Ending Youth Homelessness
Guidebook Series: *Mainstream System Collaboration*

Ending Youth Homelessness: Overview of this Guidebook Series
This series of three guidebooks is designed for Continuum of Care (CoC) leadership and stakeholders to use as a direct, hands-on action plan in efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness, as they have been directed to ensure there is an effective and efficient system of care for all persons and households experiencing homelessness. The Guidebooks include suggested strategies, identification of promising practices, and considerations for CoCs and their partners that can be implemented immediately.

The guidebook topics include:

- **System Planning** - strategies for developing a youth homelessness system and leadership.
- **Mainstream System Collaboration** - strategies for engaging mainstream sectors such as child welfare, education, workforce, justice, housing, health, early childhood education, community organizations and mainstream benefits.
- **Promising Program Models** - promising strategies for youth-specific program models.

OVERVIEW OF THIS GUIDEBOOK

Many community partners provide services to or interact with youth who are precariously housed or experiencing homelessness, and thus they must strengthen collaboration in order to achieve the best outcomes for young people. This Guidebook will review various mainstream systems needed in partnership in order to comprehensively prevent and end youth homelessness. The Guidebook groups the systems into the following domains (though many programs overlap more than one): **Child Welfare, Education, Workforce, Justice, Housing, Healthcare, Early Childhood Education, Community Organizations and Mainstream Benefits.** For each domain, the Guidebook reviews:

- How the system impacts and contributes to positive outcomes for youth,
- What resources are available within each system,
- Who to connect with and engage, and
- Examples of successful collaborative efforts from across the country

Many collaboration strategies apply across the systems. Here, we provide ideas on how to get started - along with best practices and tips for reaching out.

- **Find the Right People:** First, find the people who will be your partners at the table throughout this effort, taking care to engage youth in the process for advocacy and advice. For each system, the Guidebook presents key organizations and agencies to involve. Identify your point of contact at each one and collect local contact information.
  a. Express desire to work together and explore mutual solutions.
  b. Understand each partner's goal and purpose and if they are currently serving youth experiencing homelessness or those at-risk of homelessness?
  c. Identify what services they can offer. What needs do they see and need help with? How can you help meet each other's goals?
  d. Explore how each agency is involving youth. What are ways to increase meaningful engagement?

- **Meet them where they are:** Find out what coordination is already taking place in your community. It's important to be sensitive and respectful of work that is already underway, and to build on that progress by adapting your strategies and taking into account the relationships and perspectives that currently exist.

- **Build relationships:** Get on the same page with your partners. The System Planning Guidebook includes the tool "Defining Shared Goals & Distinct Roles" that will help.

  a. Discuss the different youth sub-populations that organizations focus on and how they each define them (e.g., 14-18 or 18-24, TAY, LGBT, pregnant or parenting, youth on the street, doubled up youth, etc.). Discuss different implementation practices and approaches when working with youth such as PYD, trauma informed care, harm reduction, restorative justice, etc.

  b. Talk about understanding and documenting need. What are partners seeing? What data systems do they use?

  c. Find common ground to relate to different partners. This might be easy in some cases, and more challenging in others. Some education and open dialogue might be necessary if there is bias or barriers against youth.

- **Identify areas for collaboration:** Identify areas for potential collaboration with mainstream partners and youth where mutual benefit can be gained. Even small steps can establish a working relationship and have an impact. Common areas of collaboration might include:

  a. Participating in youth homeless system planning and counts

 b. Training community partners on program standards and best practices for serving youth

c. Linking youth experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness who have been identified through various systems to the homeless system

d. Developing service delivery collaborations that leverage each system's expertise and resources

Not all communities will have each of the partners listed throughout these pages, especially in rural communities, and thus connections to the existing homeless system are especially critical. Both needs and resources will vary greatly from region to region and from cities to rural neighborhoods, so there may be differences in implementation or partnerships across these places. As you review this Guidebook, keep in mind the ways it uniquely applies to your specific community.

> **Youth experiencing homelessness that have unique needs:**
>
> - Youth identifying as LGBTQ
> - Youth experiencing **domestic violence**, **sexual assault**, and/or **human trafficking**
> - Pregnant and parenting youth
> - Youth involved with or aging out of foster care
>
> What partnerships can be built in your community to meet these special needs?

See System Planning Guidebook
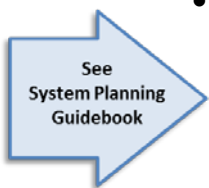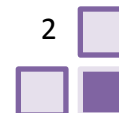
OVERVIEW OF YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

With the launch of [Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness](#), the Federal Administration established goals to prevent and end homelessness, including ending youth homelessness by 2020. Communities across the country have made incredible progress toward reaching this goal and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) and Federal Partners have increased efforts to focus and align available federal resources to help prevent and end youth homelessness.

> ### What does 'youth' mean?
>
> While revolving around a flexible subpopulation, by using the word "youth" these Guidebooks address youth experiencing homelessness up to age 24 who are unaccompanied by a parent, guardian, or spouse, or who are with their own children.

Youth homelessness is unique because young people are still developing. They are experiencing homelessness or are precariously housed for any number of reasons —abuse, family conflict, sexual identity, pregnancy or family poverty. They may be aging out of foster care. They may have become disconnected from family, school or work. They may be struggling with mental health and substance abuse disorders.

Youth who experience homelessness are especially vulnerable to criminal victimization, sexual exploitation, labor and sex trafficking or traumatic stress. As communities are creating systems of support for precariously housed youth and those experiencing homelessness they must take all of these different life experiences into account.

When creating a network of services and housing for youth there are key guiding principles that should be incorporated. You may recognize some of these guiding principles from the work that is being done in the adult and family systems. Interventions that support youth should adopt the following principles:

- Immediate accessibility
- Individualized, flexible, and choice-based
- Developmentally appropriate for youth
- Culturally competent
- Trauma-informed
- Based on the Housing First approach
- Employ Positive Youth Development (PYD) principles
- Emphasize family reunification and resiliency strategies
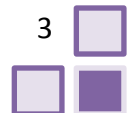
CHILD WELFARE

Youth who are involved with the child welfare system experience homelessness at a rate higher than their peers. At the intersection of child welfare and the youth homeless system, a community should align goals between the two systems and focus on increasing protective factors, such as engagement in school, participation in health services and enriching out-of-school activities, development of job skills and career goals, and establishment of permanent connections with trusted and caring adults. In addition, effective transition planning, which starts early, can help youth achieve positive outcomes of permanency and well-being as they transition to adulthood.

Child Welfare Partners in your Community

The Children's Bureau, which is an office of the Administration on Children, Youth and Families, is the primary Federal funder of the child welfare system, and all states are responsible to them for reporting, funding, and ensuring standards of care. However, each state also has wide discretion for how child welfare services are implemented, so some states provide both the oversight and delivery of child welfare services and programs, while in others, the state provides oversight, but counties provide the actual services and programs.

