



TCYSD COMMUNITY UPDATES

OCTOBER 16, 2015

We are honored to be charged with investing time, resources, and funding in local Tompkins County communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life, and hope that this quarterly communication will serve as another resource to help create a community where all youth are given the opportunities to thrive.



2016 County Budget

When the Resource Allocation Team of the Youth Services Board began to prepare the 2016 budget they began with projections from the County Administrator and Youth Services Department. As the Administrator presented his budget priorities to the legislature he included the idea that within the 2016 budget the Legislature would have the opportunity to restore \$75,000 funding to the Municipal Youth Services System. The Resource Allocation

Committee built their recommendations on the assumption that this funding would be available in the recommended budget, *however* due to a decrease in actual sales tax received during the second quarter of 2015, the projections of available funds for the County Budget in 2016 also changed.

The Resource Allocation Team made four Over Target Requests for 2015 three of which are recommended by the County Administrator. These OTRs include – support of youth services staffing (\$14,528); support for the Youth Works Coordinator position at CCE to continue to offer youth employment programming for youth in the towns of Caroline, Danby, Enfield, & Ithaca, and Villages of Lansing & Cayuga Heights (\$20,000); and use of rollover for sustaining the training programming developed by the Youth Services Department (\$15,300). The OTR which is not recommended by the county administrator is for a 3% increase among the agencies that have contracts with the Youth Services Department (\$11,426).

The Recreation Partnership is a separate budget that the Youth Services Department oversees. The Recreation Partnership Board has requested a 3.3% increase. Within the Recommended Budget is a 2% (\$1,263) increase for the Recreation Partnership but an OTR for the additional 1.3% (\$861) is not recommended.

Currently the Expanded Budget Committee is continuing to amend the recommended budget for final adoption in early November. At this time the EBC has recommended support for the Municipal Youth Service System, however the increase for agencies is not supported in the amended budget. The EBC will meet again on October 19, 2015 to continue their budget review process.

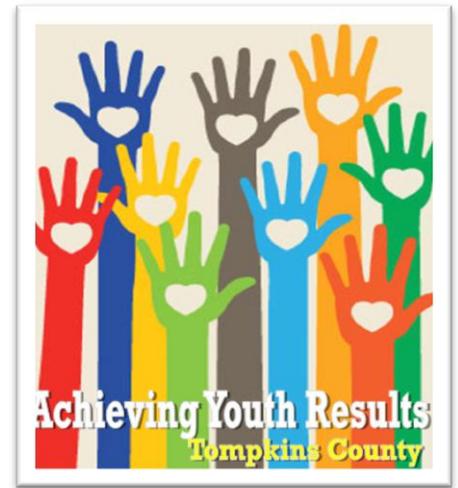
Achieving Youth Results

How well are Tompkins County youth doing?*

How will we know if youth are doing better? Or worse?*

*Answering these questions is behind the **Achieving Youth Results** initiative being led by the Tompkins County Youth Services Department. At upcoming community convening meetings participants:

- Look at recent data that correlates to youth to determine the progress or lack of progress that is being made
- Analyze and identify the causes and forces at work in the community that are influencing the trend
- Identify other important partners who can help to improve the progress toward youth-related goals
- Brainstorm “what works” to improve the indicators of progress
- Prioritize the best strategies and develop action steps to implement these strategies



Achieving Youth Results will track countywide indicators to assess how we are doing as a community to support our youth and families. While there are no perfect indicators to measure how well young people are doing, this is an opportunity to showcase how the work of the various community partners is making progress toward a set of community goals. By tracking indicators and exploring the story behind the data we will be better able to see what additional or changing supports our community may need to achieve the youth results we desire.

Tompkins County Youth Services Department is convening groups throughout Tompkins County to explore ways to address the challenges faced by youth. Through the **Achieving Youth Results** framework we will look at important youth indicators across six goal areas that impact our community as a whole:

- **Community** – Tompkins County will provide children, youth and families with healthy, safe and thriving environments
- **Economic Security** – Children and youth will live in an economically secure community
- **Education** – Youth will leave school prepared to live, learn and work in their community
- **Engagement** – Children and youth will demonstrate commitment to their community as contributing members of their families, schools and neighborhood
- **Family** – Children will grow up within safe environments
- **Physical and Emotional Health** – Children and youth will have optimal physical and emotional health

For each goal, there are several indicators that will be tracked to measure progress.

For more details about **Achieving Youth Results**, our goals and indicators, visit www.tompkinscountyny.gov/youth/AYR or contact the Tompkins County Youth Services Department at 274-5310

Youth Worker Training Series

Understanding Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
A Two Part/Two Day Series
9:00 – 5:00pm at the Hotel Ithaca



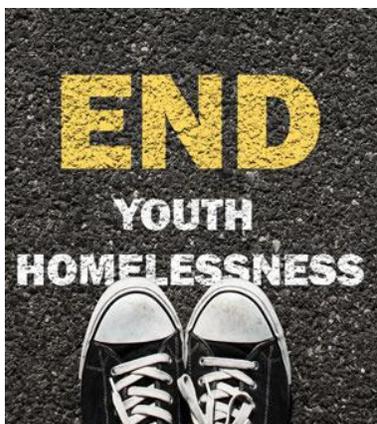
November 17, 2015: What is Commercial Sexual Exploitation?

