



**Groundworks Homeless Youth  
Wraparound Program  
Results Summary**

**United Way of King County**

**Summary of Findings**

- There were no significant differences in outcomes between A and B efficacy groups, but it looks like the B's might be getting stable housing at a lower rate. The numbers are still a bit small to divide up this way and get significant results.
- Positive housing outcomes are seen as early as 3 months and consistently significant results are maintained after transition
- Efficacy measures increase as early as 3 months and increases are maintained after transition
- Employment is not significantly increased in the program, but there is a statistically significant increase in income.
- Clients are nearly half way to mission accomplishment by 3 month mark
- There is no significant increase in total relationships or natural supports as measured by the EcoMap, but the number of stressful relationships is reduced. Post transition, youth perceive a reduction in social support.
- We have some recommendations about changes to data collection to make the data collection and evaluations easier and more meaningful.

**Description of Population Served**

Since its inception, the Groundworks wraparound program has enrolled 168 youth experiencing homelessness through two service providers, Catholic Community Services and Friends of Youth. As of June 30, 2012, 63 youth are actively involved in the wraparound process. "Active" youth have completed the engagement process, recruited their Wraparound teams, and are actively meeting with their teams.

Status	Count	Percent
Active	63	38%
Engagement	1	1%
Exit	42	25%
Transitioned	62	37%

This last year was the first in which entering youth were assigned to a high or a low efficacy model. Of the 168 youth total youth who have entered the program, 75 were placed in high efficacy wrap (A) and 93 in low efficacy wrap (B). One high efficacy client was incarcerated and, thus, no program length included in the data.

**Months in Program**

	A	B
N	74	93
Mean	7.6	9.2
Median	5.5	8.0
Mode	5	6 <sup>a</sup>
Minimum	1	0
Maximum	31	31

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

Interestingly, we see only a month and a half difference between average time in program for the A and B efficacy groups (7.6 vs. 9.2). We see a bigger difference in median time in program, with 5.5 months in the A group and 8 months in the B group. No statistically significant differences are seen between the A and B groups on any measure studied below, which could have several different interpretations:

- The efficacy groups are experiencing equivalent experiences and outcomes;
- The efficacy group sizes at the later evaluation points are too small to show significant differences yet;
- The delineation between the efficacy groups is not enough to differentiate the clients from one another.

## Demographics

Forty-one percent of youth currently active in Wraparound are youth Caucasian, and a just under half of active youth are female. The bulk of youth reside in Seattle. The median age of Wraparound clients is 20, ranging in age from 16 to 23 years of age.

About 20% of active clients indicated they deal with mental illness, while 13% have a learning disability.

Race/Ethnicity	Percent
Caucasian/White	41%
African American/Black	39%
American Indian	3%
Asian/Asian American	5%
Hispanic	5%
Alaska Native	0%
Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander	2%
Other	7%

Gender	Percent
Female	44%
Male	56%

Geographic region	Percent
East	14%
Seattle	40%
South	46%

Data quality was insufficient to analyze additional demographic characteristics.

## Follow Up and Evaluation

An evaluation of the Wraparound program consists of baseline demographic and youth survey data, plus an ecomap assessment. Groundwork discontinued the team survey due to lack of survey participation.

This report focuses on the below key metrics. Ideas for further analysis are found in a later section.

- Housing stability
- Youth Employment & Income Status
- Youth Goal Attainment
- Youth Social Relationships
- Wraparound Team Mission Attainment

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## Youth Survey

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The table below shows the number of youth who have youth survey follow up data at or around key evaluation points. The below analysis only includes those surveys that were conducted pre-transition.

Follow Up Groups	# of Youth
Baseline + 3mo*	55
Baseline + 6 mo*^	46
Baseline + 9 mo	16
Baseline + Post-transition survey	18

\*3 month group contains data collected in months 3 or 4; 6 month group contains data collected in months 5, 6 or 7.  
 ^one client submitted their 6 month follow up post-transition

### Stable Housing

The below table represents the percentage of youth indicating they were in stable housing. Evaluation groups saw statistically significant increases in stable housing achievement in all but the 6 month group.