Each state or locality has a Public Child Welfare Agency (PCWA), which is led by a Child Welfare Agency Director. However, PCWAs do not operate alone in many states. PCWAs often collaborate with private child welfare agencies, community-based organizations, and other public agencies.

Information about Youth in Foster Care

The National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) collects information on youth in foster care, including sex, race, ethnicity, date of birth, and foster care status.

A study of youth in foster care found that 22% had been homeless at least one night within the first year after they left the foster care system.

EDUCATION

Stable access to education is vitally important for youth who are experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. School provides structure and short-term supports, like meals, activities, counseling, and peer and adult mentors. Unaccompanied youth face unique barriers to enrolling and succeeding in school, and frequent school changes or interruptions make credit accrual and graduation difficult.

Education Partners in Your Community

States (State Education Agency or "SEA") receive federal education formula grants to ensure that children and youth experiencing homelessness retain public education access and to remove barriers that limit students experiencing homelessness from enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Each SEA has a State Coordinator that is responsible for coordination with other systems, collection of needs assessment data, and to prepare and carry out the state plan.

Every public school district (Local Educational Agencies or "LEAs") designates a Local Homeless Liaison ("local liaison"). They are often a primary point of contact for unaccompanied youth (up to age 21 in some school districts) and they coordinate with school administrators and social workers for needed educational supports like tutoring, after-school activities, and transportation.

States also coordinate several federally funded Adult Education programs that could be important to unaccompanied youth (e.g., GED, HS equivalency, Career and

Technical Education). While there can be many eligible providers offering these programs throughout a community, two-year or Community Colleges are an excellent initial community contact. Community Colleges typically offer HS Equivalency and Adult and Technical education programs, are a pathway to four-year colleges, and may provide job training and career certification. Community Colleges are also accustomed to non-traditional students, and many are developing supports to help unaccompanied and transitional age youth to afford and stay in school.

DOE estimates that in 2013-2014 there were 88,966 unaccompanied youth in public schools, and at least 56,000 college students were homeless.
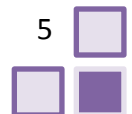
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

 Work and job training provide youth experiencing homelessness or at-risk of homelessness meaningful structure, development of life skills, motivation, critically needed income, and connection with caring adults and a learning community. These are all important aspects of independent living. Unaccompanied youth can face multiple barriers to successfully finding and keeping a job - low literacy and numeracy skills, unaffordable childcare, or discriminatory hiring practices.

Workforce Development Partners in Your Community

States and localities receive federal workforce development funding through the [Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)](#) and must develop strategies for recruiting and showing positive outcomes (i.e., movement along a career pathway or enrollment in post-secondary education) for more [disconnected or homeless young adults](#) than ever before. This new emphasis on disconnected youth creates opportunity for new partnerships and coordination.

[Workforce Investment Boards](#) (WIBs) provide strategic direction and coordination for their area (state or local) and oversee local One Stop Career Centers ([American Job Center](#)) that deliver services to workers and employers. [One Stop Career Centers](#) are a key community contact for workforce development programs, including youth workforce development and education programming. In addition to [WIOA Core Programs](#), One Stops provide access to other federally funded workforce development programs, such as

Career and Technical education (CTE), HUD employment programs, Community Services Block grant, TANF, and others.

[YouthBuild](#) is community-based alternative education program providing job training and educational opportunities for at-risk youth ages 16-24, and has 220 programs operating in 43 states.

[Job Corps](#) is an education and training program that helps low income young people ages 16 – 24 to learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job. Students either live on the Job Corps campus or at home where they commute each day.

There are other local, state and national [registered apprenticeship programs](#) and pre-apprenticeship programs that are an important resource for youth in communities, as well as non-profit and foundation sponsored employment programs for at-risk or disconnected youth.
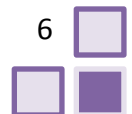
JUSTICE

Youth experiencing homelessness are more likely to be involved with the justice system. Many struggle with risky behaviors or survival strategies related to criminal activity like substance abuse and sexual risk behaviors. Others become involved in the criminal justice systems because of the criminalization of homelessness (for activities like loitering or panhandling), status offenses (like truancy), or issues related to mental illness. Collaboration in this system can reduce costs to the public as well as improve outcomes for youth.

Justice Partners in Your Community

For a CoC beginning to build a network in this area, **law enforcement** should be a first point of entry. The CoC should also directly engage with the entities described below because they are either the point of entry, diversion from the justice system, or rehabilitated.

- **Prevention**: *Early childhood programs, schools, churches, and recreation centers* can play a key role in deterring and protecting against risk behaviors and delinquent activity.
- **Diversion**: *Law enforcement* can make the decision to divert youth from the formal justice system, usually to alternative programs.

- **Prosecution**: The *prosecution* has the ability in many states to determine whether to prosecute the accused in either juvenile or adult court (if both courts have jurisdiction).
- **Adjudication**: The *judge* makes the determination of whether the youth was responsible for the offense(s) and orders dispositions. Judges and courts identify good solutions and recommended sentencing practices.
- **Rehabilitation**: If determined to be delinquent or guilty, the youth is often ordered to a period of *aftercare or parole* following release from an institution. Parole officers work within a coordinated re-entry system and connect youth to community services.

Juvenile Justice System
Juveniles are generally defined as under age 18, although this may extend to age 24. Judges exert more discretion and flexibility in sentencing and assign consequences prioritize rehabilitation over punishment.

Adult Justice System
System usually reserved for individuals ages 18 and above. Unlike in the juvenile justice system, individuals here are prosecuted for crimes (not delinquencies) and consequences can be more severe.
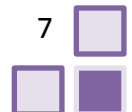
HOUSING

There are a range of intervention models to prevent and end youth homelessness, including youth shelters and emergency services, host homes, transitional housing and transitional living programs, rapid re-housing and non-time-limited supportive housing. The goal of each of these emergency and housing supports is to assist youth experiencing homelessness back to safe and stable housing as soon as possible. Shelter can play a critical role in linking youth to housing and other supports, in addition to providing a safe place to stay. Permanent and transitional housing models play a vital role in helping youth exit homelessness into safe and stable housing and connect with supports in the community.

> See
> Promising Program
> Models
> Guidebook

Housing Partners in Your Community

In addition to projects targeted specifically for youth experiencing homelessness, there are other partners within your community that can help create housing options for youth to live independently or with supports. Work with these partners to: Grow your supply of affordable housing; Expand support for many housing options; Build support for housing youth among landlords and the community; and Connect youth with housing and resources at key entry points.

Public Housing Authorities	Legal Aid	Local and State Governments
• Provide various types of subsidized housing and can create preferences for people experiencing homelessness, even when there is typically a wait.	• Negotiate landlord terms and address barriers to access housing.	• Help to set priorities, incentivize landlords, publicize the need for youth services and more.

