

Students in Temporary Living Situations (STLS) Notice of Rights of Homeless Students

The Board of Education of the City of Chicago (Board) shall provide an educational environment that treats all students attending the Chicago Public Schools (CPS) with dignity and respect. Every student in a temporary living situation shall have equal access to the same free and appropriate educational opportunities as students who are permanently housed. This commitment to the educational rights of students in a temporary living situation, youth, and youth not living with a parent or guardian, applies to all services, programs, and activities provided or made available by the Board.

A student is considered to be in a temporary living situation if he or she lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and includes children and youth who are:

- sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or similar reason;
- living in a motel/hotel, trailer park or camping ground, due to lack of alternative, adequate housing;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned building, substandard housing, bus or train station, or similar setting
- abandoned in hospitals;
- awaiting DCFS foster care placement (pursuant to the reauthorization of McKinney-Vento, this category will be phased out during the 2016-17 school year)
- migratory children living in one of the above settings.
- youth not in the custody of a parent/guardian (unaccompanied youth) of any age, in one of the above settings

All STLS Students Have Rights To:

- **Immediate school enrollment.** *A school must immediately enroll students even if they lack health, immunization or school records, proof of guardianship, or proof of residence. "Enrollment" means enrolled into the school, attending classes and participating fully in school activities.*
- **Enroll In:**
 - the school he/she attended when permanently housed or the school in which he/she was last enrolled (school of origin)
 - any school that permanently housed students living in the same attendance area in which the STLS student or youth is actually living are eligible to attend (attendance area school)
- **Remain** enrolled in his/her selected school for as long as he/she remains in a temporary living situation or, if the student becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year.
- **Enroll in** preschool
- **Access** to charter schools, selective enrollment schools, magnet schools, and all other CPS programs in the same manner as students who are permanently housed and assistance with application process will be provided upon request
- **Participate** in tutoring services beyond those provided to all students; school-related activities; and/or receive other support services
- **Receive** free school meals, fee waivers, free uniforms, and low-cost or free medical referrals
- **Transportation services:** If parents/caregivers choose to continue their child's education in the school of origin and transportation is requested, CPS will provide transportation to and from the school of origin, and all school-related activities, for as long as the student is in a temporary living situation or, if the student becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year.
 - **Eligible students receive CTA transportation cards and adult caregivers of eligible students in grades PK-6 receive CTA transportation cards to accompany the student to/from school. Eligible students in grades PK-6 whose caregiver is unable to accompany them on public transportation due to a hardship may apply for yellow school bus service by submitting documentation or affidavit of their inability to transport the student.** Examples of a "hardship" situation are:
 - Parent/caregiver employment, job training, or education program
 - Parent's/caregiver's mental and/or physical disability
 - Children need to be transported to and from schools at different locations
 - Court order, DCFS, or DCFS contract agent requires activities that do not enable parent/guardian to transport children to and from school
 - Rules of shelter or similar facility will not permit parent/caregiver to leave to transport children to and from school
 - Other good cause why parent/caregiver cannot use public transportation to transport children to and from school

Students who temporarily reside outside of Chicago due to homelessness and attend their CPS school of origin receive transportation assistance as do students experiencing homelessness who live in the City of Chicago but attend a school of origin outside of CPS.

Dispute Resolution: When a school official denies a student in a temporary living situation enrollment, eligibility, school selection and/or transportation, the parent or student may file a complaint with the CPS STLS Department. The STLS Department will attempt to resolve the dispute in a timely manner. The STLS Department will refer you to free and low-cost legal services to help you, if you wish. During the dispute, the student must be immediately enrolled in the school with participation in school activities and/or provided transportation until the dispute is resolved. Every Chicago Public School, including charter schools, has an STLS Liaison who will assist you in making enrollment decisions, provide notice of the dispute resolution process, if needed assist you in completing the dispute resolution forms and refer you to low-cost legal assistance.

For more information about the rights of STLS students in Chicago Public Schools, call the STLS program at (773) 553-2242, fax at (773)553-2182, email at STLSInformation@cps.edu, go to www.cps.edu/STLS, or visit the STLS policy at www.cps.edu/STLSpolicy.

