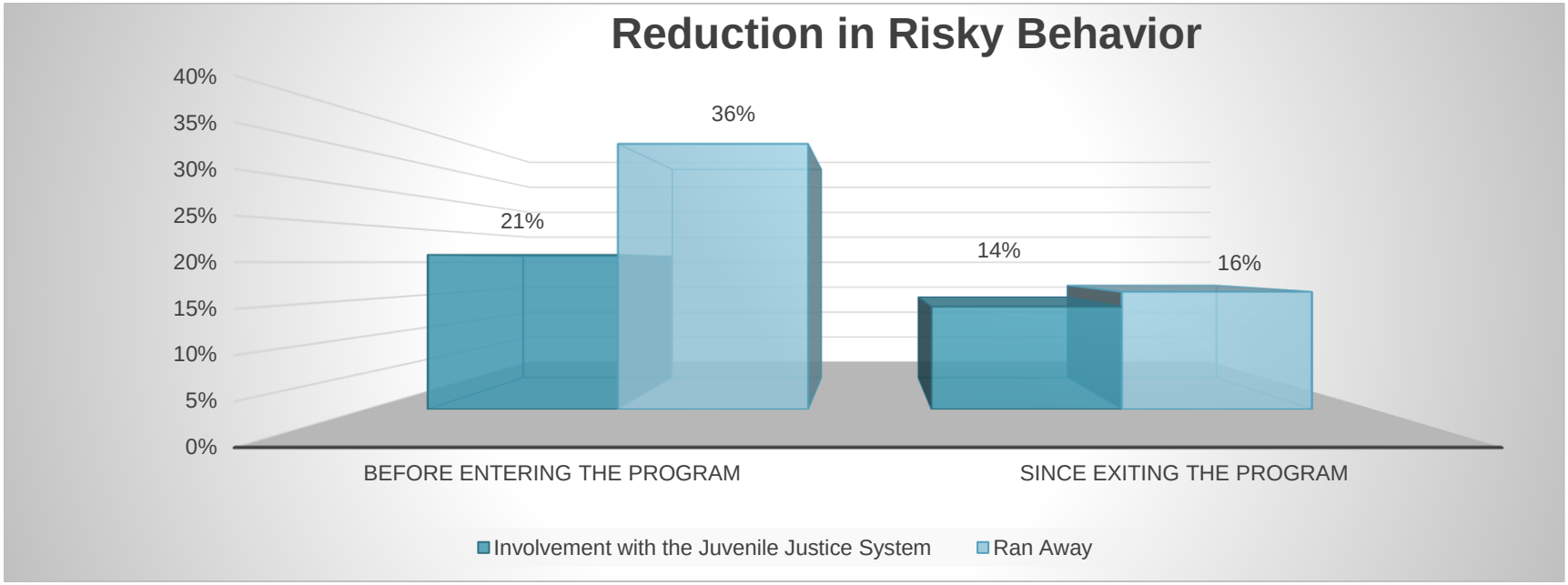
Perhaps the best indicator of a program's success is the participants' ability to apply those skills and tools learned while in the program to "life after discharge" in order to maintain what they worked so hard to achieve. One way that HYR providers determine if this is occurring is by conducting follow-up interviews with youth 90 and 180 days after they exit the program.

During FY2016, attempts were made to complete follow-up interviews with 1196 youth who had been "closed out" for at least 180 days. Approximately, 63% completed the follow-up interview. Below is a summary of those findings.

At the time of the 180-day follow-up:

- 90% of the youth reported that the information and services provided to them while they were in the program was relevant to their specific needs.
- 87% of the youth reported that they had not entered a community homeless shelter after exiting the program.
- 89% of the youth reported that their current housing was safe and stable.
- 91% of the youth reported that they had medical insurance coverage and knew how to access health care when needed.

Additional Successes Include:



FY2016 HYR Services Provided

% of Clients Receiving Services (By Service Delivery Area)				
Service Type:	**Prevention**	**Basic Center Shelter**	**TLP**	**All HYR Services**
Transportation	75%	73%	88%	**76%**
Counseling (Individual)	91%	78%	80%	**60%**
Education Assistance	43%	45%	78%	**47%**
Independent Living Skills (ILS)	58%	62%	89%	**41%**
Info Regarding/Assistance Accessing Services	21%	23%	64%	**40%**
McKinney-Vento Resources *(educational resources for homeless youth)*	42%	40%	34%	**35%**
Counseling (Group)	68%	52%	42%	**31%**
Counseling (Family)	74%	52%	19%	**29%**
Medical/Dental Related Services	28%	33%	66%	**25%**
Employment Support	15%	14%	82%	**24%**
Mental Health Services	32%	28%	42%	**21%**
Participation in Comm. Services/Service Learning Activities	51%	24%	48%	**20%**
Recruitment	49%	11%	18%	**19%**
Aftercare	20%	28%	33%	**18%**
Help Obtaining ID Documents	9%	9%	59%	**15%**
Survival Kits	2%	1%	19%	**13%**
Specialized Services for Highly Vulnerable Youth	4%	6%	13%	**12%**
Help Obtaining Other Important Records	4%	8%	51%	**11%**
Landlord/Tenant Leasing Training	6%	5%	36%	**8%**
Startup Goods	0%	3%	14%	**3%**
Security Deposit	0%	>1%	7%	**1%**
First Month's Rent	0%	>1%	4%	**1%**

*Service summary information includes services provided during the clients' stay in the program, as well as services provided after exit. Information is captured at the time of the 90-day follow-up. The percentages above are based on 849 follow-ups completed during FY2016.