Landlords	Youth Program Providers	Affordable Housing Developers
• Identify units for youth with no/bad rental hisotry. Find landlord representatives willing to engage peers.	• Act as an entry point for youth and provide emergency and transitional shelter, host homes, or short term rental assistance.	• Provide housing; can be for-profit or non-profit housing developers.

HEALTHCARE

Healthcare providers include services related to physical health, mental health, and substance use, and can improve the well-being of youth experiencing homelessness by providing harm reduction safety planning, access to recovery supports, and medical treatment. As a group, youth experiencing homelessness have a higher need for healthcare than their housed counterparts, and are more likely to have experienced trauma in their prior home life.

Youth experiencing homelessness also experience unique barriers to accessing healthcare. Some states' require parental consent for a youth under 18 to receive non-emergency care. Others may face discrimination or bias based on substance use, age, culture, racial or ethnic identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, weight, mental health, and engagement in sexual activities. It is important to engage local healthcare partners in the planning process to help mitigate barriers to healthcare services.
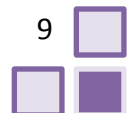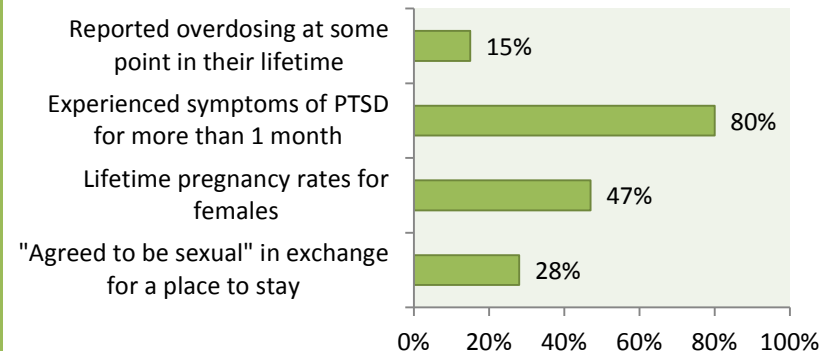
Healthcare Partners in Your Community

Free or sliding-scale health providers are often a frontline provider for youth experiencing homelessness. Health service partners range from privately funded, volunteer-run organizations offering a limited array of services to comprehensive Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC).

It is important to include organizations that span the range of care needed by youth experiencing homelessness. Many communities have mental health and substance abuse recovery-focused networks of professionals and. Sexual and reproductive care providers offer meaningful support in preventing and treating sexually transmitted diseases, providing education and counseling, and pregnancy prevention, termination, and prenatal care. Many communities also provide intensive support to pregnant and parenting youth focused on physical and emotional well-being, such as visiting nurse programs and midwifery support groups. Hospitals, primary health care providers and dental care are also on the frontline of serving youth experiencing homelessness.

Health Risks Reported by Homeless Youth Ages 14 - 21

Reported overdosing at some point in their lifetime	15%
Experienced symptoms of PTSD for more than 1 month	80%
Lifetime pregnancy rates for females	47%
"Agreed to be sexual" in exchange for a place to stay	28%

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

COMMUNITY

Community organizations can help youth build supports beyond the youth homeless system, such as connections to early education and child care programs for pregnant and parenting youth, adult mentorship programs, and peer support groups. In addition, helping youth overcome barriers to accessing mainstream benefits helps youth experiencing homelessness attain greater self-sufficiency.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Head Start and Early Head Start provides comprehensive services for young children (birth to age 5) and pregnant women in the community, and are key programs to support unaccompanied youth who are pregnant or parenting. Head Start programs offer a variety of service models, depending on the needs of the local community.

Early Head Start – Child Care Partnership grants allow new or existing Early Head Start programs to partner with local child care centers and family child care providers serving infants and toddlers from low-income families.

Child Care through the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) works with state, territory, and tribal governments to provide support for children and their families juggling work schedules and struggling to find child care programs that will fit their needs and that will prepare children to succeed in school.

From birth to kindergarten entry, the Federal Home Visiting Program is offered through states and tribal entities to develop and implement programs that support at-risk pregnant women to improve maternal and child health, prevent child abuse and neglect, encourage positive parenting, and promote child development and school readiness.

Birth to Three Early Intervention Services is a federal program, operated through the Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs, that assists states in operating a comprehensive statewide program of early intervention services for infants and toddlers with disabilities, birth to age 3, and their families.
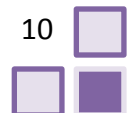
COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Many non-profit organizations operate youth programs that often include after-school and recreational activities, mentoring, and support groups.

There are also identity-focused organizations such as LGBTQ, racial, cultural, or gender-based groups that can help youth strengthen their connections to community, identify needed supports such as Host Homes and mentors, and navigate difficulty with families.

Communities often have interfaith ministry organizations or denominational groups that convene communities based on geographic area or service interest. Faith groups might provide basic needs support such as meals or shelter, as well as providing spiritual support if desired.

Advocacy, volunteer, and philanthropic organizations may include stakeholders who support youth, play powerful roles in policy advocacy, and contribute financially to the youth homeless system's strategy.

MAINSTREAM BENEFITS

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) are funded through federal agencies and are administered by state or local government agencies, although some communities have funds through local revenue that might be administered by a local or state agency. Many local benefit agencies employ staff whose job duties include coordinating with community partners.

With the expansion of the Affordable Care Act, youth in many states are now eligible for health insurance coverage. Partnering with Healthcare Navigators, local Medicaid offices, and medical professionals accepting public health insurance can help increase the amount and type of healthcare accessible to youth experiencing homelessness.

In addition to reaching out to public benefit agencies, youth homeless systems should ensure that benefits enrollment assistance programs such as SOAR workers and Social Security Administration offices are serving youth experiencing homelessness when appropriate, and identify if this is happening through specialized youth SOAR workers or via established schedules for general SOAR workers to visit youth shelters or drop in centers.
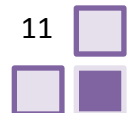
COLLABORATION AT WORK

This information is not intended to represent a complete service description, but rather to highlight what is working for some programs and further an important dialogue on ending youth homelessness.

A. Child Welfare

Project Everlast is a statewide, youth-led initiative in Nebraska committed to providing resources, connections and support to young adults as they age out of foster care.

The Maine Youth Transition Collaborative (MYTC) is made up of public and private partners who work with youth, the child welfare system, and community members to ensure that youth transitioning from the foster care system to adulthood have the resources and personal connections they need to be successful. MYTC worked extensively with the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Initiative, a national initiative of the Annie E. Casey Foundation.

B. Education

Local liaisons in Marion County, IN join in Point-In-Time counts and share aggregate data about students who are homeless. As a result, the CoC reports on homeless students, leading to greater community awareness and bonus points for local school districts for state education funding by showing active involvement with their CoC.

