

SHARED YOUTH VISION PILOT PROJECTS

STATE: ARIZONA

PROJECT TITLE: Partners Assuring Youth Success (PAYS)

TARGET POPULATION: Youth transitioning from the child welfare and/or the juvenile justice system

GEOGRAPHIC AREA: Pinal and Gila Counties

FUNDING: \$114,623

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: The PAYS project will seek to increase the engagement and retention of youth transitioning from state and county systems of care to adulthood, and develop and strengthen partnerships with local educational entities and employers to prepare, employ, and retain young people transitioning from care into employment. The project will employ a Youth-Adult Partnership model to better engage and retain youth in services. An adult project manager will provide training and support to two youth community liaisons, who are successfully transitioning from care to adulthood. Program services will include assessment, service planning, and experiential teaching approaches to skill building, placement, and support. The project manager and community liaisons will work with community educational entities and employers to develop contacts, provide input and training on working with youth, and develop strategies for assuring that any placement serves both the needs of the youth and employer. The state Shared Youth Vision team will provide oversight and develop policies, procedures, and tools for replication of the project in other areas of the state.

LIST OF PARTNER AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS: Arizona Governor's Office for Children, Youth, and Families, Arizona Department of Economic Security, Division for Children, Youth, and Families, Arizona Department of Juvenile Corrections, Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services, Pinal County Juvenile Court and Probation, Mulvaney & Associates, Cenpatico, Maricopa County Human Services Department, Central Arizona College, Superstition Mountain Mental Health Center, Job Corps

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