

Deep Dive: Ready Transitions

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READY TRANSITIONS

YOUNG PEOPLE
TRANSITIONING
when
THEY are READY

THE PROBLEM

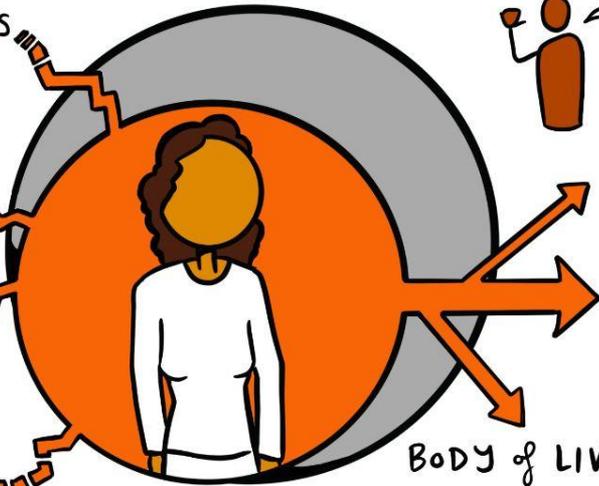
EARLY & ABRUPT TRANSITIONS

FEND FOR YOURSELVES

SUPPORT: CURRENT SYSTEM

VS PARENT/ PRIMARY caregiver...

RISK of HOMELESSNESS POST TRANSITION



THE SOLUTION

TRANSITION when I'm READY!

SYSTEM CHANGES -
o BETTER PREPAREDNESS
o SAFE GUARDS

BODY of LIVED EXPERIENCES CASE for CHANGE

RESEARCH methodology

TARGET groups

WE INTERVIEWED REAL PEOPLE with lived experience of OOHC & /or YOUTH JUSTICE & have experienced HOMELESSNESS (& WORKERS within these areas in S.A.)

ANALYSIS

- o THEMATIC using an INDUCTIVE FRAMEWORK
- o VALIDATION thru TRIANGULATION

"THERE SEEMS to be a LOT of PRESSURE to GET KIDS OUT A.S.A.P, whether or not AN APPROPRIATE PLACEMENT HAS BEEN FOUND...
SUPPORT WORKER IMPRESSION

OUR FOCUS

WHERE HAVE WE FAILED before?
- how can we use this? -

IDENTIFY CRITICAL COMPONENTS of TRANSITION SUPPORT (HOUSING, VOCATIONAL TRAINING, SKILL DEV.)

IDENTIFY 'WHAT GOOD LOOKS LIKE' & CONDUCT GAP ANALYSIS

"... the PEOPLE experiencing these PROBLEMS KNOW exactly WHAT THEY NEED to FIX their PROBLEM, but Do NOT have the CONNECTIONS to EFFECT the necessary CHANGE"

Our team is exploring system where young people transition from out of home care and youth justice systems **when they are ready to.**

The Problem

- Young people who leave out of home care (OOHC) or youth justice (YJ) are expected to transition to adult life **much earlier and more abruptly** than their peers.
- For example, many young people in the OOHC system are left to **fend for themselves** once they turn 18 and age out of their Guardianship Order. Similarly young people in the YJ system are often left to **support themselves once released**.
- The current system **does not provide the same level of support and guidance** to young people as a **parent / primary caregiver** typically would at this life stage.
- As a result, many young people in this cohort are **at risk of, or do experience homelessness** after the transition.

The Solution

- Our team is exploring a system where young people transition from out of home care and youth justice system **when they are ready to.**
- This will include an exploration of potential system changes to **better prepare young people for transitions** and **safeguards so young people aren't placed in a situation where they become homeless after transitioning** out of the systems.
- In building our solution we will also build a body of **lived experience insights** to communicate and **bring to life our case for change.**

Over cycle 1 we've focused on building a body of evidence to describe how current approaches have **failed young people** and **what good looks like**.

Our Focus

1. Understanding and unpacking where current approaches have failed young people in target demographic as they transition to **independent living**
2. Identifying the critical components of **transition support** (e.g. housing, vocational training, skill development, mental health transition support, support budgeting and paying bills)
3. Identifying '**what good looks like**' for each transition support component and conducting gap analysis against current approaches in South Australia

Research Methodology

Participants were/will be recruited through our local networks & invited to undertake a 1 hour interview

Target groups

- Young people from South Australia with lived experience of OOHC and/or Youth Justice & have experienced youth homelessness
- Workers with experience in these areas in South Australia

Analysis

- Thematic analysis using an inductive framework
- 'Triangulation' to increase the validity of our findings

We have conducted **five interviews this sprint** and will continue this work into Cycle 2.

Insights

“ ”

I didn't have a choice, I had to leave when I turned 18. I was never prepared, there was no preparation. **I was just chucked into the big wide world** and expected to know how to 'adult' properly.

- Young person talking about their experience leaving OOHC

“ ”

There seems to be a lot of pressure to get kids out ASAP, **whether or not an appropriate placement has been found**. In most cases, these kids breach or reoffend extremely quickly.

- Support Worker on their impressions of YJ transitions from talking to young people

“ ”

■ ■ ■

What next?

- Continue to a second cycle of work
- Consolidate research findings and define our solution
- Build solution & influencing strategy

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