

General Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning	Notes
NWYS	Northwest Youth Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We provide housing and supportive services to youth experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness, between the ages 13 through 24, which means until their 25th birthday. Note, there are few exceptions to the age range, see below.
OC	Opportunity Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource center for low income and homeless families and individuals. Services range from addressing immediate and crisis-oriented needs (food, emergency shelter, eviction-prevention) to longer-term programs that promote self-sufficiency (early childhood education, home weatherization).
WHSC	Whatcom Homeless Service Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A department of the Opportunity Council- provides eviction prevention, rental assistance and other services to prevent and end homelessness using “housing-first” strategies. ONLY LITERALLY homeless (unsheltered) people are eligible for services. <i>You may hear this being referred to/used interchangeably with the OC</i> WHSC manages the Coordinated Entry Waitlist for Whatcom County using a targeted screening tool called the “VI-SPDAT” WHSC also approves financial assistance payments for Whatcom RRH youth
BHA	Bellingham Housing Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local partner agency that manages Section 8 Vouchers within Whatcom County
CHS	Catholic Housing Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local partner agency that assists in providing housing within Whatcom County
CE	Coordinated Entry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Came out of the Whatcom County Plan to End Homelessness (https://apps2.whatcomcounty.us/health/wchac/pdf/phase_4_plan_to_end_homelessness.pdf) A county wide “no wrong door approach” for homeless housing services A centralized intake, assessment, and referral services for homeless housing related activities. Maintain one community-wide Housing Interest Pool (housing waitlist)
SPDAT VI-SPDAT TAY- VI-SPDAT	Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Prescreen Tool (VI-SPDAT) Transition Age Youth-(TAY-VI-SPDAT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> “The SPDAT is an evidence-informed approach to assessing an individual’s or family’s acuity. The tool, across multiple components, prioritizes who to serve next and why, while concurrently identifying the areas in the person/family’s life where support is most likely necessary in order to avoid housing instability.” “The VI-SPDAT helps identify who should be recommended for each housing and support intervention, moving the discussion from simply who is eligible for a service intervention to who is eligible and in greatest need of that intervention. While the SPDAT is an assessment tool, the VI-SPDAT is a survey that anyone could complete, to help prioritize clients.” (http://www.orgcode.com/product/vi-spdatt/) TAY-VI-SPDAT is the screening tool designed specifically for youth aged 24 or younger. (https://mainehmis.files.wordpress.com/2015/12/tay-vi-spdatt-v1-0-us-fillable.pdf) This is the tool that NWYS now uses in place of other screening tools, beginning December 2017.

NWYS ACRONYM DICTIONARY

HMIS	Homeless Management Information System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A state-wide data management system used by Housing Providers to track how people move between housing programs. Each County has its own HMIS, which cannot share information across county. • Each County has an HMIS lead • For Technical Assistance, onboarding new staff to HMIS (if applicable), trainings and manuals, contact the Department of Commerce • https://www.commerce.wa.gov/serving-communities/homelessness/hmis/
YIP	Youth Interest Pool (formerly Housing Waitlist)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth ages 18-24, 16 and 17 emancipated, who are interested in any of our housing programs (excluding the PAD) must turn in a NWYS application to be placed on the YIP. • A youth who is within our age range may also complete an application with the WHSC and be placed on our YIP, as long as there is an ROI in place to share this information.
HCM or CM	Housing Case Manager or Case Manager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case Managers include Housing CM's, Vocational CM's, and PAD CM.

Service Acronyms

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Pre-HCM	Pre-Housing Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-Housing Case Management is a program specific to Whatcom County. When a case manager has an opening on their case load a youth is selected from the YIP to begin regularly working with an assigned case manager with the goal of housing.
HUSLY	Housing for Under Served Low-Income Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four-bed emergency shelter program for youth ages 18-25 • 90 day max stay • Program available in Whatcom and Skagit
TL or TLP	Transition Living Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For youth ages 18-21 • NWYS is the lease holder of multiple units within the County • 540 day max stay (about 18 months) • Program available in Whatcom and Skagit
RRH	Rapid Re-Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For youth ages 18-25 • Client is lease holder; worked with HCM to find rental in the community • NWYS provides rental assistance, including most move-in costs (with exceptions), for up to 6 months • RRH program available in Whatcom, Skagit and Island (RRH is the only NWYS program operated in Island County) • RRH program in Whatcom used to be called Perm, changed in 2019
S+C	Shelter Plus Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For youth 18-25 • Client must be chronically homeless and have a diagnosed mental disability • Youth is lease holder, Bellingham Housing Authority is the subsidy provider (funder). NWYS only provides case management to S+C youth, the OC and CHS are the sponsor agencies. • S+C program only available in Whatcom
PSH	Permanent Supportive Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A general term for housing programs that provide wrap-around services and have strict criteria for eligibility, including but not limited to, chronically homeless and presence of a disability.

