Council Meeting

June 12, 2012

1:30 pm
I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Proposed Framework for Ending Youth Homelessness

III. Opening Doors Amendment – Next Steps

IV. Closing
Bryan Samuels, Commissioner
Administration on Children, Youth and Families

To submit a question to the Council, please send an email to communications@usich.gov.
Areas of Work

• **A confident estimate of youth homelessness**
  – Data coordination, youth PIT & household survey

• **A research-informed intervention model**
  – Review research & apply to intervention strategies

• **Increased evidence of effective intervention**
  – Identify & scale-up evidence-based practices & increase rigorous evaluation

• **Gaps analysis**
  – Investigate funding & capacity needs of programs
Better Data on Youth Homelessness

Coordinate RHYMIS & HMIS
- Align data standards
- Assess integration
- Improved data
- Reduced burden on grantees

Local Youth PIT Counts
- Collaboration of schools (LEAs), RHY providers, & COCs
- Pilot methods in volunteer sites
- Lessons for national youth PIT
- Improved data in participating sites

National Study
- National Youth PIT Count
- National Household Survey
- Confident estimate
- Improved data on needs & characteristic

Periodic Estimates
- Integrate National Study methods with coordinated data systems
- Longitudinal estimates & data on characteristics
- Better intervention models

Better data over time will inform the refinement of the Intervention Model and impact decisions about programs for youth experiencing homelessness
### Clusters of Newly Homeless Youth

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Lower Risk Group</strong></th>
<th><strong>At-Risk Group</strong></th>
<th><strong>Risky Group</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Risk Factors:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• All Low</td>
<td><strong>Risk Factors:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Risk Factors:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Emotional distress</td>
<td>• Emotional distress*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Unprotected sex*</td>
<td>• Unprotected sex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Smoking*</td>
<td>• Smoking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Alcohol use</td>
<td>• Alcohol use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Drug use*</td>
<td>• Drug use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Protective Factors:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Protective Factors:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• School connection*</td>
<td></td>
<td>• School connection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Positive friends*</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Health*</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Employment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Survival skills*</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Survival skills</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Likelihood of becoming chronically homeless increases**
A Research-Informed Intervention Model for Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Core Outcomes
Stable Housing + Permanent Connections + Wellbeing + Education/Employment

Increased Protective Factors
Positive skills, attitudes, behaviors & associations
- Family cohesion & support
- School engagement or employment
- Survival skills
- Positive connections
- Positive future expectations
- Decision-making skills
- Self-esteem & self efficacy
- Health

Reduced Risk Factors
Problematic symptoms, behaviors & associations
- Trauma
- Emotional distress
- Sexual risk behavior
- Family problems
- Criminal or delinquent behavior
- Substance abuse

Appropriate Intervention Strategies
Treatment | Housing | Programs

5 Evaluate outcomes

4 Target interventions to risk & protective factors

3 Match interventions

2 Screen & assess

1 Consider circumstances

Lower Risk Group
(high protective factors, low-medium risk factors)
Aged < 18: TemporarilyDisconnected
Aged 18-24: Short-term Homelessness

At-Risk Group
(high risk factors, some protective factors)
UnstablyDisconnected
Episodic Homelessness

Risky Group
(high risk factors, low protective factors)
ChronicallyDisconnected
Chronic Homelessness

Higher Protection, Lower Risk

Time Experiencing Homelessness

Lower Protection, Higher Risk
Anticipating the challenges that youth have when they are at risk of homelessness; will bring with them when they become newly homeless; or struggle with when they are chronically homeless.

Improving the data and rethinking the structure across Federal program areas and across services delivered by homeless providers.

Maximize existing Federal capacity by scaling back practices that are not achieving desired results while concurrently scaling up evidence-based interventions.
**Vulnerable Subpopulations of Youth**

**Foster Care Youth**
- 25% of street youth become homeless on their most recent separation from foster care
- More likely to become homeless, move frequently and live in poor neighborhoods compared to non-FC youth with similar risk factors
- On emancipation, many cannot find stable housing (65% in CA)

**LGBTQ Youth**
- Overrepresented (20-40%) among homeless youth compared to general population (3-5%)
- 26% are rejected by their family and put out of their homes upon coming out
- 28% drop out due to intolerance, stigma and bullying at school
- Intolerance and mistreatment continue once on the street and in shelters

**Juvenile Justice Youth**
- In one NYC youth shelter, 30% of youth had been arrested or incarcerated; in another, 30% had been detained or incarcerated

**Pregnant/Parenting Youth**
- Young women (aged 14 to 17) living on the streets have lifetime pregnancy rates of 48% vs. those in shelters (33%) vs. housed (10%)

---

**Implications for Intervention**
- All groups have: a history of trauma; higher levels of substance abuse and mental health problems vs. peers; engage in survival sex; and are more likely to experience chronic homelessness
- Evidence-based interventions are available to:
  - treat substance abuse and mental health issues
  - promote healing and recovery from trauma
  - build key skills and capacities in youth
- Increase the capacity of service providers to:
  - Accurately identify service needs
  - Match those needs to appropriate interventions
Proposed Framework for Ending Youth Homelessness

Dana Scott
State Coordinator for Homeless Education, Colorado Department of Education
Vice President, National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

Bob Mecum
Executive Director, Lighthouse Youth Services

Nan Roman
President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness
Proposed Framework for Ending Youth Homelessness

To submit a question to the Council, please send an email to communications@usich.gov.
Proposed Framework for Ending Youth Homelessness

Does the Council endorse the proposed framework and commit to act together on the actions we have discussed?
OBJECTIVE 5 (revised)
Improve access to education and increase meaningful and sustainable employment for people experiencing or most at risk of homelessness

OBJECTIVE 8 (revised)
Advance health and housing stability for unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness and youth aging out of systems such as foster care and juvenile justice
Opening Doors Amendment

Does the Council authorize USICH to submit the Plan amendment into clearance after review by the Council Policy Group?
U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

www.usich.gov