YOUTH & TGNC DROP-IN PROGRAMS

Angles prideSOCIAL Drop-Ins

(Northfield, Palatine, Gurnee)

Location: See www.angles.org for locations

Contact: 847-441-6191x3 (Lizzy Appleby)

Ages 14-22, depends on program. LGBTQ+ support, fun activities, & referrals to resources. All programs are free.

Broadway Youth Center (Lakeview/North Side)

Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 12-3pm

Location: 615 W. Wellington (Broadway & Wellington, inside Wellington Ave UCC. Near Belmont Red Line)

Contact: 773-935-3151 or www.howardbrown.org/byc

Ages 12-24. Food, hygiene supplies, workshops, resource advocacy & counseling (also by appointment), medical and HIV/STI testing services (different hours), GED prep/tutoring.

Cafe Pride (Lakeview/North Side)

Hours: Every Friday night from 8pm-midnight.

Location: Lake View Presbyterian Church, 716 W. Addison (Red Line Addison, #36 Broadway)

Ages 16-24. Need ID. Dinner, games, music, movies.

Center on Halsted LGBTQIA Youth Program

(Lakeview/North Side)

Hours: Mon-Thurs: Adult Ally Services (1-on-1): 1p-3p, Evening Program (workshops+dinner): 4:30p-7:30p; Fridays: Teen Hang (ages 13-18) & Open Gym (ages 13-24): 4p-6p

Location: 3656 N. Halsted (@ Waveland. Addison Redline.)

Contact: 773-472-6469 or www.centeronhalsted.org/youth

Schedule an intake: youthintake@centeronhalsted.org

Counseling: youthclinician@centeronhalsted.org

Health Educator: youthHIVservices@centeronhalsted.org

or chance.mpowerment@facebook.com

Ages 13-24. Food, workshops, resource advocacy, counseling, housing supports and services, educational (free GED program) and vocational supports, trans* drop-in (Mon, 1-4), medical clinic (Mon, 4-6), legal clinic (Wed, 1-2), HIV testing.

C2P @ Washington Park (Wash Park/South Side)

Hours: Tuesdays, 5:30-8:00pm

Location: Washington Park Refectory, 5531 S. Russell Drive (1 Block East of King Drive, Green Line Garfield)

Contact: 773-702-5872

Ages 12-24. Mobile health clinic, HIV/STI testing, meal and snacks, basic needs, resource advocacy and counseling.

Casa Corazón (La Casa Norte) (Back of the Yards/SW)

Hours: Monday, 3pm-9pm; Wednesday and Friday, 9am-9pm

Contact: 773-276-4900 ext. 250 (Rosanelly Lopez)

Location: 1736 W 47th Street (@ Hermitage) (Bus #9, #47)

Ages 16-24. Meals, case management, SNAP enrollment, housing referrals, computers.

Casa Corazón (La Casa Norte) (Humboldt Pk/Logan)

Hours: 12-8:30pm, Mon, Tues, and Thurs; 9am-1pm, Fri

Location: 2845 W. McLean (near California & Armitage, CTA Bus #72 & #73)

Contact: 773-276-4900 ext. 241 (Joy Menhennett)

Ages 16 to 24. Meals, case management, SNAP enrollment, housing, referrals, storage, computers.

El Rescate-The Basic Center Program (Humboldt Park)

Hours: 9 AM-5 PM, Monday-Friday (or by appointment)

Contact: (872) 829-2654 or email mecheverria@prcc-chgo.org or milagros@prcc-chgo.org

Ages 12-17, LGBTQ+. Case management; crisis intervention; referral services for food, housing, and clothing; individual, group, & family counseling; education/employment readiness

Harbor57 (Austin/West Side)

Hours: 4:30-7:30 PM, First Fridays

Location: St. Martin's Episcopal, 5700 W. Midway (@ Waller & W. Race Ave; Central Green Line)

Ages 14-25. Meals, resource advocacy, basic needs.

Neon Street Center & Dorms (Uptown/North Side)

Hours: Mon-Fri, 9am-7pm

Location: 4506 N. Sheridan Road (@ Sunnyside, 2 blocks North of Montrose; Red Line Wilson)

Contact: 773-433-1290

Ages 14-24. Employment/educational assistance, case management services, meals, laundry, showers.