In 2014, Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) and Tacoma Community College (TCC) launched an innovative pilot program to house up to 25 homeless TCC students and their dependents. Students must make adequate academic progress toward a degree and the assistance lasts until graduation or 3 years, whichever occurs first.

Since 2009, every college in Colorado has a designated Special Point of Contact (SPOC) to support students experiencing homelessness, including waiving application and other fees when possible, changing the timing of housing deposits so students can pay when financial aid is received, and connecting students with community and education resources, such as financial literacy, peer support groups, food banks, etc.

C. Workforce Development

KentuckianaWorks, Greater Louisville's WIB, with partners Jefferson County Public Schools and Kentucky Youth Career Center, administers Right Turn, a DOL demonstration program for youth ages 16-24 involved with the juvenile justice system. Referred from the Department of Juvenile Justice, Louisville Metro Youth Detention Services, local high schools and other CBOs, youth receive education, career preparation and work-based learning, and are paired with volunteer adult mentors from the community.

Performance Partnership Pilots (P3) are offering a unique opportunity to test innovative, cost-effective, and outcome-focused strategies for improving results for disconnected youth. This model for pooling funds (DOL, DOE, HHS, DOJ among others), combined with strengthened accountability for results, is designed to ease administrative burden and promote better education, employment, and other key outcomes for youth locally.
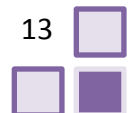
> WIOA's emphasis on disconnected youth:
> - Requires 75% of state and local youth funds (up from 30%) to go to out-of-school youth.
> - 20% of youth funds must support paid work and internships.
> - Local WIBs encouraged to create standing Youth Committees for critical youth perspective.

D. Justice

Some communities have a process to get misdemeanor tickets dismissed for people experiencing homelessness. The City of Houston, Texas established Homeless Court (HC) in 2006. It is based on the first nationally Homeless Court program which was created in San Diego in 1989. HC is a special Court session for homeless defendants to resolve outstanding misdemeanor offenses and warrants within the City of Houston's Municipal Courts. HC builds on partnerships between the court, local shelters and service agencies.

In Seattle, WA, after an interaction with homeless youth, one officer established what came to be known as the "Donut Dialogues", a series of programs that engaged young people and law enforcement to enhance connectedness. Since then, other communities have brought this idea to their law enforcement officers for adoption.

YouthCare's Bridge Continuum provides specialized services to youth and young adults who have experienced (or are at-risk of experiencing) sexual exploitation. These specialized services include case management, emergency shelter, long-term housing, education, employment training, and access to mental health and chemical dependency counseling. YouthCare also provides training to community members interested in learning how to prevent sexual exploitation, and consults with regional and advisory committees on the issue.
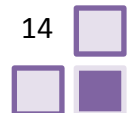
coaching, financial literacy, community connections, education, and employment. This is all made possible through collaboration by the United Way and community partners.

F. Healthcare

In Washington State, parental consent is generally required for people under 18 to access medical care. In order to facilitate access to care for youth experiencing homelessness, a coalition of health care providers and a legal aid organization created a guide on how to provide various types of medical care to youth when obtaining parental consent is not possible or safe. The guide is used by local public health organizations and many other providers.

Covenant House New York – Under 21, Inc. provides comprehensive healthcare services to youth experiencing homelessness and pregnant/parenting youth through their Crisis Center. Services include pediatric and adult primary care, pre- and post-natal care, STD screening, health education and referrals for specialty care.

Outside In meets community needs in Portland, Oregon, through homeless youth services and medical services. They are a service provider and advocate, FQHC, licensed mental health agency, and leaders in serving LGBTQ youth.

E. Housing

In 2009, Valley Youth House received funding through the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing Program, and was able to launch a program for LGBTQ-identified youth experiencing homelessness. They blended funding from the City of Philadelphia, Montgomery County and Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) Program funds, as well as more flexible foundation dollars and private donations.

Denver Bridging the Gap offers eligible young people from the foster care system up to 18 months of housing assistance through the Federal Family Unification Program voucher (FUP). Together with the support of Independent Living Coaches and in collaboration with community partners, young adults are connected to supportive services including

G. Early Childhood Education

In Linn County, OR, Kids & Company Head Start works closely with the local school district's McKinney-Vento liaisons to identify children in need of services. The collaboration includes training staff on homelessness, identifying specific questions to ask during the enrollment process for services so families and youth experiencing homelessness are accurately identified, and service coordination.

The Santa Rosa, FL, School District's Teenage Parent Program (TAPP) combines a teenage parenting program with Early Head Start. The goal of TAPP is to offer pregnant and parenting school-age students the opportunity to continue their education and earn a high school diploma. TAPP is designed to reduce high school dropout rates by providing necessary services such as child care, prenatal/parenting classes, individualized counseling and career planning assistance, transportation, healthcare services, and social services.

H. Community Connections

The Reciprocity Foundation is a contemplative non-profit that provides support to youth in homeless service settings in New York. They have expertise in serving youth of color, LGBTQ youth, and youth who have experienced homelessness or foster care. One service they offer is a weekend retreat where youth have the opportunity to participate in restorative activities such as yoga.

Houston reVision is a partnership between Christian churches and Harris County Juvenile Probation that identifies youth at-risk of homelessness or in need of support. Through breakdancing, soccer, and a diversion pilot program to create positive alternatives to disciplinary actions in school, youth are engaged in mentoring, case management, and peer support.

I. Mainstream Benefits

The Homeless Advocacy Project (a legal aid agency) and Department of Human Services in Philadelphia created a focus within their SOAR program for transition age youth aging out of foster care. Youth are referred by the foster care system and from other community partners such as outpatient treatment providers, case managers throughout the community, and shelters. This has resulted in 182 filings for SSI with 13 denials by the Social Security Administration as of 2015. This is an especially important initiative since at age 18 youth who previously received SSI are evaluated to determine if they meet the adult disability requirements.
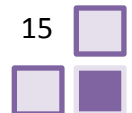
ACTIVITY PAGE: IDENTIFY YOUR LOCAL CONTACTS

Domain	Partner	Local Contact Person	Local Contact Information
Child Welfare	Public Child Welfare Agency, Director		
Child Welfare	Local Children's Bureau		
Child Welfare	Private Child Welfare Agency(ies)		
Education	State Education Agency Coordinator		
Education	Local Homeless Liaison(s)		
Education	School Administrator		
Education	School Social Worker		
Education	Tutoring Program		
Education	Community College(s)		
Education	Early Head Start		
Education	GED Program		
Education	Parent-Teacher Organizations		
Workforce	Workforce Investment Board		
Workforce	One Stop Career Center (American Job Center)		

