



MEANINGFUL CHANGE IN 100 DAYS

2018/2019 100-Day Challenges on Youth Homelessness Summary Report

100-Day Challenges on Youth Homelessness

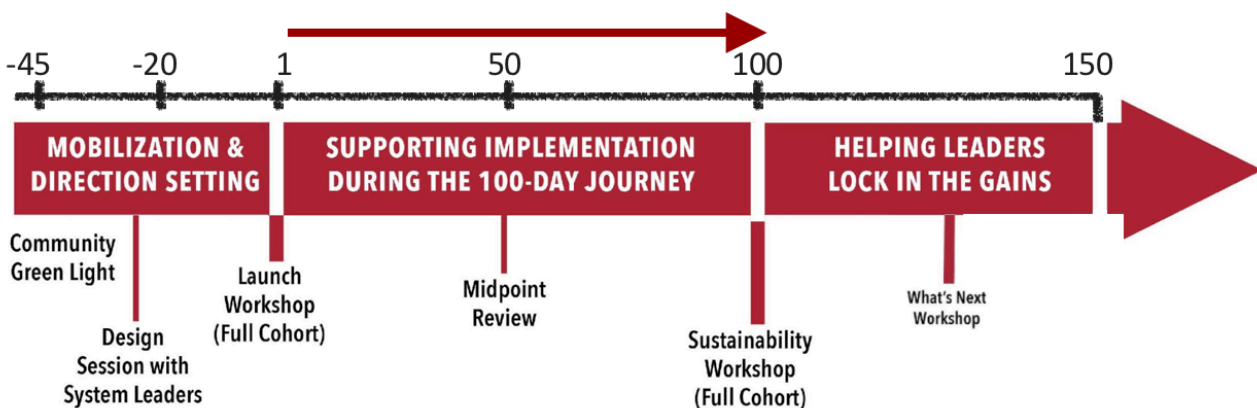
In November 2018, five communities launched 100-Day Challenges, representing the 3rd U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Cohort to accept the Challenge to prevent and end youth homelessness. The HUD Cohort 3 communities include:

- Miami-Dade County, Florida
- Prince George's County, Maryland
- Sacramento, California
- Southern Nevada/Las Vegas, Nevada
- Suburban Cook County, Illinois

The purpose of the 100-Day Challenge is to catalyze community action to establish bold and creative ways to build and strengthen a system response to implement a desired result. The short timeline is intentional, inviting a cross-sector of partners from the community to generate urgency and action. The process provides an opportunity to understand and learn about current local efforts and collaborations and set an ambitious 100-Day Goal that unleashes relentless and intense collaboration, innovation, and execution.

The 100-Day Challenge also provides an opportunity for cross-system stakeholders to come together, make new connections, share information and best practices, and create a common vision for preventing and ending youth homelessness.

100-Day Challenge Journey



HUD Cohort 3 100-Day Challenge Communities

Miami-Dade County, FL; Prince George's County, MD; Sacramento, CA; Southern Nevada/Las Vegas, NV; and Suburban Cook County, IL were selected through a competitive process based on their demonstrated commitment to preventing and ending youth homelessness, their capacity for innovation, and their ability to build a collaborative system to meet the needs of youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness. The five 100-Day Challenge communities represent diverse geographies with unique needs, challenges, and strengths.