NWYS ACRONYM DICTIONARY

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NWYS has 2 PSH programs: S+C and 22 North
22N	22 North	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A partnered PSH facility which between NWYS and the OC. 40 total units, 20 units dedicated to youth (NWYS) NWSY has 3 PSH “programs” housed within this building, 22N-Project Based Voucher, 22N-Flex, and 22N-Floater.
PAD BCP/ES (or RHY) BCP- Extended Stay LT HOPE	Positive Adolescent Development Program:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency shelter for youth ages 13-17, must exit upon 18th birthday Three different “programs” that differ depending on funding source and whether a youth is a state dependent All are voluntary programs, a parent or guardian <u>must</u> sign a youth in BCP-ES is for non-state dependent youth, maximum stay of 21 days BCP Extended Stay is provided by a mix of funding for youth who have not exited at their 21st stay. We no longer bill to RHY after 21 days, so we transition them into Extended Stay. LT, Long Term, is for youth 16-17 who require long-term care, can stay up to 2 years, and are willing to work more towards independence. HOPE, state dependent youth only. Maximum stay of 30 days, with possibility to extend stay up to 30 additional days, if approved. PAD program only available in Whatcom, it is the only shelter for minors in this county.
CRC	Crisis Residential Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another type of Emergency Shelter. See Safe and Stable Exit excel for more information. Found here: ..\OHY\Safe Stable Exits.xlsx
Voc	Vocational Readiness Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth ages 13-25 may access vocational support, which includes assistance with job searches and academic preparation. The Vocational program operates two job training programs: Youth Jobs and We Grow Vocational programs in both Whatcom and Skagit, but only Youth Jobs and We Grow available in Whatcom
QYP	Queer Youth Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth ages 13-25 that identify as LGBTQ+ or questioning can access counseling and supportive services The QYP coordinator provides outreach and education to local community QYP available in both counties
TC	Teen Court	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth ages 12-17 who are 2nd and 3rd time diversion cases are referred to TC to participate in alternative program to juvenile court TC only available in Whatcom
SOS	Street Outreach Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street Outreach Services funded by the OHY grant, offered only in Skagit county Program is partnered with Oasis Teen Shelter, under the name Connect. Available to youth 13-25, pre-housing only. Once a youth is housed stably, they must be exited. Oasis is the lead on minors, NWYS is the lead on adults.
SOP	Street Outreach Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Street Outreach Program, similar to SOS, but available through RHY funding, and only available in Whatcom.

NWYS ACRONYM DICTIONARY

YHDP	Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YHDP is the name of the funding, it is a pilot project • Includes RRH and a youth-lead outreach project • Available in Skagit and Island Counties
ERAP & T-RAP	Emergency Rental Assistance Program Treasury Rental Assistance Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cares Act developed ERAP services to prevent eviction of renters who were financially impacted by the pandemic. • ERAP distributed funds through the Fall 2020 year, which ended January 2021. • T-RAP was the second wave of financial support, operating similarly to ERAP, but the money was filtered through the Federal Treasury Department, hence the “T”.

Funding & Reporting Acronyms

Acronym	Meaning	Notes
RHY	Runaway and Homeless Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds PAD & SOP
OHY	Office of Homeless Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds PAD-HOPE, Whatcom & Skagit HUSLY, Whatcom TLP, Skagit RRH, and Skagit SOS
YHDP	Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds Skagit RRH
HUD	United States Department of Housing and Urban Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal agency and a funder of Skagit TLP
SAMHSA	Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Also referred to as the Revive Team or Clinical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAMHSA is the name of a federal agency who funds Behavioral Health services. • NWYS was originally awarded a grant in 2017, which ended 2020. In 2021 we were sub-granted through an HCA grant to receive SAMHSA funding. • Services range from mental health, art therapy and substance use services.
APR	Annual Performance/Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report for the HUD-funded and sub-granted services, including Skagit TLP and YHDP
PPR	Performance Progress Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Term used by many funders for annual and semi-annual reporting