Domain	Partner	Local Contact Person	Local Contact Information
Workforce	WIOA Core Program		
Workforce	Career and Technical Education		
Workforce	HUD Employment Programs		
Workforce	Community Services Block Grant/ Community Action Agency		
Workforce	TANF		
Workforce	YouthBuild		
Workforce	Job Corp		
Workforce	Apprenticeship Program(s)		
Workforce	Non-Profit or Foundation sponsored employment program		
Justice	Local Law Enforcement		
Justice	State Law Enforcement		
Justice	Prosecution		
Justice	Judge(s)		
Justice	Rehabilitation Program		
Justice	Juvenile Justice Program		

Domain	Partner	Local Contact Person	Local Contact Information
Justice	Legal Clinics		
Justice	Probation		
Housing	Public Housing Authority		
Housing	Youth Program Providers (CoC, ESG, RHY Grantees)		
Housing	Local Government		
Housing	State Government		
Housing	Landlord Representatives		
Housing	Affordable Housing Developers		
Housing	Landlords		
Healthcare	Privately Funded Health Service		
Healthcare	Federally Qualified Health Centers		
Healthcare	Youth Specialization Health Services		
Healthcare	LGBTQ Health Services		
Healthcare	Native American Health Services		
Healthcare	Mental Health Providers		
Healthcare	Substance Abuse Recovery Providers		

Domain	Partner	Local Contact Person	Local Contact Information
Healthcare	Sexual and Reproductive Care Providers		
Healthcare	Local Hospitals or Urgent Care Centers		
Healthcare	Local Dental Providers		
Healthcare	Primary Health Care Providers		
Early Childhood	Head Start Program		
Early Childhood	Early Head Start Program		
Early Childhood	Federal Home Visiting Program		
Early Childhood	Childcare Providers		
Early Childhood	Birth to Three Early Intervention Services		
Community Orgs'	After-School Program		
Community Orgs'	Mentorship Program		
Community Orgs'	Support Groups		
Community Orgs'	Youth Advocacy Board		
Community Orgs'	LGBTQ Support Networks		
Community Orgs'	Host Homes		
Community Orgs'	Interfaith Ministry		

Domain	Partner	Local Contact Person	Local Contact Information
Community Orgs'	Advocacy Organization		
Community Orgs'	Out-of-School Time Providers		
Community Orgs'	DV and Sexual Assault Support Networks		
Community Orgs'	Human Trafficking Support Networks		
Community Orgs'	Library Community Liaisons		
Community Orgs'	Community Action Agencies		
Community Orgs'	Philanthropic Organizations		
Community Orgs'	Transit Authority Liaisons		
Mainstream Benefits	TANF Program		
Mainstream Benefits	SNAP Program		
Mainstream Benefits	Healthcare Navigators		
Mainstream Benefits	Local Medicaid Office		
Mainstream Benefits	SOAR		
Mainstream Benefits	Social Security Administration		

RESOURCES

Child Welfare Resources

- A prezi that describes the process used in [Nebraska](#) to extend foster care services and supports to age 21.
- [Child Welfare Information Gateway](#): A site administered by the Children's Bureau that provides information, resources, and tools covering various topics important to child welfare.
- [Youth.gov page on Homeless and Runaway Youth](#): Has various topics of interest to providers, including resources and funding opportunities.
- [How Federal Legislation Impacts Child Welfare Service Delivery](#): Explains pertinent federal legislation that informs child welfare systems at the state level.
- [Predictors of Homelessness during the Transition from Foster Care to Adulthood](#): A short research memo.
- [Housing for Youth Aging out of Foster Care](#): A publication by PD&R that summarizes housing needs common to young people aging out of foster care.
- [Jim Casey Youth Initiatives](#): This page provides examples of states that have extended foster care to age 21.
- The [All Children All Families Initiative](#) of the Human Rights Campaign promotes LGBTQ cultural competency among child welfare agencies.
- A report on the different [financing structures](#) of state child welfare systems.
- This document provides a quick snapshot into how the [child welfare system is funded](#) and works nationally.

Education Resources

Public Schools, McKinney-Vento, and Title I A Programs and Organizations

- [National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE):](#) NCHE operates the U.S. Department of Education's technical assistance and information center for the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program (McKinney-Vento).
- [National Association for Education of Homeless Children and Youth](#)**:** The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) is a national membership association dedicated to educational excellence for children and youth experiencing homelessness through policy advocacy and technical assistance.

Data and Contact Information

- [Interagency Data Disclosure](#): A Tip Sheet on Interagency Data Collaboration. U.S. Department of Education, Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program. May 2015.

Reports and Publications

- [Housing and Education Collaborations to Serve Homeless Children, Youth and Families](#): This brief published by NCHE provides information and best practices to facilitate collaboration between homeless service providers and homeless education staff.
- [Homelessness and Education Cross System Collaboration: Applied Research Summary and Tools](#): This NCHE publication presents tools and strategies for collaboration across housing and education systems.
- [Housing + High School = Success: Schools and Communities Uniting to House Unaccompanied Youth](#): This report by NAEHCY presents a ten-step process to create youth housing programs and highlights several examples of collaboration between local liaisons and community partners to provide housing for homeless youth.

- [Using Title I Funds to Support Homeless Children and Youth](#): This article explains the guidance provided in a recent "Dear Colleague" letter issued by the Department of Education which explains how school districts can use Title I funds to help children and youth experiencing homelessness. Some examples of ways districts can use the funds are to transport homeless students to and from school, pay the salaries of staff who work with homeless youth, and to generally meet the needs of these students.
- [Housing and Schools: Working Together to Reduce the Negative Effects of Student Mobility, Urban Institute Brief](#). October 2012. As part of a Low-Income Working Families initiative stakeholders discussed the full spectrum of residential mobility: from chronic mobility, eviction, and foreclosure to doubled-up households and homelessness. The purposes of the roundtables were for stakeholders to learn about existing programs and policies that aim to reduce residential and student mobility across the regions, as well as to brainstorm new ways that the different organizations could work together.

Higher and Adult Education Programs and Organizations

- [Perkins Collaborative Resource Network](#): one-stop website for resources related to career and technical education sponsored by the US Department of Education Division of Academic and Technical Education.
- [Office of Career, Technical and Adult Education](#): DOE OCTAE administers, coordinates programs that are related to adult education and literacy, career and technical education, and community colleges.
- [National Center for Innovation in Career and Technical Education](#): Center work is directed toward exploring the contribution that CTE can make to raising student engagement and achievement and improving student transitions from secondary to postsecondary education and work.
- [Student Support Services Funding](#): This page provides program information and grant details for Student Support Services projects.

The goal of SSS is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants.
- [The Juvenile Justice Reentry Education Program](#): Opening Doors to College and Careers through Career and Technical Education (JJ-REP) This JJ-REP demonstration grant program is comprised of 4 grantees awarded $1.9 million in discretionary grants in support of the program.