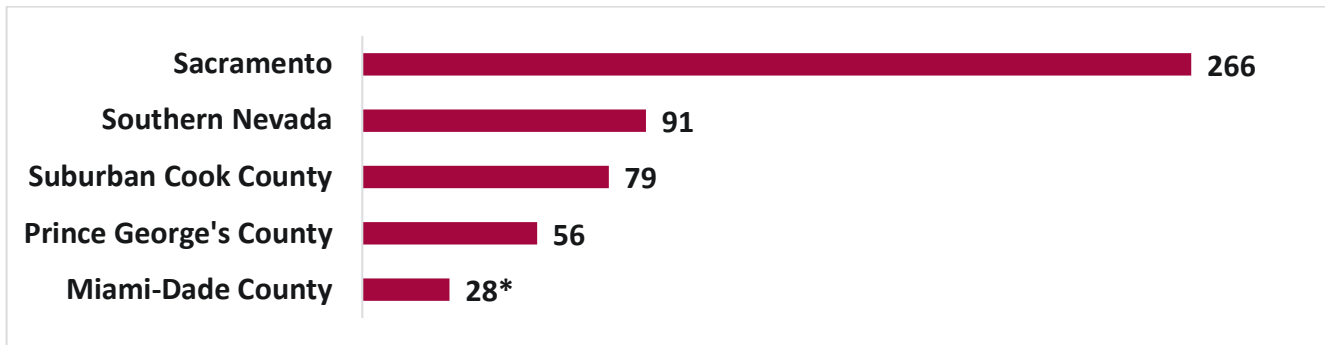
100-Day Challenge Goals

Each of the five 100-Day Challenge communities established ambitious goals during a launch workshop for the initiative. Goals represented cross-system collaboration around a collective local vision for preventing and ending youth homelessness. The 100-day goals were locally-driven and developed by teams in response to the needs of youth in their communities, including the following:

- Increasing youth housing placements
- Revising Coordinated Entry intake and placement processes
- Strengthening connections to training, education, and employment services
- Improving identification of youth at-risk of and experiencing homelessness
- Serving subpopulations of youth experiencing homelessness, including students, pregnant and parenting youth, and systems-involved youth
- Addressing significant mental health symptoms as a barrier to housing
- Expanding youth homelessness prevention efforts

- Exploring new/and or innovative housing solutions
- Developing new relationships with partner systems and organizations, including school districts, institutions of higher education, child welfare and juvenile justice systems

After 100 days, **520 youth and young adults exited homelessness into safe and stable housing** from across the five communities:



**Note: Miami's 100-Day Challenge goal focused on safely sheltering youth experiencing homelessness. This number reflects those youth who exited from shelter into safe, stable housing during the 100-Day Challenge.*

Emerging Practices From the 100-Day Challenge Cohorts

The 100-Day Challenges to prevent and end youth homelessness have produced incredible results, including shining a light on a number of emerging practices that have been successful in communities of different sizes, geographies, and capacities across the country. The following are some of best practices that are emerging from the 21 communities that have accepted the 100-Day Challenge to prevent and end youth homelessness over the past 3 years.

Connecting and Engaging Systems

- Building processes to formally and permanently connect with foster care, juvenile justice, school systems, and other youth-serving systems in order to identify a wide range of youth needing support and create a systemic response
- Coordinating various system supports: supportive services, training and employment services, interventions, resources
- Determining how to identify and support youth who are not connected to any systems

Data-Driven Decision Making

- Using data to make decisions
- Building a by-name list of all youth experiencing homelessness
- Using a standard assessment tool to help understand the needs of homeless youth and young adults and prioritize individuals for different resources
- Creating a standardized way to track and report on all youth being served and housed in the community by all providers supporting homeless youth