Group	Baseline	Followup
3mo	9%	62%
6mo	13%	70%
9mo	6%	69%
>=6mo post-trans	25%	94%

\*data uses paired samples for those With both baseline and follow up surveys

When comparing those clients in the high efficacy versus the low efficacy groups, there were no statistically significant differences of being in stable house at any stage of measurement. However, available data in the 9-month and 6-month post-transition groups is limited. As those group sizes grow, we will be able to determine more readily whether the increasing differences at those evaluation points are real or not.

	EffMod	Baseline	3mo	6Mo	9mo	>=6 mo post transition
Currently in Stable Housing	A	5%	57%	75%	78%	100%
	B	9%	66%	66%	63%	90%

\*data includes all clients who submitted surveys at each measurement point

When asked if they were currently sleeping in a less stable, more stable, or most stable place, we see significant increases in clients indicating they are sleeping in “most stable” at each measurement point, and a significant decline in clients indicating they are in a “less stable” stable environment.

	3 month cohort	6 month cohort	9 month cohort	>=6 mo post transition cohort
Less Stable baseline	87%	76%	69%	69%
Less Stable at follow up	33%	28%	31%	6%
More Stable baseline	7%	13%	13%	19%
More Stable at follow up	18%	20%	13%	13%
Most Stable baseline	2%	4%	6%	6%
Most Stable at follow up	44%	46%	56%	88%

\*yellow shaded cells are stat sig paired samples with a p value <.05

We also see significant increases in clients remaining in stable housing over a 3 month period, with fewer indicating they were not in stable house over that same period.

	3 month cohort	6 month cohort	9 month cohort	>=6 mo post transition cohort
Periods of homelessness in last 3 months yes baseline	7%	11%	19%	25%
Periods of homelessness in last 3 months yes at follow up	5%	9%	19%	6%
Remained in stable housing in last 3 months baseline	9%	11%	6%	13%
Remained in stable housing in last 3 months at follow up	56%	65%	56%	81%
No stable housing in last 3 months baseline	82%	76%	69%	63%
No stable housing in last 3 months at follow up	35%	26%	25%	0%

\*yellow shaded cells are stat sig paired samples with a p value <.05

### Employment

Thirty percent of clients were employed at baseline, and that average is generally consistent from baseline through the 9-month pre-transition check in.

When looking at all clients who submitted surveys, we see that there was an increase in total income from baseline over time.

	Baseline	3 month	6 month	9 month	>=6 mo post transition cohort
Dollars from Government	\$663	\$1,007	\$963	\$857	735.61
Dollars from employment	\$264	\$385	\$429	\$556	1088.89
Dollars from family/child support	\$60	\$36	\$46	\$141	82.22
Dollars from panhandling	\$5	\$0	\$9	\$0	0
Dollars from other source	\$55	\$26	\$134	\$0	38.89
Total Income	\$1,047	\$1,455	\$1,581	\$1,554	1562.065

Among evaluation cohorts, we see statistically significant increases in government income within the 3 month cohort and income from employment within the post-transition cohort.

### Needs Goal Attainment

Youth were asked to list the needs they identified for their wrap plan (e.g. housing, employment, education, etc.), the importance of that need on a 5-point scale, and their level of progress to meeting that need (also a 5-point scale). The maximum possible rating per need is 25 (importance x progress).

