



All youth ready for college, work & life.



## The Youth Services Mapping (YSM) System

The YSM system is a web-based information system designed to share information about services and supports for children and youth so that service providers, school administrators, planners, and policymakers can identify gaps and overlaps to align and invest scarce resources more strategically.

The system provides self-reported, detailed information about youth services provided in school and community settings, and the approximate numbers of youth receiving services, by organization and location.

YSM categorizes youth services and supports through a framework for a Continuum of Youth Development from early childhood to young adulthood that was developed by *The Forum for Youth Investment*.

### CONTINUUM OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Developmental Ages/Stages					
	EARLY CHILDHOOD (0-TO 5-YEAR OLDS)	ELEMENTARY (6-TO 10-YEAR-OLDS +/-)	MIDDLE SCHOOL (11-TO 14-YEAR OLDS +/-)	HIGH SCHOOL (15-TO 19-YEAR OLDS +/-)	YOUNG ADULTS (20-TO 24-YEAR OLDS +/-)
Developmental Areas	LEARNING (BASIC AND ACADEMICS)				
	WORKING (WORK/CAREER PREPARATION)				
	THRIVING (PHYSICAL & MENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY)				
	CONNECTING (SOCIAL INTERACTIONS & WELL-BEING)				
	LEADING (CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT)				

**YSM Data**

*YSM data is easily entered and updated by each youth service/support organization.*

*Examples of data include:*

- Organization description
- Program/services information by school and zip code, including approximate numbers of youth served
- Information about service schedule, demographics, and at risk populations served

*The system is password protected and can be updated by the provider any time a program changes its services or locations.*

The system has multiple functions depending on user needs. For example, a school counselor may review all of the programs reporting that they provide services in that school, its feeder schools, or nearby to make a referral, while a school administrator may review school needs against the services provided, and seek partnerships with organizations providing needed services. A city planner may review data trends on youth issues across the community, and assess the level of services available in the target areas.

The YSM system was envisioned and developed collaboratively by youth service providers, educators, and community planners to meet their needs for information-sharing about youth services.

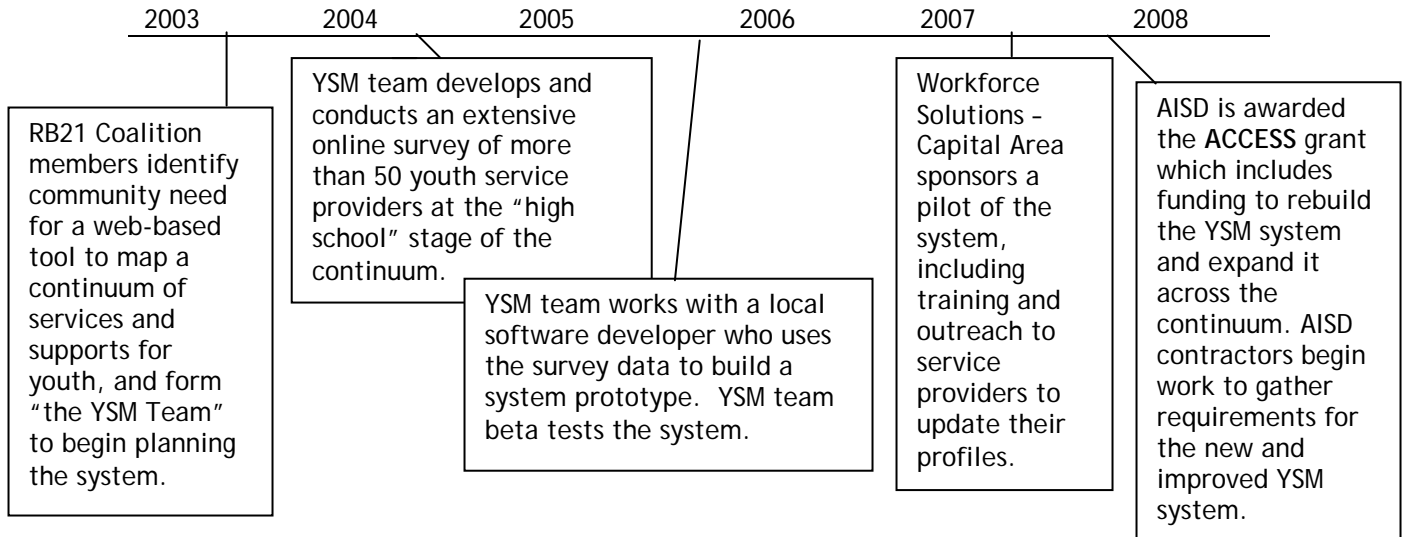
## YSM Background: READY BY 21 and the ACCESS grant

The Ready By 21 (RB21) Coalition for Austin/Travis County is a collaborative group of youth service providers, educators, government agency representatives, and teen advisors working together to provide a comprehensive continuum of services and supports for youth development. Its mission is to support all young people in our community (especially youth facing challenges to achieving self-sufficiency) to become *Ready By 21* for higher education and learning, for work and career advancement, to lead healthy lives, and for positive social and civic connections and engagement.

Workforce Solutions-Capital Area (formerly WorkSource) has sponsored the Coalition since inception. United Way Capital Area began supporting the initiative this year. RB21 also serves as the Community Action Network's Youth Issue Area Group. Austin Independent School District (AISD) representatives have been Coalition members since 2003. AISD's 4-year "Austin Community Collaboration to Enhance Student Success" or **ACCESS** grant, funded through the federal Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, includes funds to improve and expand YSM.

*The Ready by 21 YSM team has included representatives from: AISD, UWCA, City of Austin, Travis County Research & Planning and Juvenile Probation, the Mayor's Mental Health Monitoring Committee, Workforce Solutions-Capital Area, Austin Partners in Education, Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project, and many service provider organizations.*

### Timeline



### Stakeholders who provided input for the new YSM system

- Service Provider agencies that participated in the YSM pilot
- AISD Elementary, Middle School, and High School Lead Counselors
- School Impact Teams (Crockett High School, Webb Middle School)
- AISD School Community Liaisons (SCLs) and Positive Behavior Support (PBS) Coaches
- Pre-K, Elementary principal representatives
- United Way funded agencies for Educational Impact

### Future Plans:

- Develop New System - Fall 2008
- First Deployment - Spring 2009
- Outreach and Training - Spring 2009 ongoing
- Integration with 2-1-1/GIS - 2009-10
- Feedback and Iteration - ongoing

**Questions?** Please contact Suzanne Hershey, CommunitySync, Ready by 21 Coalition Facilitator and ACCESS YSM contractor at (512) 323-0024 or [suzanne@communitysync.com](mailto:suzanne@communitysync.com)