Authentic Youth Partnership

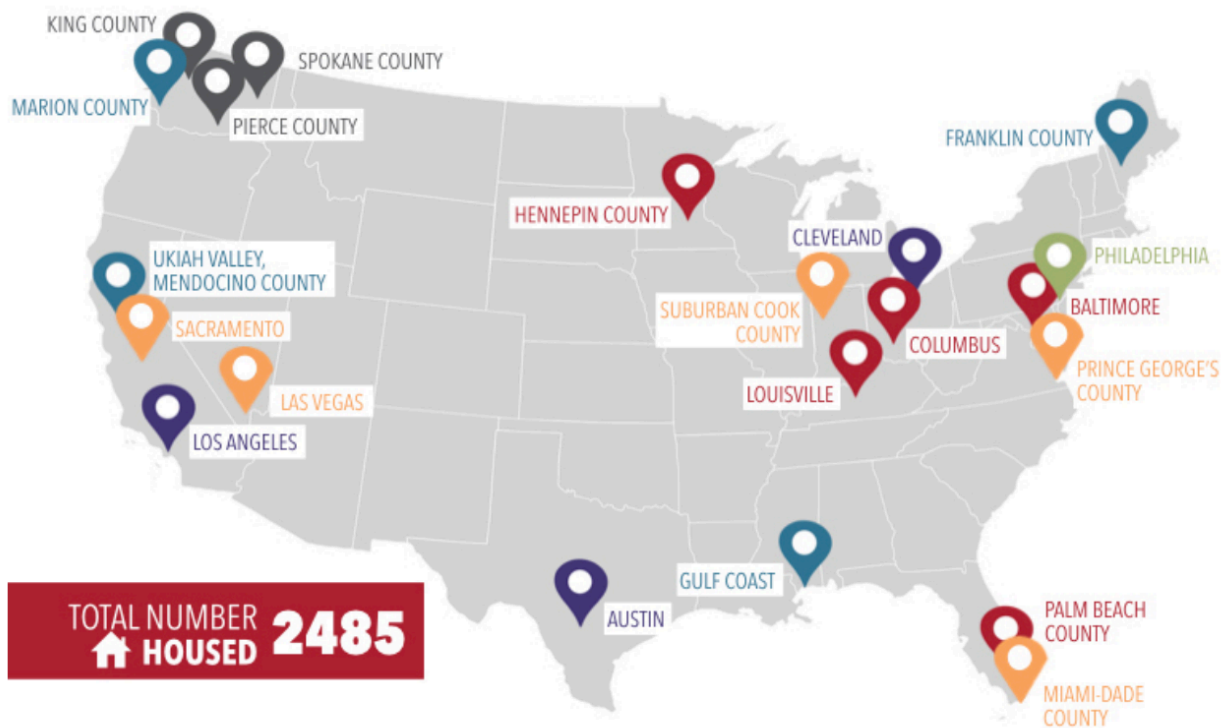
- Ensuring youth perspective is incorporated and valued in the process of building a system for youth. “Nothing about us without us.”
- Compensating youth for their work and time
- Being open to listening and figuring out ways to address adultism across systems

Utilizing Mainstream & More Creative Housing Resources

- Exploring and expanding non-traditional forms of housing interventions, including family and friend reunification support, host homes, and shared housing options
- Thinking creatively to utilize different and more varied resources to support and house youth, such as HOME funds, Olmstead housing, and JobCorps

Governance Mechanisms

- Testing ways of communicating insights and lessons learned, identified gaps, data snapshots, and specific requests within the community in order to drive coordinated action
- Creating a culture of experimentation, innovation, and collaboration with clear goals



HUD Cohort 3: Successes in Collaboration and Innovation

Connecting and Engaging Systems

The five 100-Day Challenge communities recognized the importance of cross-system partnerships in effectively identifying, engaging, and responding to the needs of youth at risk of and experiencing homelessness. These partnerships helped communities build and sustain a collaborative system through the use of the community's existing resources.



Spotlight on Prince George's County, MD

In Prince George's County, the 100-Day Challenge fostered a strong increase in authentic networking and collaboration amongst cross-system community partners. The involvement of three higher education institutions helped form working relationships between the Prince George's County homeless response system and the post-secondary educational system, allowing the community to leverage resources across systems and take on collaborative efforts to identify and engage youth experiencing homelessness.

The Prince George's County 100-Day Challenge Team also developed new partnerships with property management companies and private landlords to increase housing options available for youth. Additionally, new employer partnerships were cultivated through the 100-Day Challenge, resulting in the development of the inaugural Prince George's County Job and Resource Fair (featuring more than 51 employers) to help connect youth to local employment resources, opportunities and programs.

In **Miami-Dade County**, the 100-Day Challenge helped establish new lines of communication between the larger systems of care. System leaders from the housing, homeless, education and employment systems came to the table to help address youth homelessness. Education and employment partners developed new connections with the local Coordinated Entry System, including the establishment of an educational services provider as a Youth Access Point and the development of an employment pipeline for youth on the by-name list. Miami-Dade's local Workforce Development Board also partnered with the five major shelters serving Miami-Dade County to create Transition Management Teams, which are designed to address the comprehensive, cross-system needs of youth experiencing homelessness.