POP (People Organizing Progress) (Hyde Park/South Side)

Hours: Thurs, 4:00-7:00 PM

Location: Corner of 55th and Lake Park Ave., Suite 205

Contact: Ricky Hill, rhill3@medicine.bsd.uchicago.edu

Meal, HIV/STI testing, PrEP and linkage to care, resource counseling, medical care, GED program, mental health services, basic needs.

Stand Up for Kids (Lakeview/North Side)

Hours: Mon and Thurs, 6:30-9:30pm

Location: 3614 N Ashland

Contact: 847-251-1622

Ages 16-24. Hot meal, clothing, blankets, bus passes.

Taskforce Prevention & Community Services (West)

Hours: Mon, Tues & Wed, 5pm-9pm

Location: 9 N. Cicero

Contact: 773-473-4100

HIV/STI testing and counseling, case management, medical referrals, resume and job readiness, hormones.

Teen Living Program Drop-In (Wash. Park/South Side)

Hours: Mon-Fri, 11am-5pm (Friday by apt. only)

Location: 5500 S. Indiana Avenue

Contact: 773-355-9843

Ages 18-24. Meals and snacks, hygiene supplies, computer/internet and phone access, resource advocacy (also by appointment), and rest and respite.

Universal Family Connection, Inc. (Far South Side)

Hours: Tuesday and Thursday, 10 AM-2 PM

Location: 1350 W. 103rd Street

Contact: 773-881-1711 Ext. 1176 (Tim King)

Ages 14-23. Provides food, clothing, housing resources, medical referrals, emergency mental health referrals.

Youth Lounge (Lakeview/North Side)

Hours: 2nd and 4th Saturdays of every month, 4–6:30pm.

Location: Broadway United Methodist Church, 3338 N. Broadway (at Buckingham) (Red Line Addison, #36)

Contact: 773-348-2670

Meal, games, music. Beauty parlor 2nd Saturdays, dressing room 4th Saturdays.

Youth Outlook Drop In Centers

(Naperville, Aurora, DeKalb, Sterling, Palatine)

Location: See www.youth-outlook.org for Drop In address)

Contact: 815-754-5331 or info@youth-outlook.org

Ages 12-25, program dependent. Safe Space Drop In Centers for LGBTQ+ folks providing educational and social supports, referrals to community resources; Transcend Drop In Center in Naperville and Palatine on Wednesday nights, specifically for trans and gender expansive youth. All programs are free.

Youth Outlook Geneva Drop In Center (Geneva)

Hours: 2nd & 4th Thursdays, 6:30-9:00 PM

Location: 102 S. 2nd Street (Unitarian Universalist Society of Geneva)

Contact: info@youth-outlook.org

Ages 12-18, LGBTQ+ youth.

Programs For Trans/Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) 18+

TransSafe @ The TransLife Center (North Side)

Hours & Location: Call for hours and location.

Contact: 773-248-5200 ex. 418

18+. No IDs required. Medical, legal, housing, social, employment, and other services in a TGNC-affirming environment

After Hours (Howard Brown Health) (Uptown/North Side)

Hours: 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month, 6–9pm

Location: 4025 N. Sheridan Road (Uptown/North)

Contact: 773-388-8906

18 & up. Drop-In for TGNC folks. Food, programming, access to health care providers, hormones, insurance enrollment

CHICAGO YOUTH OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Street and Community Outreach Program (South Side)

(Teen Living Programs)

Hours: 2:30pm–5:30pm

Location: Mon: 55th & Indiana (Garfield Green Line stop) Tues: 35th & State (Green Line)

Wed: 63rd & Halsted (outside Kennedy King)

Thursday: 95th and Dan Ryan (Red Line stop)

Night Ministry Youth Outreach Van (Lakeview/North Side)

Hours: Thursday nights, 8:30 – 10pm

Location: Halsted just south of Belmont (look for blue van)

Contact: 773-784-9000 x7004

Food, HIV testing, referrals, hygiene supplies and safer sex supplies, community.

Universal Family Connection (Far South Side)

Hours: Mon, 10 AM-6 PM; Tues-Friday, 9 AM-5 PM

Location: 1350 W. 103rd | Chicago, IL

Contact: 773-881-1711

Provides: clothing assistance, basic needs, transportation, emergency shelter, identification replacement assistance, job readiness program, out of school services, foster care, crisis intervention (CCBYS), substance use services, ages 14-24.