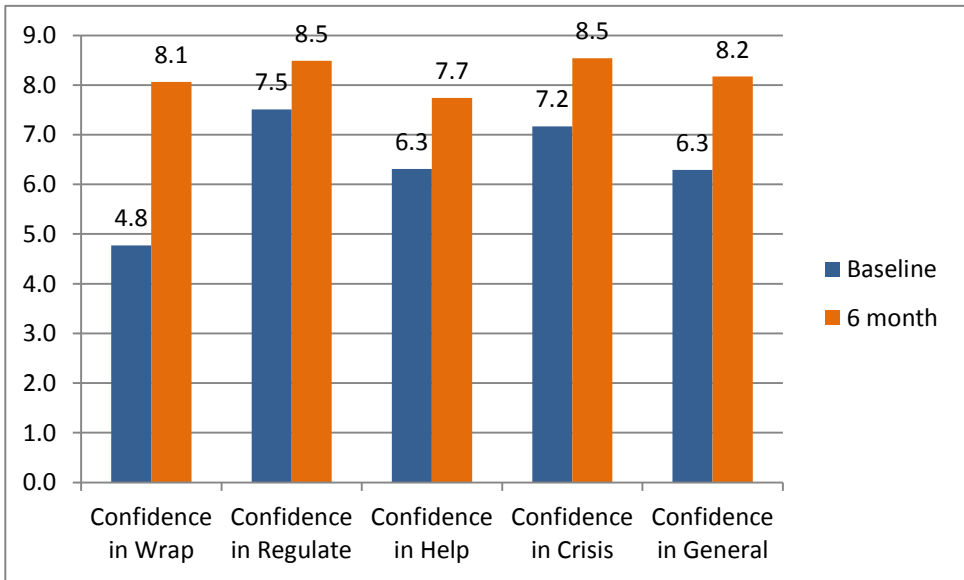
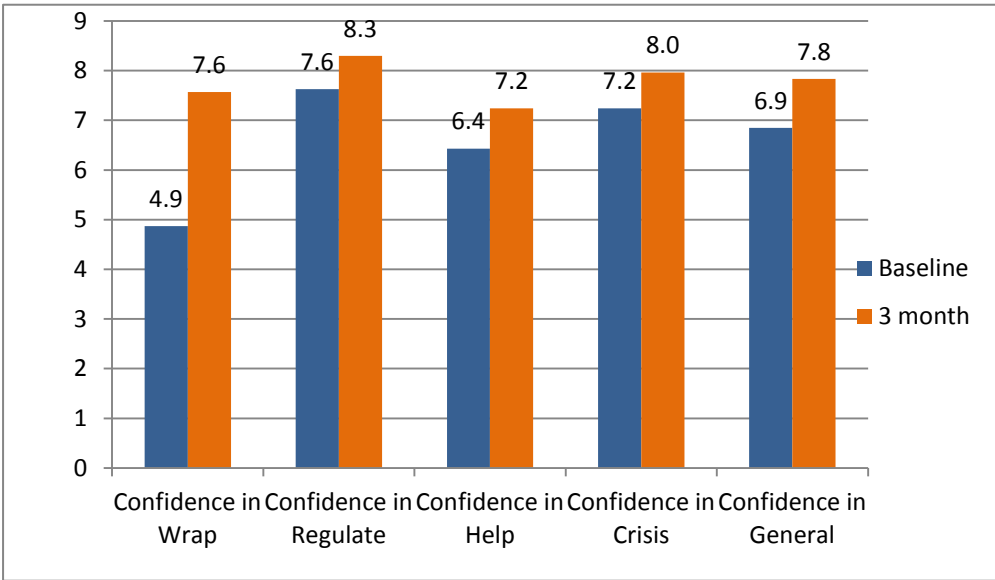
Example: Lucy lists “housing” as a need, and scores its level of importance as 5. She indicates that she is “halfway there” towards meeting her goal, which is a rating of “3.” Lucy’s total score for her housing need attainment is 15.

There is a small issue of clarity when analyzing the needs attainment data, however, as staff enter a total score for each need, but not the sub-scores for importance/progress. In the example above, we saw that Lucy’s total score was 15. Without the available sub-scores, analysis can not determine if Lucy had fully met (5) an average need (3), or is only partway (3) to meeting a need of the highest importance (5). It is, therefore, difficult to know if the increases seen above are because youth have placed a higher level of importance on needs or have moved further along in meeting their needs.