The **Sacramento** 100-Day Challenge Team not only included a diverse cross-section of service providers, CoC representatives, HMIS administrators and youth with lived experience, but new partners such as the Department of Behavioral Health joined the Challenge as the community progressed towards its 100-Day goals. The 100-Day Challenge helped bring together providers and agencies that were previously siloed and encouraged the involvement of new partners with insights

on the specific needs of youth, including the Department of Behavioral Health, the County Office of Education, and programs serving pregnant and parenting youth.

Southern Nevada established an ambitious cross-system goal of ensuring that youth and young adults that are involved with public systems are prevented from experiencing homelessness. Representatives from the Department of Family Services (DFS), the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJS), and the Nevada Youth Parole Bureau served as 100-Day Challenge Team members and became strong partners in Southern Nevada's youth homelessness prevention efforts. The new cross-system collaboration between youth-serving systems and agencies helped improve identification of systems-involved youth who are most vulnerable to exiting into homelessness. In particular, the juvenile justice and child welfare systems were able to identify a significant crossover in population served and work together to leverage their existing resources and broaden their homelessness prevention options for systems-involved youth.

Suburban Cook County utilized the 100-Day Challenge to better engage non-CoC systems, including the education, housing, child welfare, employment, and justice systems, in the work of preventing and ending youth homelessness. The Team engaged in weekly calls that brought together representatives from these diverse systems, which helped hold team members accountable to their goals and foster stronger relationships. The Suburban Cook County team worked hard to connect with three school districts in high-need areas to have conversations with teachers, administration, social workers, and McKinney-Vento Liaisons about identifying youth experiencing homelessness and implementing the Education for Homeless Children Act.

Data-Driven Decision Making

As part of the 100-Day Challenge, each of the five communities utilized data to help understand the local characteristics of youth homelessness and how they could improve their existing systems and processes to better address their local needs. Throughout the 100-Day Challenge, the communities used data to help develop new interventions and track their progress towards their 100-Day goals.

Spotlight on Sacramento, CA



Sacramento seized the opportunity of the 100-Day Challenge to improve their data collection and sharing processes for youth experiencing homelessness, which in turn helped improve the community's ability to identify, count and track youth experiencing homelessness across agencies and within the homeless response system. The Sacramento 100-Day Challenge Team improved data quality, collection and participation in HMIS for youth experiencing homelessness by working with the lead HMIS agency to validate data and conducting regular clean-ups to ensure data is accurate. The community also began collecting data regarding youth experiencing homelessness from agencies not yet engaged in HMIS, including the education and foster care systems.

The Sacramento 100-Day Challenge Team utilized their HMIS data to develop a by-name list of youth experiencing homelessness. As part of their 100-Day Challenge efforts, Team members conducted outreach to every youth on the list to ascertain their current housing status, update key information, determine eligibility, and connect each youth to an agency contact. The Team developed screening questions in HMIS related to the 100-Day Challenge goal and created a new field, “HMIS: Agency Contacts” in order to assign agency contacts to each youth to help with client location and updating of the client’s information at least every 90 days.

Sacramento also took steps to support data sharing by developing an internal unique identifier system that allows HMIS users to be able to recognize duplicate information and share data with other providers and agencies while honoring client confidentiality.

The **Miami-Dade County** 100-Day Challenge Team found that utilizing HMIS provides invaluable insight into the experiences of youth in the homeless response system. Miami-Dade County is committed to operationalizing data collection and use to better serve youth experiencing homelessness, including identifying ways to track diversion and using data to reflect and act upon inequities and disparities for serving gender diverse youth, LGBTQ+ youth, and youth of color.

Through its local data, **Southern Nevada** found a high percentage of youth in need of housing are involved with public systems of care and do not meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) definition of homeless. The Southern Nevada 100-Day Challenge Team utilized this data to focus in on homeless prevention efforts for systems-involved youth as part of its 100-Day Challenge goal.

Suburban Cook County utilized data on the number of unaccompanied students experiencing homelessness to develop a goal focused on establishing new partnerships with school districts. The community also tracked the number of youth being added to the active by-name list throughout the 100-Day Challenge to quantify the impact of increased outreach and identification efforts to youth experiencing homelessness.

