



September 2020

Help & Hope for YOUTH and Arizona Youth Partnership FAQ



As shared in last month's newsletter, Help & Hope for YOUTH has been looking to transition to a new nonprofit organization that can help us increase our impact throughout the state. Help & Hope for YOUTH has been meeting with Arizona Youth Partnership (AZYP) to explore the transfer and integration of the initiative into this statewide nonprofit organization focused on prevention programs for youth and families. Representatives from AZYP have attended the Capacity Building, Education & Training and Advocacy & Policy Task Force meetings to give a brief overview of the organization and answer questions. The following questions are those that were raised by task force members and answered by AZYP at the Task Force meetings.

Q. Why do you think this would be a good partnership and how does it fit into the overall structure of Arizona Youth Partnership (AZYP)?

A. The biggest thing is that our missions line up. We see Help & Hope for YOUTH fitting in under our Community Division working alongside our mental health team with Mary Anne and Youth Mental Health First Aid. With our heavy track record in getting grant funding and our statewide expertise, we can really expand the mission of Help & Hope for YOUTH and get mental health education and suicide prevention in more communities and school districts and hopefully more policy reform and advocacy. We know through risk and protective factor research that mental health is a risk factor for all populations we serve and vice versa other risk factors affect mental health. Help & Hope for YOUTH

can help get Arizona Youth Partnership connected to their network and with other stakeholders where we can blend our services together.

Q. What are some of your strengths and how can we work together if we were to have you as a partner? What do you think this would look like?

A. We have a very diverse set of programs and it really fits organizationally. AZYP can bring the infrastructure that could be really helpful to HH4Y. We see our coalitions as a foundation of where we build our programs. We can see the intersection between having the Alliance and HH4Y around mental health awareness and reducing stigma intersecting with so many of our programs and being able to use that as a foundation to take those programs to other locations or even to the next level. Because we have such a diverse set of programs there's an ability to have HH4Y as a part of what AZYP does with the ability to do what needs to be done for this initiative. HH4Y is part of what we're trying to accomplish with AZYP but can continue to function the way it has been functioning and building out the Alliance. Coming together, there's a lot that we can do with opportunities to scale it and find additional funding to pull our programs into what HH4Y is doing and vice versa.

Q. What are the next steps? What happens after AZYP attends meetings with the Task Forces?

A. The Steering Committee will review this information and see what concerns were raised by task force members and continue our conversations to see if it is a good match.

Q. What is the timeline for finding a new backbone?

A. Our goal is to identify a new backbone organization by October 1, 2020.

More questions and answers can be found [here](#). If you have additional questions, please email them to Arcy Cornidez, acornidez@helphopeforyouth.org. We will report on the status of our plans with AZYP in our October newsletter and at the October 12 Alliance meeting.

SAAC Candidate Forum

The Children's Action Alliance will be hosting a candidate forum highlighting the issues of most importance to Southern Arizona children, youth and families. Candidates will be from legislative districts 2, 10, and 11. Help & Hope for YOUth has submitted video content elevating youth voice, the impact of COVID and the need for access to more youth mental health services in schools. The forum will be held via Zoom and on Facebook Live on September 24th from 6:00-7:00pm. Meeting link details to follow.



Mental Health & Suicide Prevention National Response to COVID-19



Data from a new national survey conducted on behalf of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, Suicide Prevention Resource Center, and Education Development Center has just been released indicating that 81% of people surveyed say it's more important than ever to make suicide prevention a national priority. The majority of those who participated support initiatives to promote mental health and suicide prevention and indicated the best approaches to doing so are by educating about suicide prevention, providing better access to mental health care and educating first responders. Two-thirds of those surveyed indicated COVID-19 has made them more empathetic and half indicated they are more open

to discussing mental health. 73% of people say the pandemic has made them more aware of the importance of taking care of their own mental health. The full report is available [here](#).