C2P YOUTH MEDICAL MOBILE

Tuesday, 5:30-8 PM @ Washington Park Refectory (55th and Cottage Grove, 5531 S. Russell Drive)

Ages 12-24 *FREE* Includes: STI/HIV Testing & Treatment, Physicals, Immunizations, Cold/Flu, Basic Wound Care

THE NIGHT MINISTRY MOBILE HEALTH OUTREACH

Sunday: Humboldt Park (Division & California), 4:00-6:00 PM & Uptown (near Wilson & Hazel), 7:00-9:00 PM

Monday: South Shore (Jeffery & 71st), 7:00-9:00 PM & Pilsen (Cermak & Loomis), 9:30-11:30 PM

Tuesday: Back of the Yards (54th & Halsted), 7:00-9:00 PM & Humboldt Park (Division & California), 9:30-11:30 PM

Wednesday: South Shore (Jeffery & 71st), 7:00-9:00 PM & Uptown (Wilson & Hazel), 9:30 PM-11:30 PM

Thursday: Back of the Yards (54th & Halsted), 7:00-9:00 PM & Pilsen (Cermak & Loomis), 9:30-11:30 PM

EMERGENCY HOUSING OPTIONS

FOR YOUTH, AGES 12-24

The programs below are places that you can stay for the night. Many of them include shower and laundry access as well.

You do not need to call in advance but you do need to arrive by a certain time.

A Safe Haven (Youth Engagement Services)

Location: 2750 W Roosevelt (CTA: Between Pink & Green Line, California stops; California-94 bus, Roosevelt- 12 bus)

Contact: 773-435-8440

Offers: Emergency shelter for 25 youth ages 18-24. Dinner, breakfast, showers.

Set up: All genders. First come, first serve. Open from 7pm–7am. Arrive at 8pm.

The Crib (The Night Ministry)

Location: Lake View Lutheran Church, 835 W. Addison (Red Line, Addison)

Contact: 773-318-5462 (answered between 8 PM and 10 AM, can leave a voicemail any time)

Offers: Emergency shelter for 21 youth ages 18-24. Includes dinner, breakfast, supplies, showers, laundry.

Set up: All genders. Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming (TGNC) youth welcome. *Space is not equipped for babies or children.* Lottery drawing at 8:30 PM.

Casa Corazón–Logan Square (La Casa Norte)

Location: 1940 N. California Ave. (California & Armitage; CTA: Blue Line, California)

Contact: 773-270-5126

Offers: Emergency shelter for 10 youth, all genders, ages 18-24. Dinner, breakfast, showers.

Set up: Lottery on Mon, Tues, Thurs @ 8p, 2845 W. McLean; Wed/Fri Lottery at 1940 N. California at 8:45p. Open 9p–9a.

Casa Corazón–Back of the Yards (La Casa Norte)

Location: 1736 W. 47th St. (47th & Hermitage; CTA: Orange Line, Western)

Contact: 773.276-4900 ext. 251 or 253

Offers: Emergency shelter for 30 youth ages 18-24. Dinner, breakfast, showers.

Set up: All genders. First come, first serve. Open from 9p–9a.

Ujima Village (Unity Parenting & Counseling)

Location: 7320 S. Yale Ave. (CTA: Red Line, 69th or #29 CTA, State Street Bus Stop at Lafayette Ave and 73rd Street.)

Contact:

Offers: Emergency shelter for youth, 18-24. Dinner, breakfast, showers.

Set up: All genders. First come, first serve. Open from 8pm–8am. Arrive at 8 PM.

Emergency Shelter for Pregnant and Parenting Youth

La Casa Norte

Location: 1942 N. California (CTA: #73, #74, #72)

Contact: Deja Davis, 773-360-1971

Offers: 5 beds for pregnant and parenting youth, ages 18-24. Dinner, breakfast, showers, laundry.

Set up: Ages 18-24. **7:00p–9:00a.** Must be referred by La Casa Norte

**NATIONAL RUNAWAY SAFELINE:
1-800-RUNAWAY**

EMERGENCY HOUSING: CALL 311

(How to get into Chicago's Adult Homeless Shelter system)

1. Go to any hospital emergency room or police station.
2. Find a phone and call 311 or ask staff to call for you.
3. Tell the staff and/or the person on the phone that you are homeless, 18 years of age or older, & need shelter.
4. Wait a really, REALLY, long time in the emergency room. Some waits are as long as 4 hours!
5. A Catholic Charities van will come and take you to a shelter. If you are able to arrange for something else during that time, you will still need to leave the waiting area when the van comes—since the hospital waiting room has the right to ask you to leave if you do not leave with the van.
6. If hospital staff forces you to leave the waiting room before the Catholic Charities van comes, be polite but assertive and ask to speak to that person's supervisor. If the supervisor also tells you to leave, please report this discrimination to the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless @ 312-435-4548.