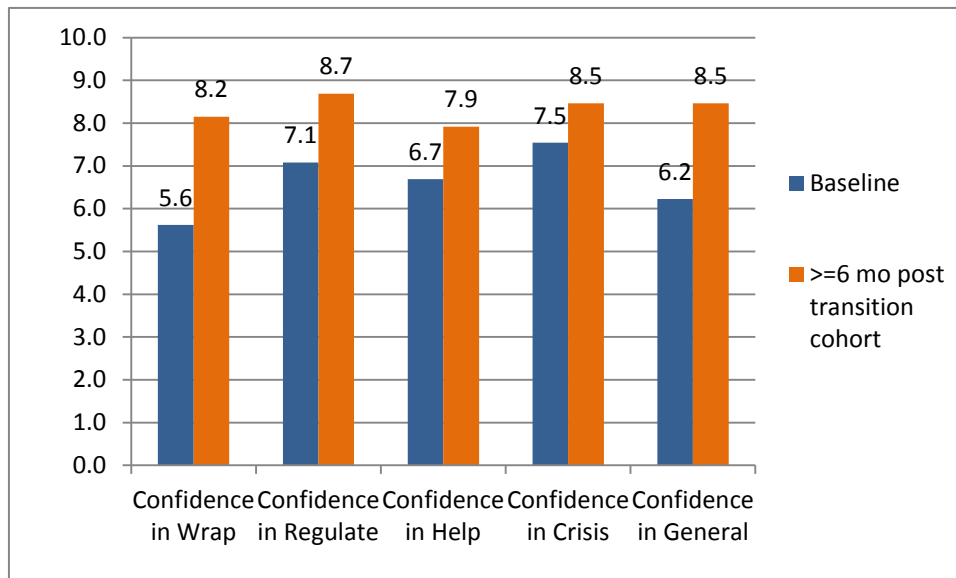
When reviewing the data, there were statistically significant increases across every measure for almost every cohort, however, it is impossible to interpret the findings based on the data entry issue.

### Self Efficacy

Almost all cohorts experienced statistically significant increases in all aspects of self efficacy compared to baseline.



The 9-month cohort shows a similar trend to the 3- and 6-month cohorts, with increases maintained into the 6-month post-transition period.



\*The increase in the crisis measure is the only measure in the above that is not stat sig

### Mission Achievement

Youth were asked how close their team was to achieving its mission (0-100%). All cohorts saw significant increases in mission accomplishment between baseline and evaluation period, with the post-transition group near 100% completion.

	3 month cohort	6 month cohort	9 month cohort	>=6 mo post transition cohort
How close to achieving mission? baseline	24%	22%	23%	21%
How close to achieving mission? at follow up	56%	73%	79%	94%

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## Ecomap Assesment

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### Building Relationships

Youth were asked to identify the number of people they had significant relationships with over the previous 3 month period, and identify both the type of connection and type of support they received from these individuals. They were asked to provide this data again at 3-month intervals during and after services. Four evaluation groups were created, based on those youth who had baseline data plus follow up data at the 3, 6, 9-month and post transition time periods.

### Differences in Baseline Data

The largest group of youth had baselines and 3 month follow-up data. They reported an average of 4.65 natural support relationships and 2.57 service provider supports. The post transition group reported similar numbers of natural supports, and a slightly greater number of service provider relationships (3.14). All measurement periods reported at least 3 natural support and nearly 3 service provider supports. The

difference in baseline data for the group with only 3-month data and the group with post-transition data may be due to increased services to South County with a different population.

### **Changes In Relationships from Baseline to Follow-Up**

Changes in the number and nature of relationships were small. Few of the reported changes were statistically significant. The items that did show a significant difference from baseline to follow-up are:

#### 3month follow-up

- Increase in strong connections

#### 6 month follow-up

- Decrease in natural supports
- Decrease in stressful connections

#### 9 month follow-up

- Increase in problem solving support

#### Post transition

- Decrease in natural supports
- Decrease in problems solving support

It is difficult to draw conclusions from these results, except to recognize that youth are aware of a reduction in problem-solving support after services end.

While the number of youth with consistent data and reported differences are both too small to rely on, there are some patterns beginning to emerge as larger numbers of youth are served. We looked at changes of greater than 0.5 relationships as large enough difference to suggest potential trends. It is important to note, that due to variations in the numbers of youth responding to each of the categories and numbers of relationships reported in each category, that the level of statistical significance varies greatly for this number. So these findings should be used with caution.

Using the criteria of change of  $\pm 0.5$  relationships, youth reported a reduction in stressful relationships compared with baseline at all time periods and an increase in the number of strong connections for each of the three pre-transition periods. Youth reported a reduction in the number of natural support relationships at 6 and 9 months and post transition. At 9 months, youth reported the greatest improvement in social support with increases in strong connections, relationships that provide emotional support and problem-solving support and reduction in stressful connections. They also reported an increase in weak connections and reduction in relationships with people who provide them with feedback, however.