Training and Events Calendar

 **[Student Mental Health During COVID-19: How to Prepare as Schools Reopen](#)**
September 4th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

 **[Protecting Our Children: COVID-19's Impact on Early Childhood and ACEs](#)**
September 10th, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

 **[Increased Risk in Troubling Times: Suicide Prevention for Today](#)**

First Session(for mental health and other professionals)


- Option A: Question, Persuade, Refer Training
- Option B: Trauma-Informed Suicide Prevention: An Introduction to Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM)

September 10th, 7:00 AM - 1:00 PM


Second Session(Open to the Community)

Question, Persuade, Refer Training

September 10th, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

 **[Education & Training Task Force Meeting](#)**
September 15th, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

 **[Building Capacity of School Personnel to Promote Positive Mental Health in Native American Children and Youth](#)**
September 15th, 2:30 PM (FiVE Part Series, Register by 9.5.2020)

 **[Capacity Building Task Force Meeting](#)**
September 16th, 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM

 **[Understanding & Supporting LGBTQIA+ Youth's Mental Health in Primary Care](#)** September 2th, 8:00 AM - 10:00 AM

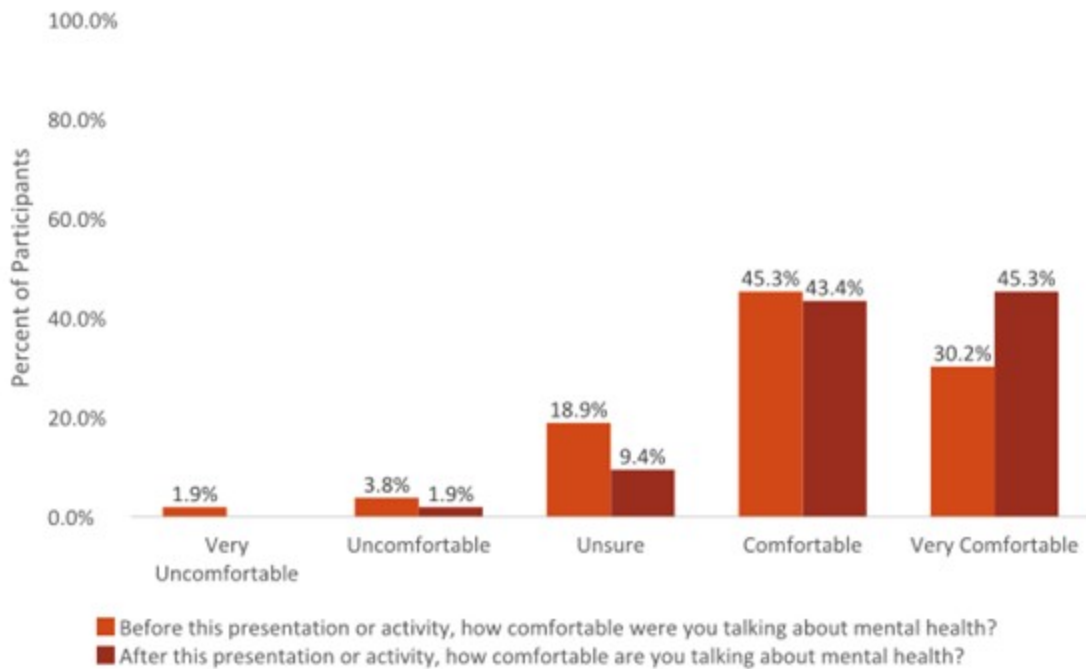
 **[Advocacy & Policy Task Force Meeting](#)**
October 6th, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Evaluation Update

During the Month of August, *Ending the Silence* staff and volunteers trained 181 school personnel in identifying warning signs and symptoms of mental health conditions and provided training on how to help students in need. There was an increase of 13.2% in comfortability talking about mental health with a total of 88.7% reporting being comfortable or very comfortable in engaging in these conversations.

Participants Overall Comfort with Mental Health Conversations

Figure 3. Overall Comfort Talking About Mental Health (N = 53)



We want to hear from you. Send your news and events for the next issue to newsletter@helphopeforyouth.org.

Want to help? Please give a tax-deductible gift of Help and Hope to children and teens in Southern Arizona.

All funds go to Help & Hope for YOUth

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Help & Hope for YOUth is an initiative of the National Alliance on Mental Illness Southern Arizona (NAMI SA), a 501(C)3 non-profit organization (EIN 86-0450977).