This training will provide an overview on what CSEC is and will include opportunities to discuss myths and stereotypes, understand and define various terms, look at the scope of child exploitation, explore risk factors and how exploiters recruit youth. The afternoon of this training will focus on impact of CSEC on the victims, understanding the trauma bond, exploring the subculture, “rules” and norms.

November 18, 2015: Victim Identification and Service Delivery

This training will build off of Day 1 as participants begin to look at their role and responsibility as professionals at intervention points as well as the challenges and barriers to intervention with sexually exploited youth. *You must attend Day 1 to attend this training.*

To RSVP please contact Theresa Albert by November 2, 2015. 607-274-5310



Independent Living Survey 4

In conjunction with the Tompkins County Continuum of Care Committee (CoC), the county’s planning entity for homeless services, and in response to a community need to document the number of homeless youth, the 2015 Independent Living Survey 4 (ILS4) Project was conducted through a Community-University Project of Cornell University, the Learning Web and the Tompkins County Youth Services Department.

ILS4, is a community-based participatory research project, was a follow up to three similar surveys completed in 2004 (ILS1), 2007 (ILS2), and 2011 (ILS3). The results of these previous surveys have had a significant impact on the community and services for independent youth.

The project was enormously successful: we reached 225 young people during an eight week period of the winter (we estimate that this represents almost one-third of the homeless youth population in the county). The Independent Living Survey Project has been the catalyst for a rich public discussion about this sizeable population of vulnerable youth in the community and has generated the public will to prioritize articulating a “continuum of care” that is focused exclusively on the needs of homeless youth. To view the full findings please [click here](#).

Meet Jasmin Cubero and Allyson Gatto



Jasmin J. Cubero began working for Tompkins County Youth Services Department (TCYSD) on August 10, 2015. Originally born in Brooklyn, Jasmin has spent most of her life in Ithaca. She is a mother two young women, ages 18 and 22, an MBA graduate and comes to Youth Services department with experience working with Tompkins Community Action and the Ithaca Housing Authority.

Despite the demands of being a single parent Jasmine managed to balance family, higher education goals and career. However family has always been her priority. After moving back to NYC, she quickly reconsidered. Strange really, as she did not care for the area as an adolescent, however as a new mother she realized that Tompkins County was a great place for her children to live, learn, and “experience the beauty of living here.”

When asked why she took the position at Tompkins County Youth Services Department (TCYSD) she stated that working with youth related programs and supporting youth success with education and careers had always appealed to her. Currently, Jasmin is assisting TCYSD as one of the facilitators for Achieving Youth Results; and has organized and coordinated much of the What’s Next? Career Expo coming in March 2016.

Allyson Gatto is a service learning intern with the Youth Services Department for the fall 2015 semester. Allyson is a senior at Ithaca College in the Department of Recreation & Leisure Studies; she is also the President of the Recreation & Leisure Studies Club. While at the Youth Services Department she will be working on a variety of projects including updating Trumansburg’s recreation brochure, creating power point presentations for Groton and Trumansburg outlining the 2015 youth development survey data, and facilitating Advancing Youth Results groups throughout the County. Allyson’s home town in Lockport, NY and when she graduates college she hopes to work in a long term care facility as a Recreation Therapist. Welcome Allyson!



**Tompkins County
underage drinking**

tipline
1-800-851-1932

*Your call
could save a life!*

When to call -
✓ When **YOU** are aware of an underage drinking party
✓ Anytime, 24 hours a day

Who should call -
✓ Concerned adults, community members, **YOU!**

Why it matters -
✓ 5,000 people under age 21 die from alcohol-related injuries each year in the U.S.
✓ 90% of teen alcohol use is dangerous binge drinking
✓ Alcohol harms the developing teen brain

Confidential & anonymous More info at www.healthyyouth.org
A joint project of Tompkins County Sheriff's Dept. and Community Coalition for Healthy Youth

Community Reminder from the Community Coalition for Healthy Youth

WHY YOU SHOULD DISPOSE OF YOUR UNWANTED MEDICATIONS IN A SECURE DROP BOX:



TO REDUCE OVERDOSES Unneeded and outdated medications in a home can lead to overdoses, especially among children and seniors.

TO REDUCE DIVERSION Medications are frequently stolen from medicine cabinets and the trash, often by teenagers, and used or sold illegally.

TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT & HUMAN HEALTH Medications flushed down the drain or thrown in the trash contaminate our water bodies and have adverse effects on our environment. Wastewater treatment facilities are not currently designed to remove some of these contaminants.

