

SHARED YOUTH VISION PILOT PROJECTS

STATE: MASSACHUSETTS

PROJECT TITLE: Pathways to Success by 21 (P21)

TARGET POPULATION: Youth in the mental health, foster care, and juvenile justice systems

GEOGRAPHIC AREA: Greater New Bedford and Hampden County

FUNDING: (leave blank)

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT: Massachusetts' pilot program will promote enhanced coordination of service delivery to the targeted youth in two areas of the state, Greater New Bedford and Hampden County. The pilot project will address the disproportionate number of youth in state care who end up as high school dropouts. Greater New Bedford and Hampden County will convene the key program directors representing schools, workforce development, juvenile justice, foster care and mental health. They will develop a shared understanding of the different points of youth transition and redesign or enhance local programs that address barriers for youth in transition. The pilot sites will support the state vision of improving data collection on youth within the various MIS systems and expand use of the Massachusetts Work-Based Learning Plan, a diagnostic, goal-setting and assessment tool for older youth. The agencies involved will begin to better leverage each other's resources, with the intention of maximizing a variety of life outcomes for youth.

LIST OF PARTNER AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS: Massachusetts Department of Education, Massachusetts Department of Youth Services, Massachusetts Department of Social Services, Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, Massachusetts Executive Office of Health and Human Services-Schools Initiative, Massachusetts Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development

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