INTERIM AND TRANSITIONAL YOUTH HOUSING

These are places where you can stay for a longer period of time. You usually have to call and complete an intake process.

The programs listed here, except where noted, do not use the Central Referral System (see bottom of page).

El Rescate Transitional Living Program

Location: 2703 W. Division

Contact: 872-829-2662

LGBTQ youth housing, ages 18-24.

Harmony Village (Unity Parenting)

Location: 7923 S. Maryland (1 block east of Cottage)

Contact: 773-783-9200

Ages 17-24. Call to complete a telephone intake and to be added to the waiting list. Supportive transitional housing for pregnant/parenting young adults and their children, single youth, as well as young LGTQ and/or married couples.

Hilda's Place Transitional Shelter

Location: 1458 Chicago Avenue, Evanston (3 blocks north of the Dempster Purple line stop)

Contact: 847-424-0945

Ages 18+. 4 month maximum stay. Call to schedule intake.

The Harbour

Location: 1440 Renaissance Drive, Suite 240, Park Ridge

Contact: 847-297-8541. On-site housing for young women 16-21 (emergency Shelter for girls and young women, 12-21); supportive housing for all youth.

Neon Street Center & Dorms

Location: 4506 N. Sheridan Road (Wilson Red Line)

Contact: 773-336-6740

Ages 18-24. Transitional living program for up to two years (or until 21 years old) for all genders. Focused on educational and employment goals. ID or school ID and birth certificate required eventually. Call to schedule intake assessment. Must access drop-in center service (9a-7p) at least twice a month to stay on the waiting list.

Mercy Home for Boys & Girls

Location: 1140 W. Jackson Blvd (Boys) & 11600 S. Longwood Drive (Girls)

Contact: 1-800-ARE-BOYS or 312-738-7560

Ages 11-21. Call to begin application process.

New Moms, Inc.

Location: 5317 W. Chicago Ave.

Contact: 773-610-7696 or

transformationcenter@newmomsinc.org

Up to 24 months of transitional housing for young moms, 18-24. Apply through CRS, call, or email for site-based waitlist.

Chicago Central Referral System (CRS):

www.chicagocrs.org

System by which people experiencing homelessness can apply for housing. Can be filled out **online** and assesses eligibility for supportive housing. Rather than being a "first-come, first-serve" waitlist, it is based on a household's need. Not all programs use CRS but many do.

Need help with basic needs like rent, utilities, or other housing issues? Call the Homelessness Prevention Call Center at 1-877-4-Cook-15 (1-877-426-6515) OR call 311 and ask for "Short-Term Help" and you will be transferred to the Homeless Prevention Call Center.

Direct2Housing is an online tool that allows you to search for housing information on your own. You can click on each result to see contact information, eligibility criteria, and application process for supportive housing programs www.direct2housing.org

Open Door Shelter-West Town

Location: 1110 N. Noble St. (@ Milwaukee; Division Blue)

Contact: 773-506-4100; 1-877-286-2523 (toll free)

Ages 14-20. Interim Housing Program with 4-month maximum stay. Transitional Living Program available to clients in the interim program. TGNC youth and single parents with children are welcome. No wait list. Best times to call: before 9am, after 9pm. No ID required.

RAPPP-Lakeview (The Night Ministry)

Location: 3262 N. Clark St. (Belmont Red Line)

Contact: 773-506-3120

Ages 14-20. Interim-housing program for pregnant and/or parenting youth. 8 beds, 8 cribs. Call for intake.

Solid Ground (La Casa Norte)

Location: 3533 W. North Ave (#72, North Avenue Bus)

Contact: 773-276-4900

Homeless young men (including trans men), ages 16-21½. 2-year independent living. Youth may call to schedule an intake and assessment between 9am-7pm Monday-Friday.