Drop-boxes, located in police stations throughout the County, for disposing of medications, are available in these locations:

#	LOCATION	ADDRESS	PHONE	HOURS*
1	Tompkins County Sheriff, Public Safety Building	779 Warren Rd., Ithaca	257-1345	24/ 7/ 365
2	Ithaca Police Dept.	120 E. Clinton St., Ithaca	272-9973	M-F 8am-4pm
3	Cayuga Heights Police Dept.	836 Hanshaw Rd., Ithaca	257-1011	M-F, 9am-4:30pm
4	Groton Police Dept.	108 E. Cortland St., Groton	898-3131	M, W, F, 8am-4pm **
5	Trumansburg Police Dept.	5 Elm St., Trumansburg	387-6505	M-F 10am-2pm **
6	Cornell University Police Dept.	G2 Barton Hall, between Statler Dr. & Garden Ave., Ithaca	255-1113	24/7/365
7	TC3 (Tompkins Cortland Community College) Police Dept.	170 North St. (main bldg., room 118), Dryden	844-6511	M-Sa, 7am-10pm; Su 10am-6pm
8	Tompkins County Dept. of Probation (HSB Bldg.)	320 W. State St., Ithaca	274-5367	By appointment** only Call: 274-5367
9	Dryden Police Dept.	16 South St., Dryden	844-8119	M-F 9am-3pm**

* Note: Hours are subject to change.

** Or by appointment

Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking

This spring, the Tompkins County Youth Services Department was awarded funding from the Office of Children and Family Services to provide education, information and increased services about child sexual exploitation and trafficking. An ever increasing number of youth are exploited through prostitution and international sex trafficking. In the United States alone, about 300,000 children are at risk of being commercially sexually exploited. The average age of youth entering the sex industry is 13. Through this funding; training opportunities, a small media campaign and additional resources for our Runaway and Homeless Programs will be available. Below is a brief article on commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Sex trafficking of minors occurs every day in the United States and it is happening in Tompkins County.

To protect youth at risk of commercial sexual exploitation there are risk factors to be aware of that make youth vulnerable to becoming victims. Similar to other types of child sex offenders, pimps intentionally target the vulnerable. Youth who are most at risk of being targeted often have unmet physical and emotional needs that pimps view as open doors for manipulation. Youth who have histories of abuse, maltreatment, and neglect are at greater risk of being trafficked. Other risk factors may include a history of being involved with systems such as foster care and juvenile justice, and a history of running away from home. LGBT children may be at greater risk, as are those who have experienced ongoing stigma and discrimination.

What makes pimps different than other sex offenders is that they manipulate and exploit basic human needs for the sole purpose of making money. Pimps are willing to spend significant amounts of time breaking down resistance of victims because they know the pay-off is great. A pimp may earn hundreds of thousands of dollars every year by sexually exploiting children. Deception and trickery are commonplace, as is the lavishing upon of gifts and affection as an initial tactic. And in the case of a runaway or homeless youth, the pimp might provide food and place to stay. The promise of love becomes a sick tool of business to build trust. Once trust is established, physical control in the form of threats, violence, and/or drug addiction typically follows. Such repeated, coercive methods keep the victim feeling powerless and trapped.

The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children reports that children as young as 12-14 years old are targeted by pimps.

The Advocacy Center is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 607-277-5000 to offer free and anonymous support if you or someone you know is a victim of sex trafficking, or any other form of sexual or domestic violence.

School Staff Listing 2015-2016

Each year the Tompkins County Youth Services Department prepares a listing of staff in each of the schools in Tompkins County. The 2015-2016 listing will soon be available [here](#).



Opportunities for Involvement

Do you support the mission of investing time, resources and funding in communities to enable all youth to thrive in school, work and life? Are you willing to commit to providing your thoughts, insights, and time to help advise the Youth Services Department?

If you answered yes to these questions perhaps membership on either a local youth commission or the Tompkins County Youth Services Board is the right fit for you!

Current vacancies include:

- **Tompkins County Youth Services Board** is in need of representatives from Caroline, Danby, Groton, Newfield and Ulysses/Trumansburg, as well as one Tompkins County youth ages 16-21.
- **The Dryden Recreation and Youth Commission** has vacancies for commission members residing in the Town or Village of Dryden or Village of Freeville.
- The **Community Coalition for Healthy Youth** continues to meet monthly to bring partners together to reduce youth substance use. Please come to a meeting if you think you might be interested; dates and times can be found at www.healthyyouth.org.



For more information on ways you can get involved please contact Amie Hendrix at ahendrix@tom-pkins-co.org.

Your Feedback is Requested



This edition of the Tompkins County Youth Services Updates marks one year of quarterly updates and we would like to hear from you on ways we can improve these updates for you. Please take a few minutes to visit our survey at www.surveymonkey and let us know how we are doing.



Tompkins County Youth Services Department
320 West State/MLK Jr. Street
Ithaca NY 14850
607-274-5310

www.tompkinscountyny.gov/youth

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