Data and Contact Information

- [State Contacts for Adult Education](#): This directory contains each state's Contact for Adult Education as well as other education-related contacts.
- [State Directors for CTE](#): This page provides access to state grant profiles; each state profile page includes contact information for the State Director of Career and Technical Education.

Reports and Publications

- [TCC Pilot Program](#): This summary of the Tacoma Community College Housing Assistance Program showcases collaboration between a housing authority and a community college to support homeless students.
- [Unaccompanied Youth Determination for Eligibility for Financial Aid:](#) The letter provides guidance for financial aid administrators on the definition of homelessness, how to make determinations, and documentation. It revises USED policy so that all applicants under age 24, including those who are 22 or 23 years old, and who are unaccompanied and homeless, or self-supporting and at risk of being homeless qualify for a homeless youth determination and will be considered independent students.
- [Supporting Success: Improving Higher Education Outcomes for Students from Foster Care](#): Information on exemplary programs, state system efforts, and policy advances (especially HEOA and the Fostering Connections Act) for those working to improve higher education access and success for students coming from foster care.
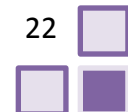
- [Increasing Access to Higher Education for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth](#): Information for Colleges and Universities: This brief is designed to increase the awareness of post-secondary educators and education administrators of the issue of unaccompanied homeless youth and provide information on resources and promising practices.

***State level Contacts for Adult Education and Career and Technical Education***

- [State Contact for Adult Education](#) who is responsible for coordinating and administering funding to local eligible entities.
- [State Director for Career and Technical Education](#) (CTE) - contacts and state profiles.

Workforce Development Resources

- [US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration](#): Department of Labor website provides an overview of the public workforce system.
- [National Center on Employment and Homelessness](#) (NCEH): is a national initiative for providers to ensure they have access to, and understanding of, best practices and evidence-based employment interventions for people experiencing homelessness and that they have the tools and resources to implement them.
- [Understanding Local Work Force Systems:](#) This Urban Institute published brief explains who a local workforce system serves, the organizations involved, and the functions it performs.
- [Serving Out-of-School Youth Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (2014)](#): This report draws upon available research and the MDRC staff's on-the-ground experience to summarize existing knowledge that can guide implementation of key WIOA provisions on serving out-of-school youth.
- [WIOA Planning Information Tool Kit](#) developed by Heartland Alliance. This toolkit provides stakeholders with actionable recommendations for helping to ensure that the public workforce system under WIOA

increases employment and economic opportunity for jobseekers facing barriers to employment.

- [Providing True Opportunity for Opportunity Youth: Promising Practices and Principles for Helping Youth Facing Barriers to Employment](#). This paper builds on the research literature with extensive interviews with employment program providers who have had success in helping the most vulnerable opportunity youth succeed in the workforce. Six principles for effectively serving these youth are identified.
- [From the Ground Up: Creating Sustainable Partnerships between Public Housing Authorities and Workforce Investment Boards.](#) This Toolkit provides frontline staff of both the workforce and public housing systems with a quick reference to the resources that each Federal agency contributes locally to the workforce and public housing systems. This resource guide also provides examples of successful partnerships between PHAs and WIBs/American Job Centers in three cities, as well as other promising strategies and lessons learned to further support sustainable partnerships.
- [National Fund for Workforce Solutions, Promising Practices in Young Adult Employment](#). Starting in 2013 with the Youth/Industry Partnership Initiative (YIPI), the National Fund has funded the development and evaluation of innovative methods aimed at targeting and engaging America's young adults.
- [Jobs For the Future](#) is a national nonprofit that works to ensure educational and economic opportunity for all.
- [Reengaging Opportunity Youth](#) is a national initiative to reengage youth and young adults who are off track to graduation, or disconnected from both education and work, and putting them on a path to postsecondary credentials.
- [The National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth](#) (NCWD/Youth) assists state and local workforce development systems to better serve all youth, including youth with disabilities and other disconnected youth. The NCWD/Youth, created in 2001, is composed of partners with expertise in education, youth
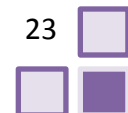
development, disability, employment, workforce development and family issues.

***Other Important Federal Workforce Development Resources***

- [HUDs Workforce Development Initiatives](#) : A summary of HUD resources for Workforce Development Initiatives, published by HUD, including for Employment, Training, and Supportive Services; Job Creation; and Demonstrations.
- [Office of Apprenticeship oversees the National Registered Apprenticeship System](#) which operates in cooperation with State agencies, businesses, industry, employers, employer associations, labor and management organizations and educational institutions. It is the nationally recognized credentialing system for skilled and technical occupational training programs with almost 500,000 active apprentices in the U.S.
- [Reintegration of Ex-Offenders (RExO Youth)](#) –Youth grants focus on youth ages 14 to 24 and serve young offenders and youth at risk of criminal involvement, including 12 school dropouts. Services provided include case management, educational skills training, tutoring, mentoring, GED preparation, credit retrieval, restorative justice opportunities, occupational skills training, work experience, Summer Bridge programs, summer jobs linked to academic and occupational learning, job placement, staff and leadership development activities, follow-up and other supportive services.
- [Trafficking Victims Protection Act and the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act](#): The Act has provisions to address child victims of trafficking many of whom are homeless, and support efforts to help victims rebuild their lives through gainful employment. HHS and DOJ provide funding to community and faith-based organization to provide comprehensive services to victims of trafficking, including workforce development and job training.
- [Webinar from HHS on How Workforce Agencies can Collaborate with Refugee Programs](#) to support work place success for refugees.

- [HHS-ACF's Assets for Independence funding](#): a community based approach that provides matched savings accounts called Individual Development Account (IDAs). [IDAs](#) can support transition from youth to adulthood, including preparing foster care youth for financial independence.
- [Enhanced Transitional Jobs Demonstration (ETJD)](#) – These grants serve low-income individuals ages 18 and older, in particular public housing residents, targeting low income, non-custodial parents and/or ex-offenders reentering their communities (who may or may not be non-custodial parents).