Using the criteria of change of  $\pm 0.5$  relationships, The post transition measure reflected a reduction in social support on several measures. While there was a reduction in stressful and unsupportive relationships, people the youth felt they could rely on, get emotional support and problem-solving support from also were reduced. This may reflect the lack of wrap-around support after transitioning out of the program.

The results of this measure suggest that increases in social support as perceived by the youth are modest, and that youth perceive a reduction in social support when regular, facilitated wraparound team meetings are no longer happening. The reduction, rather than increase, in natural supports reported during and after services reflects the difficulty in developing natural supports with this population, as increasing these relationships was one of the goals of the program.



Type of Relationship	Baseline	9 Months	Mean Difference	Type of Relationship	Baseline	Post Transition	Mean Difference
Number Natural Supports	3.6	3.1	-0.5	Number Natural Supports	4.42	3.42	-1
Number Service Provider Supports	3.2	3.4	0.2	Number Service Provider Supports	3.14	2.79	-0.35
Number Strong Connections	2.6	3.4	0.8	Number Strong Connections	3.39	3	-0.39
Number Moderate Connections	2.2	2.3	0.1	Number Moderate Connections	1.90	2.2	0.3
Number Weak Connections	0.8	1.5	0.8	Number Weak Connections	1.25	1	-0.25
Number Stressful Connections	2.0	1.5	-0.5	Number Stressful Connections	2.73	2	-0.73
Number Person I Can Rely On	4.4	4.3	-0.1	Number Person I Can Rely On	3.44	2.89	-0.55
Emotional Support	3.7	4.5	0.8	Emotional Support	4.21	3.68	-0.53
Concrete Support	2.6	2.7	0.1	Concrete Support	3.74	3.26	-0.48
Problem Solving Support	3.5	4.3	0.9*	Problem Solving Support	4.41	2.82	-1.59*
Unsupportive	3.9	4.1	0.2	Unsupportive	4.56	3.69	-0.87
Feedback	1.0	0.3	-0.7	Feedback	0.67	0.67	0

n=13 (though not all responded to each question)

### Further Analysis

Due to limited staff resources, not all available data was analyzed for this report. Further study would be beneficial in the following areas:

- Exit data: a review of clients who exited the program before transition and why.
- Expand housing analysis: Not all housing/homelessness data collected through the youth survey was reviewed, including questions about the number of nights in the various levels of housing and the housing resources a client used.
- Income: at a high level, we see that overall income increases over time for Groundworks clients, but a deeper investigation into the types of income and what influences their increase/decrease would be valuable.

### Data Collection Recommendations

The following suggestions are made to support better and more efficient analysis in the future.

- *QA client IDs in each dataset.* Too much time is taken annually to clean each dataset to ensure that the correct client data is being referenced. Quick, quarterly checks to correct data entry errors will allow for quicker analysis.
- *Stricter adherence to 3 month evaluation points.* In order to create evaluation groups with a cell-size large enough for analysis, we had to combine clients at different stages to create 3-, 6-, and 9-month points. Below we see the wide distribution of dates that youth survey was collected. Evaluation month is calculated as the number of months between the baseline and follow up survey submission dates.

Evaluation Month	# of Surveys
Baseline	124
2	11
3	39
4	18
5	11
6	20
7	16
8	10
9	15
10	5
11	5
12	10
13	6
14	6

Evaluation Month	# of Surveys
15	10
16	2
17	2
18	6
19	1
20	1
21	3
22	2
23	1
24	1
25	1
26	1
27	2
28	1
30	1

Stronger and more accurate findings will result from looking at evaluation groups that are truly at similar stages of the Groundworks process.

- *Collect needs goal attainment numbers separately.* As more thoroughly discussed above, no useable analysis can be completed using the multiplied needs goal attainment score. It is imperative to collect the “importance of need” separately from the “level of progress.”
- *Metric re-assessment.* Now that fidelity and basic outcome findings have been established, it may be time to re-assess the goals of the Groundworks data collection process to determine what type of analysis the providing agency wishes to continue in the long term. With this assessment may come more limited (and more easily accessible) data collection needs and processes.