

# Where's the Action?

## Who are we?

- The Vermont Youth Action Board was founded in 2018 as part of a YHDP award to the Vermont Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC).
- We currently have four members, from 15 to 25 years old, who live in four different regions of our rural state.

## How we operate

- Our annual budget is \$6,000, which covers travel costs and youth stipends of \$25/hour. YAB members are paid in Visa gift cards.
- Regular YAB meetings are held online or by phone. YAB members also attend quarterly in-person meetings of the CoC's stakeholder group and the Youth Homelessness Prevention Plan Committee.

## What makes us unique

- The geographic area covered by our YAB is most of the state, which lacks public transportation. This has shaped the way that meetings are held (online or by phone).

The [Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program \(YHDP\)](#) is an initiative of the Department of Housing and Urban Development that supports coordinated local efforts to end youth homelessness. Each YHDP community forms a Youth Action Board (YAB) that brings youth and young adults to the forefront of planning and implementation. In addition to YHDP-funded communities, other communities too have worked to incorporate youth and young adults into their planning. In the fall of 2019, TAC worked with consultant Lauren Leonardis to survey YABs in different areas and at different stages of development, capturing a snapshot of how these vital groups are functioning. Visit TAC's [Gab on YABs page](#) for more community fact sheets and topic spotlights!

# The Gab on YABs

meet the Vermont Youth Action Board

## 3 Biggest Challenges

- We need ongoing recruitment and engagement.
- Payment for staffing at a meaningful level would help strengthen the YAB.
- Our geographic spread makes it hard to have engaging meetings.

## 3 Biggest Successes

- Our initial recruitment was strong, bringing in eight members at our peak.
- We secured funding for the YAB from the Vermont Department for Children and Families for the first 2 years of our operation.
- YAB members feel like a meaningful part of the CoC's Coordinated Community Plan.