Justice Resources

*Click on the "Attachments" icon of this PDF to view the **Justice System and Housing System Fact Sheet***

General Resources

- [The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention](#) (OJJDP): provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization.
- [OJJDP Training and Technical Assistance](#) for information regarding TA and how to request TA.
- [Case Flow Diagram](#) from OJJDP presenting a visual summary of the juvenile justice system structure and process.
- [FAQs](#) on the juvenile justice system structure and process from OJJDP.
- [Characteristics of Incarcerated Youth Reporting Homelessness](#): a report published in the Journal of Juvenile Justice about the characteristics of incarcerated youth reporting homelessness.
- [Prevention of Homelessness of Youth in the Juvenile Justice System](#): a policy brief from Heading Home Minnesota discussing strategies to prevent homelessness among youth involved in the justice system.
- [Juvenile Justice Information Exchange](#) (JJIE): article on LGBTQ Youth Over-Represented across Juvenile Justice System.
- [Best Practices in Interagency Collaboration](#): A brief published by the National Center for Homeless Education.
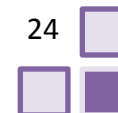
- [youth.gov Program Directory](#) features evidence-based programs whose purpose is to prevent and/or reduce delinquency or other problem behaviors in young people.
- [NIJ](#) is the research, development and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice and is dedicated to researching crime control and justice issues. NIJ provides objective, independent, evidence-based knowledge and tools to meet the challenges of crime and justice, particularly at the state and local levels.
- [USICH Justice Tools for Action:](#) Database managed by the US Interagency Council to End Homelessness containing a collection of resources and "Tools for Action" to end Homelessness, specifically related to Criminal Justice.

Intervention

There are many steps the criminal justice system, community partners, and others can take to prevent, divert, and mitigate interaction with the criminal justice system.

- [Points of Intervention](#): Resource page from youth.gov on points of intervention for juvenile delinquency.
- [Prevention and Early Intervention](#): Resource page from youth.gov on prevention and early intervention of juvenile delinquency.

Diversion/Alternative Programs

Diversion programs are alternatives to formal processing of youth in the juvenile delinquency system and are often beneficial to both the youth and the community.

- [Diversion Programs](#): Resource page from youth.gov on diversion programs from the justice system for youth.
- [Community Based Alternatives](#): Resource page from Models for Change about local alternatives to formal processing and incarceration.

- [JJIE Community Based Alternatives](#): A resource center for community based alternatives, including information on key issues, reform trends, experts, and more.

Re-entry

Young people leaving juvenile justice residential placement face many concerns as they reenter the community, home, and school/work force. Reentry refers to those activities and tasks that prepare youth placed out-of-home for reentry into their families and communities.

- [Re-entry](#): Resource page from youth.gov on re-entry activities and tasks for youth leaving juvenile justice residential placement.
- [Aftercare:](#) Resource page from Models for Change about Post-release services, supervision and supports that help committed youth transition safely and successfully back into the community.
- [Housing resource tip sheet](#): a tip sheet from USICH that provides ways for corrections agencies, reentry service providers, state and local governments, and community partners to help people exiting the criminal justice system connect with available housing resources.
- [Addressing the Housing Needs of Youth and Young Adults in Contact with the Justice System](#): A webinar that discusses current data and trends, how homelessness intersects with the justice systems, and lessons learned and promising strategies to connect youth and young adults in contact with the justice system to safe, stable, and affordable housing.

Policy Reform

Resources on status offense reform and alternatives to the criminalization of homelessness.

- [Status Offense Reform](#): Resource page from Models for Change about strategies to safely and effectively divert non-delinquent youth from the formal juvenile justice system.
- [Status Offender Resource Center:](#) The Status Offense Reform Center (SORC) offers resources and tools to policymakers and practitioners
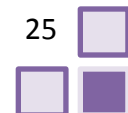
interested in creating effective alternatives to juvenile justice system involvement for youth who commit status offenses

- Constructive Alternatives to the Criminalization of Homelessness: A guidebook from USICH with strategies to reduce and end the criminalization of homelessness.

Collaboration with Law Enforcement

Engage these key partners using the suggested techniques.

- The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), in collaboration with OJJDP, developed a free, online training series about effective juvenile interviewing and interrogation techniques. The series target law enforcement and legally authorized juvenile justice professionals who interview or interrogate youth.
- Q&A: Robin Petering on Homeless Youth and Gangs: Interview discussing the reasons some homeless youth become involved in gangs, addressing young people's involvement in gangs, and high rates of trauma.

Immigrant Populations

- Immigration and Schools: Supporting Success for Undocumented and Unaccompanied Homeless Youth: This report provides information about federal laws that provide the means for undocumented unaccompanied youth who are homeless to attend school and address their immigration status.

Housing Resources

Housing Programs

- Runaway and Homeless Youth (RHY) Grant Program provides funding to community-based organizations and local government agencies under three grant components.
- Family Unification Program (FUP) is a program under which Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) are provided to two eligible populations, one of which is youth aging out of foster care. FUP vouchers used by youth are limited by statute to 18 months of housing assistance.

- HOPWA (While HOPWA eligibility is specific, if youth are presenting as low income and with an HIV diagnosis they could receive housing assistance such as TBRA.) The Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) Program is the only Federal program dedicated to the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS. Under the HOPWA Program, HUD makes grants to local communities, States, and nonprofit organizations for projects that benefit low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families.
- Demonstration project: announced in early 2016 that extends the amount of time that housing and self-sufficiency resources can be provided to a youth from 18 months to 5 years combining FUP and FSS programs.

Housing Resources in your community

- HUD Resource Locator: Interactive tool to identify homeless resources, programs, and organizations operating in your community.
- What are HUD Homeless Programs Doing In Your Area?: An interactive tool from HUD to learn what homeless programs are doing in your area and view local contact information, reports, and data.

Housing Funding Sources

- Federal Housing Resources Guide: In 2012, TAC published a guide outlining resources administered by PHAs, State and Local Community Development Officials, CoC Planning Groups, State HFAs, and more.

Housing Strategies and Tools

- Housing solutions to homelessness: Housing First, Rapid Rehousing, Supportive Housing, and Affordable Housing.
- Serving Homeless Families and Youth: Overview of HUD's programs for Families and Youth (and how to use them, including examples).
- HUD's Rapid Rehousing Brief
- Rapid Rehousing Models for Homeless Youth: HUD profiles four youth RRH programs that demonstrate successful approaches for
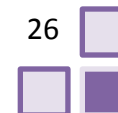
assisting transition age youth to obtain and retain permanent housing.

- USICH Rapid Rehousing Online Training Series
- Housing + ED –Let's All Get Ahead: Benefits and examples of cross collaboration between housing and education.
- Non-Time-Limited Housing for Youth: USICH hosted a webinar that highlighted two models of non-time-limited housing for youth, explaining how those programs were developed and financed, what the programs offer to youth, as well as outcomes and challenges.
- Webinar: Host Homes for Homeless Youth
- Housing + High School = Success: Schools and Communities Uniting to House Unaccompanied Youth: This publication provides a step-by-step guide and practical tools to create four different temporary housing models for unaccompanied youth: host homes; group homes; independent living; and emergency shelters. The steps are designed to give readers tools to establish these programs in their communities and include sample youth applications, host home applications, powers of attorney, parental consent forms, confidentiality notices, job descriptions, posters, flyers, Power Point presentations, data collection tools, and other useful forms and documents.
- USICH's Housing Tools for Action: Database managed by the US Interagency Council to End Homelessness containing a collection of resources and "Tools for Action" to end Homelessness, specifically related to Housing.
- Transition Age Youth: A resource page from Youth.gov regarding transition age youth.

