The Boston Youth Action Board (BYAB) and the City of Boston Continuum of Care (Boston CoC) agree to collaborate to strengthen the CoC’s planning, coordination and implementation of a comprehensive system response to prevent and end homelessness among youth and young adults (YYA) in Boston.

To achieve this, the BYAB and Boston CoC agree to the following:

- The BYAB will operate as a formal committee within the CoC and provide an authentic voice for YYA to advise the Boston CoC’s Youth Homelessness Leadership Team, which is spearheading the development and implementation of a coordinated plan to prevent and end homelessness among YYA.
- The BYAB is composed of YYA who have experienced homelessness.
- The Boston CoC will support the BYAB with stipends for the YYA committing their time to BYAB and CoC meetings, and through the engagement of facilitators experienced in working with YYA who have experienced homelessness, as needed and desired.
- Members of both the Boston CoC and the BYAB will mutually respect the valuable expertise that each person brings to this work.
- The Boston CoC will be familiar with the BYAB’s Truths and Values documents, and honor the YAB’s requests around language, transparency, and respect for privacy.
- The Boston CoC is committed to ensuring that YYA are involved in decision-making, including having key leadership roles and responsibilities in the development and implementation of a coordinated plan to end homelessness among YYA, and also in facilitating Authentic Youth Engagement Trainings.
- The Boston CoC will provide the BYAB with additional materials and information relevant to the work in a shared electronic folder and make paper copies available when requested.
- The Boston CoC agrees to hold meetings in the BYAB’s internal meeting space as requested, or when necessary.
- The Boston CoC will notify the BYAB at least two weeks in advance of any meeting or change in meeting schedule, to the greatest extent possible.
- Up to three representatives from the BYAB are members of the City of Boston CoC’s Youth Homelessness Leadership Team and are invited to participate in all Leadership Team meetings.
We sign below agreeing to this Collaboration and affirming that the BYAB has been active in discussions regarding the City of Boston CoC’s application for the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) submission.

YAB Members:

Wayne Barnes
Ominique Garner
Jorge Luis Rivera III
Jovanie Ayalta
Oliver Derima
Francisco melo lelister
Skyler Dox
Annice Strangerous
Wlufts - Wilmur Matus
Judice Jacquet
Kyle Hamony
Maxwell and Brandon

YAB Facilitators:

Lauren Leonardis: 

Jamila Bradley: 

Ayala Livny:
Department of Neighborhood Development (Lead Agency and Collaborative Applicant for the YHDP):

Laila Bernstein, Deputy Director, Supportive Housing Division