Boys & Girls Clubs of Calgary
A good place to be

The Fusion Project

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Boys and Girls Clubs of Calgary

Residential Care

Community Clubs & Experiential Learning

Education & Employment

Youth Housing & Shelter
What would it take to end this youth’s homelessness with this experience?

Prevention, Outreach, Housing & Shelters

Infinity

Safe House

Ave 15

Elements

Haven’s Way

YTA

828-HOPE

Script

Fusion
Towards Resiliency for Vulnerable Youth

http://www.calgaryunitedway.org/vulnerableyouth/about-the-report/introduction
FUSION PROJECT

relationship
valued
authenticity
RESOURCES
mobile
network
community
RESPECTFUL
natural supports
connection
ADVOCACY
mentoring
positive
mediation
compassion
understanding
Youth disconnected from natural supports are supported to meet their basic needs and build their relationship skills

So that...

Youth can reconnect with family and community to create positive networks of non-professional support

So that...

Youth can successfully transition to adult self-sufficiency.
# Fusion Fundamentals

We begin all our work with the building of a positive relationship. We believe that respectful, supportive and empowering relationships are the conduit for change.

**An Open Invitation**

Not mandated or prescribed, we invite people to engage with us. We are persistent in this invitation.

**Being Authentic**

We bring ourselves to this work. We share our stories when this is appropriate. We are compassionate, open and honest. We are challenging and loving with families and youth, as well as within our team. We model relationships of trust and reciprocity.

**Being Youth and Family Led**

We begin where youth and families are at. Families decide the type, timing and intensity of support. Program fundamentals provide high-level guidance to coaches. Coaches have enormous latitude in the supports they can provide. The supports fit the family; the family doesn’t have to fit the supports.

**Inspiring Change**

We live and work to our values. We hope to inspire change in the youth and families we work with. We hope to share what we’re learning to inspire change in other professionals across the sector.
So what have we learned...

- We need to reframe family as part of the solution.
- Family and natural support connection is compelling for vulnerable youth.
- Family work and youth work are often disconnected.
- Engagement takes time.
- Systems tend to create and reinforce the disconnection between vulnerable youth and family.
- Need experienced, multi-dimensional and atypical teams.
So what?
So what?

Preliminary Outcomes for Youth & Natural supports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>At Referral</th>
<th>At Analysis (December 31, 2013)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homeless</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housed</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitionally Housed</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“I do have a lot of supports now, I have a lot more people supporting me on my choices and what I want to do.”
Acuity Score

http://calgaryhomeless.com/agencies/
Additional Links

http://www.boysandgirlsclubsofcalgary.ca/