Healthcare Resources

Identifying Healthcare Providers in Your Community

- Federal Title X Family Planning grants are awarded through states for comprehensive family planning and preventive care. Providers are trained to meet the contraceptive needs of individuals with complex medical and personal issues including homelessness, substance abuse, interpersonal and domestic violence, and youth.

- The Federal Home Visiting Program awards formula and competitive funding to administer in-home support to pregnant and parenting families, and in some areas includes an emphasis on adolescent mothers. In 2015, HHS issued a letter to its grantees encouraging partnership with CoCs.
- The Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program provides federal funding to city, state, and community-based organizations that provide primary medical care and supportive services to people with HIV/AIDS.
- Ryan White Planning Councils: Communities designated as Emerging Metropolitan Areas have the responsibility to set HIV-related service priorities and allocate funds through. Planning Councils must include homeless housing providers and reflect the local epidemic demographically. Transitional Grant Areas listed are required to use a planning process, but use of Planning Councils is optional.
- The American Academy of HIV Medicine lists local nonprofits, clinics, hospitals, and community organizations that provide a wide-array of HIV prevention and treatment supports, including providers that specialize in populations such as transgender, adolescent, and prenatal care.
- Find a Health Center: The federal Health Resources and Services Administration site lists all locations where free or income-based health care is offered. Some providers listed might offer minimal services or only offer health care as secondary services to clients enrolled in their programs (such as homeless shelters).
- National Healthcare for the Homeless Grantee Directory: lists FQHCs that are funded to serve people who are homeless.
- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH): The federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides formula block grant funds for to states, and states are responsible for awarding grants to community organizations that provide services to seriously mentally ill people over 18 who are experiencing homelessness.
- SAMHSA's Behavioral Health Treatment Services Locator: identifies mental health and substance abuse providers.
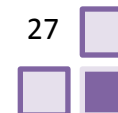
- [SAMHSA's Buprenorphine Treatment Physician Locator](#): lists physicians licensed to provide this type of opioid treatment as well as a general [Opioid Treatment Program Directory](#).
- [Health Coverage for Homeless and At-Risk Youth](#): A brief on how and what health care services youth may be eligible for and how to apply.

***Research and Best Practices Regarding Healthcare for Homeless Youth***

- [Programs, Campaigns, Initiatives, Technical Assistance Centers, and Resource Centers](#): A to Z list of Programs, Campaigns, Initiatives, Technical Assistance Centers, and Resource Centers, published by SAMHSA.
- [The Challenge of Pregnancy among Homeless Youth: Reclaiming a Lost Opportunity](#): Interviews with pregnant homeless youth and recommendations for improved care.
- [Publications and Resources on Children, Youth, and Families](#): Resources published by the National Healthcare for the Homeless Council and additional information about homeless children, youth, and families.
- [Understanding the Health Care Needs of Homeless Youth: Program Assistance Letter](#): Paper developed by the Health Care for the Homeless Branch addressing the health care needs of homeless youth and published by the US Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Primary Health Care.
- [Street Outreach Program Data Collection Study](#), US Department of Health and Human Services, Family and Youth Services Bureau: Published by HHS, this report on the Street Outreach Program includes data on mental health, substance use, sexual health, and more.
- [Surviving the Streets of New York: Experiences of LGBTQ Youth, YMSM, and YWSW Engaged in Survival Sex](#): Report published by the Urban Institute.
- [Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender-Related Content in Undergraduate Medical Education](#): Report published in The Journal of the American Medical Association. Medical education organizations have called for LGBT-sensitive training, but how and to what extent schools educate students to deliver comprehensive LGBT patient care is unknown.
- [Injustice at Every Turn: A Report of the National Transgender Discrimination Survey](#): Report published by the National Center for Transgender Equality and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force regarding the persistent injustices and bias faced by transgender persons.
- [Neighborcare Health](#): An example of a medical and dental clinic in Seattle serving low income and uninsured families and youth.
- [In Focus: Behavioral Health Among Youth Experiencing Homelessness](#): A synthesis of recent literature on behavioral health issues among youths experiencing homelessness.
- [Youth Transition Demonstration](#): A program that was geared to assist youth with disabilities to successfully transition from school to economic self-sufficiency.
- [Sidney Borum Jr. Health Center](#): Sidney Borum Jr. Health Center's integrated care model helps Boston-area LGBT youth experiencing homelessness build hope and trust.
- [Contra Costa Health Services](#): A project of Contra Costa Health Services in California that assists homeless youth.
- [Young People In Recovery](#): a curriculum that sets out pathways to recovery for youth experiencing homelessness.

Early Childhood Education Resources

- [Early Head Start Programs](#): Resource page for Early Head Start Programs published by ACF, Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center.
- [Head Start Collaboration Offices by State](#): Map and Listing of all Head Start Collaboration Offices by State.
- [Office of Child Care](#): Website for the Office of Child Care, Administration of Children and Families.
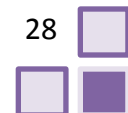
- [Building Partnerships to Address Family Homelessness:](#) Background information on Head Start and Early Head Start programs.
- [Early Head Start and Teen Parent Families: Partnerships for Success:](#) Focus on special needs of teenage parents and their children.

Mainstream Benefit Resources

- [Enlisting Mainstream Resources and Programs to End Homelessness](#): a USICH document detailing ways CoCs can partner with mainstream benefit providers.
- The USDA issued a [memorandum](#) to all SNAP Regional Directors clarifying policy misconceptions that could limit access by homeless youth. For example, various forms of identification are allowed rather than requiring government-issued photo IDs—"even a collateral contact such as a shelter worker or employer may suffice".
- [Use of TANF Funds to Serve Homeless Families and Families at Risk of Experiencing Homelessness](#): ACF issued a memorandum to agencies administering TANF encouraging TANF agencies to participate in Continuums of Care and providing examples of how states can use TANF to provide housing and other services to homeless families.
- [Access to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) for Unaccompanied Youth](#): The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children's document provides an eligibility overview for TANF.
- [Supplemental Security Income (SSI)](#) , [Social Security Disability Income (SSDI)](#), and [Survivors Benefits](#) are administered by the Social Security Administration. The Social Security Administration offers expedited application assistance for people experiencing [homelessness](#) as well as for youth aging out of [foster care](#).
- [SAMHSA SOAR TA Center](#): The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) program trains local service providers to assist people experiencing homelessness with expedited applications. [Fact Sheet from HHS about Certification and Eligibility Letters](#) to foreign

victims of trafficking under the age of 18 to receive services and benefits to the same extent as refugees.
- [Fact Sheet from HHS about Certification and Eligibility Letters to Adult](#) foreign victims of trafficking to receive services and benefits to the same extent as refugees.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS