

**MINNESOTA BLUEPRINT FOR SHARED VISION FOR YOUTH  
Interagency Projects Supporting Positive Outcomes for At-Risk Youth**

[Attachment 3]

**Vision:** "By Age 25, Minnesota's young people will be ready for the responsibilities and rewards of economic self-sufficiency, healthy family and social relationships, community involvement, stable housing and life-long learning."

**MISSION STATEMENT:** State and local agencies will collaborate to assure that Minnesota's neediest youth will acquire the talents, skills, and knowledge necessary to ensure their healthy transition to successful adult roles and responsibilities.

Outcomes				
Improve Transition Outcomes for Ex-Offenders	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities	Prevent and End Homelessness	Reduce High School Dropout Rates
Strategies				
<p><b>Anoka County Juvenile Corrections</b> Regular referrals of youth on probation or transitioning from the Juvenile Center. Empowers will provide counseling &amp; guidance to both juvenile and adult offenders on seeking employment with a criminal background.</p> <p>JTC has a current staff person whom serves as a liaison with adult Corrections.</p>	<p><b>Anoka County Social Services -- Foster Care Unit</b> Empower staff will work closely with county social workers to identify youth aging out of the foster care system and assist them with the application process to the program. Program staff will avail themselves to attend IEP meetings and work with the designated team of professional providing support to disabled foster youth.</p>	<p><b>Northwest Metro CTIC (Community Transition Interagency Committee)</b> A special education cooperative interagency committee for youth with disabilities, beginning at grade 9 or age equivalent, and their families. ACJTC's DRC through our DEI project will establish membership along with designated Youth Counselor.</p>	<p><b>Emma B. Howe YMCA</b> Ongoing and regular communication between Empowers Program and YMCA staff to identify potentially homeless and homeless youth and help connect them with available community resources.</p>	<p><b>Area Learning Centers</b> Strengthen network with ALC's in service area to increase blending of resources and additional assistance to 'super seniors' and those students at risk of dropping out.</p>
	<p><b>Area School District Case Managers and Work Experience Coordinators</b> Form community partnership to connect older youth with resources beyond secondary school structure. Anoka County's Outreach to School efforts will be the structured approach to establishing these connections.</p>	<p><b>Vocational Rehabilitation Services</b> A WFC partner located onsite at the Blaine Human Services Center. Provides vocational rehabilitation services in helping transition youth with disabilities to self-sufficiency. Youth Counselor and the DEI DRC will maintain regular contact to streamline referrals. Empowers staff and VRS staff will implement the PETS Pilot project providing work experiences for youth that are enrolled with VRS and MYP</p>	<p><b>Stepping Stone Shelter</b> Refer homeless youth ages 18 – 24 who are in need of temporary shelter. ACJTC instructors facilitates 2 job search workshops a month and maintain regular contact with shelter staff to identify and connect with potential older youth candidates in need of training and employment services.</p>	

Outcomes				
Improve Transition Outcomes for Ex-Offenders	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care	Improve Transition Outcomes for Youth with Disabilities	Prevent and End Homelessness	Reduce High School Dropout Rates
Strategies				
	<p><b>TRIO - Educational Opportunity Center (EOC)</b>            Located onsite at the Anoka County WorkForce Center and ARCC, TRIO provides additional assistance with filling out FASFA and college applications, and connect students with other supports at the college. Youth Counselor will maintain regular contact with TRIO representatives to identify potential youth applicants; and refer college bound youth for assistance.</p>		<p><b>Hope4Youth</b>            Youth Counselor will provide outreach to local drop-in center for homeless youth in an effort to assist them in connecting with education and employment services.</p> <p><b>Coordinated Housing Assessment</b>            An Anoka County initiative consisting of 10-15 community partners trained to administer a housing assistance screening tool for clients who are at risk of or homeless and refer them to available community housing resources.</p>	