The TransLife Center

Contact: 773-248-5200 x 411 (Call for location)

Chicago House's safe and affirming housing program for transgender individuals, 18+. Apply through CRS.

Teen Living Programs, Belfort House

Location: 3745 S. Indiana Ave. (Green Line 63rd/Ashland)

Contact: 773-548-4443 or help@teenliving.org

Ages 18-21. Transitional housing program. Young people, TGNC, and pregnant youth welcome. Program not equipped for babies or children.

360 Youth Services Transitional Housing

Location: 1305 W. Oswego Road, Naperville IL 60540

Contact: 630-717-9408 ext. 1148

Ages 18-24, program dependent. Transitional housing program for youth experiencing homelessness; one program for LGBTQ+ youth. Apartments in Naperville and Lisle. Call for intake.

Lay of the Land: Current Housing Models & Services for Unaccompanied Homeless Youth

Caryn Blitz, Ph.D.
Office of the Commissioner/ODARE
Administration on Children, Youth and Families



Overview

- The Importance of Typology
- Key Elements in the Services Continuum
- Key Elements in the Housing Continuum
- Limitations for Youth
- Moving Forward
- What's in the Works

Clusters of Newly Homeless Youth & ACF

Lower Risk Group	At-Risk Group	Risky Group
Risk Factors: • Emotional distress (L) • Unprotected sex (L) • Smoking (L) • Alcohol use (L) • Drug use (L) • Hard drug use (L)	Risk Factors: • Emotional distress (M) • Unprotected sex (H) • Smoking (H) • Alcohol use (M) • Drug use (H) • Hard drug use (H)	Risk Factors: • Emotional distress (H) • Unprotected sex (M) • Smoking (M) • Alcohol use (H) • Drug use (M) • Hard drug use (M)
Protective Factors: • School (H) • Employment (L) • Health (H) • Positive friends (H) • Survival skills (H)	Protective Factors: • School (L) • Employment (H) • Health (L) • Positive friends (M) • Survival skills (L)	Protective Factors: • School (M) • Employment (M) • Health (M) • Positive friends (L) • Survival skills (M)

L = Low; M = Medium; H = High

Likelihood of becoming chronically homeless increases

Milburn, N., Liang, L., Lee, S., Rotheram-Borus, M., Rosenthal, D., Mallett, S., et al. (2009). Who is doing well? A typology of newly homeless adolescents. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 37 (2), 135-147.

Key Elements in the Services Continuum & ACF

- Safe/stable housing is necessary, but not sufficient to address homelessness and the challenges youth experience that cause homelessness;
- Youth homelessness involves a lot of diversity – culturally & in terms of levels & kinds of service needs;
- Services include:
 - Prevention **strategies/interventions** (family reunification, mediation/conflict resolution);
 - Substance abuse and mental health **treatments**;
 - Strength-based **programs**;
 - Employment and education **services**.

Key Elements in the Housing Continuum & ACF

- Emergency Shelters
 - Congregate, scattered-site, host homes
- Transitional Housing
 - Congregate, single-site, scattered-site, host homes
- Permanent Housing
 - Rapid Re-housing
 - Time-limited rent subsidies
 - Permanent rent subsidies
 - Permanent supportive housing

Housing Types

Congregate

- includes group homes and shelters
- characterized by structure and supervision (24-hour staff)

Single-Site (also known as “clustered”)

- supervised independent units at one site
- 24-hour staff available for support, skills development for independent living, case management

Scattered-site

- apartments located throughout a community
- case workers/counselors provide support for daily living, supervision is less intense

Host homes

- private homes; like sponsoring a foreign exchange student

Emergency Shelters



- Critical resources for youth who are newly homeless, are in crisis, or need a respite from family of origin;
- Engage youth by offering safe environments where basic needs can be met, service and housing needs can be assessed, and youth can receive assistance in applying for public benefits;
- Key for achieving family reunification; opportunity to reconnect youth with families when feasible; families can receive services to address conflict and promote positive interaction;
- Helpful in developing appropriate longer-term housing plans when family reunification isn't possible.
- Examples: Basic Center Program (ACF/FYSB)
Emergency Solutions Grants (HUD)

7

Transitional Housing



- Developmentally appropriate housing model for youth who have neither the resources or family supports to live independently and who need supportive services but do not qualify for Permanent Supportive Housing;
- Various types: Congregate, Clustered Site, Scattered Site and Host Homes;
- Models may offer differing degrees of independence;
- All can offer intensive supportive services for health/mental health, education/employment, and skills/competency building plus assessment for independent living or permanent housing.
- Examples: TLPs (ACF/FYSB) and ILPs (ACF/CB)

8

Permanent Housing: PSH



- Community-based housing without a designated length of stay with varying intensity of services to promote long-term stability;
- Most new federal funding for permanent housing is from HUD's **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)** program:
 - Restricted to individuals with qualifying mental health or physical disabilities;
 - Offer a high level of supportive services to assist in securing public benefits to help cover expenses;
 - PSH is a critical resource for homeless youth with disabilities.

9

Permanent Housing: Time-Limited Subsidies



- HUD's **Family Unification Program (FUP)** offers Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs) for families (no time limitation) and youth;
- Youth must be at least 18 years old and not more than 21 years old who left foster care at age 16 or older and who lack adequate housing;
- Housing agency provides the subsidy and child welfare agency provides supportive services;
- Subsidy only available for 18 months;
- Criticism is that child welfare/HUD may not be reaching the neediest youth with this resource and 18 months not long enough.

10

Permanent Housing: Permanent Subsidies



- Non-time limited rental assistance, household pays no more than 30% of income for rent.
- Challenges:
 - Long waitlists, youth are not usually prioritized;
 - Permanent subsidies do not always come with services (there may be referrals) so another funding stream/service provider must be leveraged to support youth.

11

Permanent Housing: RRH



- Designed to minimize shelter/homeless episodes, **HUD Rapid Re-housing (RRH)** provides housing identification assistance, up to 24 months of rental assistance, and case management services for housing stabilization:
 - RRH programs for adults often offer very short-term (3 mos.) or mid-term (4-18 mos.) rental assistance;
 - Preliminary research on RRH with families has in some cases shown a decreased likelihood of returning to homelessness, although HUD Family Options RCT did not (but same as usual care and cost less);
- RHY providers report time limits inadequate for youth
- Offer supportive services for housing stability, referrals for other services (employment/education, health/MH/SA).

12

Limitations of the Current Housing Continuum for Youth



- Emergency shelters, TLPs, and PHPs are essential components of the housing continuum, but have limitations for homeless youth;
- Program regulations and requirements are not derived from any evidence of effectiveness nor are they necessarily aligned with all the needs of youth:
 - lengths of stay are often too limited to give youth sufficient time to stabilize and heal;
 - age restrictions and eligibility criteria limit accessibility;
 - expectations of permanency not necessarily realistic for a population of young people who are in transition;
 - unclear Housing First model is appropriate for all youth (some want services first)

13

Moving Forward



- Data on the prevalence, characteristics and needs of the homeless youth population;
- More precise, data-driven **typologies** of homeless youth to inform planning and development;
- Structured and systematic ways of **assessing youth** and directing them towards housing and services that are matched to their level of need;
- **Research** that examines the impact of different **housing models** on subpopulations of homeless youth and the effectiveness of different **interventions** for reducing risk and enhancing protective factors;
- New **regulations and requirements** in federally-funded homeless assistance and RHY programs based on the best available evidence;
- Trauma-informed, youth-specific **outcome measures** to monitor the impact of housing and services on young people.

14

Moving Forward: In the works...



HHS/Runaway & Homeless Youth & Trafficking Prevention Act

- Senate Appropriations : \$116.1M for RHYA programs (\$99M for BCP/TLP and \$17.1M for SOP; includes \$2M for the prevalence study; \$2.75M for trafficking prevention and services)
- RHYA Reauthorization: LGBTQ youth - non-discrimination clause (failed); also included increasing BCP from 21 to 30 days, best practices for TLPs

HUD/Homeless Children & Youth Act

- New Senate HUD appropriations language for FY 2016 proposes extending \$100M increase for HUD Homelessness assistance; \$20M for FUP vouchers expansion 18 to 36 months; \$40 for youth specifically (\$2M for prevalence study; \$33M demonstration for comprehensive services in 10 communities; \$5M for TA)
- HCYA: amends eligibility definition; eliminates complex documentation requirements; makes public data on homeless children and youth; prohibits HUD from overriding local communities

ED/ECHY

- Senate Appropriations : \$65 million for McKinney-Vento services

15