The **Prince George’s County** 100-Day Challenge Team built a by-name list and conducted case conferences for every student identified as homeless or at-risk of homelessness during the Challenge, resulting in successful connections to community resources.

Authentic Youth Partnerships

With insight and support from the **National Youth Forum on Homelessness**, all five communities worked to establish stronger outreach practices and authentic partnerships with youth. The continued growth and development of authentic youth partnerships is critical for success as communities move beyond the 100-Day Challenge in their efforts to end youth homelessness.



Spotlight on Suburban Cook County, IL

The Suburban Cook County 100-Day Challenge Team established from the beginning that a critical component of their success would be the continuous and significant involvement of the Youth Action Board (YAB), ensuring that the community's partnership with young adults would align with or exceed the best practices for authentic youth collaboration. The YAB took a strong leadership role in the Challenge, meeting every other week to support the work of ending youth homelessness. The YAB provided input on all components of the 100-Day Challenge, including:

- Developing new youth-led outreach strategies;
- Conducting outreach and helping to identify youth experiencing homelessness who were not yet identified by service providers or other community partners; and
- Crafting language and terminology for marketing materials.

Adult members of the 100-Day Challenge Team learned to see youth as the authority on their situation and came to understand the importance of consistency and trust in establishing strong youth-adult partnerships to prevent and end youth homelessness.

In **Sacramento**, one of the 100-Day Challenge Team Leads was a youth with lived experience who helped provide a young adult perspective and prioritize youth engagement throughout the Challenge. Sacramento's Youth Action Board meets weekly and had two members represented on the 100-Day Challenge Team to help guide the community's efforts. Additionally, youth case managers assisted in the community's Point-in-Time Count (PIT) efforts as surveyors, with a particular focus on ensuring that youth experiencing homelessness were accurately counted and captured in the census.

Miami-Dade County's 100-Day Challenge involved four youth with lived experience who were actively engaged from the Challenge launch, helping to develop and implement the community's 100-Day Challenge goals and taking on leadership positions within the initiative. Youth team members were empowered to provide feedback on system changes and to leverage their expertise and experience to engage with other youth experiencing homelessness and help them make connections to shelter. Additionally, some youth 100-Day Challenge team members were involved in the 2019 Point-in-Time Count as Youth Ambassadors.

In **Southern Nevada**, youth with lived experience - including representatives of the Southern Nevada youth action board, Young Adults in Charge - were active in providing real-time feedback on the community's progress and activities throughout the 100-Day Challenge. Additionally, Team members changed the way they make decisions during the 100-Day Challenge and within their own organizations to begin with diverse and robust youth input.

Prince George's County has an active Youth Action Board that was involved in the 100-Day Challenge, including helping to conduct outreach and engagement to youth experiencing homelessness and providing feedback on program development. The community is working to align efforts with youth action and advisory boards operated within other systems, such as the child welfare system, and to identify meeting methodologies that are most effective for youth involvement.

Utilizing Mainstream & Creative Housing Resources

Increasing access to housing options and identifying new housing opportunities and resources was vital for the 100-Day Challenge communities to reach their ambitious goals of safely and stably housing youth experiencing homelessness. The 100-Day Challenge communities worked hard to bring new and innovative housing resources into the homeless response system and better leverage existing housing opportunities and resources.



Spotlight on Southern Nevada

Southern Nevada worked innovatively to share their knowledge of existing housing resources and increase access to housing options across the community. The 100-Day Challenge Team created an online tracking tool for housing options available to youth experiencing homelessness, including landlords willing to work with this population. The Team organized the list of resources according to geographic area and provided information regarding affordability, unit composition, housing requirements, and current availability to improve matching of resources to individualized youth needs. The Team sorted all housing sites into tiers based on ease of entry for youth in all of the factors outlined above, so that team members could easily navigate to the best possible housing option for a client based on their needs and circumstances. In addition, the Team worked to increase affordable housing options by developing new landlord partnerships in each geographic area of Southern Nevada.

Prince George's County collaborated with higher education institutions to improve on-campus housing options for students experiencing homelessness, including improved matching and prioritization of year-round dormitory options for unstably housed students. The Prince George's County 100-Day Challenge Team also explored non-traditional off-campus housing options. The community has worked with property management companies to identify off-campus units that can be used as year-round student housing with separate leases for each student tenant. Prince George's County has also identified an opportunity for students to use financial assistance awarded through the federal Pell Grant program to rent off-campus housing units.

Sacramento utilized a diverse array of housing types to connect youth to safe and stable housing during the 100-Day Challenge, including permanent supportive housing, rapid re-housing, family reunification and stabilization interventions, and housing provided through Transitional Living Programs. Innovative housing options included subsidized housing vouchers offered through the

Performance Partnership Pilots for Disconnected Youth (P3) program and state-funded transitional housing programs or housing stipends for youth with foster care involvement.

Prior to the 100-Day Challenge, the **Suburban Cook County** CoC spearheaded an amendment to the state's Education for Homeless Children Act allowing school districts to use transportation funding to provide housing and homeless prevention services to students at risk of or experiencing homelessness. The amended legislation has created a funding stream for rapid re-housing, diversion, and prevention assistance. Suburban Cook County utilized the 100-Day Challenge to help school districts implement this legislation to develop new housing options for students.

Miami-Dade County is working to develop new youth-centric housing options as part of their next steps following the 100-Day Challenge. Housing options the community plans to explore include rapid re-housing, permanent supportive housing, Crisis Residential Transitional Housing, TH:RRH, shared housing, and host homes.

Serving Subpopulations of Youth Experiencing Homelessness

The five 100-Day Challenge communities each showed a commitment to identifying underserved subpopulations of youth experiencing homelessness and improving their connections to housing, services, and homelessness prevention resources.



Spotlight on Sacramento, CA

Sacramento committed to serving vulnerable subpopulations of youth experiencing homelessness, establishing a goal that 65% of youth housed during the Challenge would be experiencing significant mental health symptoms as a barrier to housing and 20% would be pregnant and/or parenting youth.

The Sacramento 100-Day Challenge Team worked with youth and single adult housing providers to encourage them to begin accepting pregnant and parenting youth into their programs and to help them address barriers to serving this population. The Team also focused on identifying referrals from Coordinated Entry for pregnant and parenting youth and working to quickly connect them to safe and appropriate housing options. Most importantly, Sacramento established that improving connections to housing and supports for pregnant and parenting youth was a community-wide priority.

To help serve youth experiencing significant mental health symptoms as a barrier to housing, the Sacramento 100-Day Challenge Team brought the Department of Behavioral Health to the table to help youth housing providers navigate the complexities of behavioral health programs and make better referrals for mental health services for their clients. Mental health leaders also agreed to develop a universal mental health screening tool that can be used across all youth housing programs.

Prince George’s County and **Suburban Cook County** both established a focus on serving students experiencing homelessness during their 100-Day Challenges. Prince George’s County set their 100-Day Challenge goal around providing housing for youth ages 18-24 at risk of or experiencing homelessness and enrolled in a higher education institution. Suburban Cook County focused on improving identification of public school students experiencing homelessness through improved partnerships with local school districts as part of their 100-Day Challenge goal.

Southern Nevada focused on youth and young adults who are involved with public systems as a priority for the community’s 100-Day Challenge. The 100-Day Challenge Team particularly focused its homelessness prevention efforts on youth in need of housing who are involved with public systems of care and do not meet the HUD definition of homeless.

Miami-Dade County’s 100-Day Challenge prioritized serving youth experiencing unsheltered homelessness, with a goal of moving youth into shelter from the street within two days of entry into the Coordinated Entry System. Moving forward from the 100-Day Challenge, Miami-Dade County plans to continue data collection to ensure the equity of outcomes for LGBTQ+ youth, gender diverse youth, and youth of color.

Identification of Youth Experiencing Homelessness

Communities leveraged the momentum of the 100-Day Challenge to improve their processes for identifying youth experiencing homelessness, including working with new partners to improve identification of housing stability within other systems of care.



Spotlight on Prince George’s County, MD

One focus of the Prince George’s County 100-Day Challenge was improving strategies to identify youth at risk of or experiencing homelessness who are enrolled in institutions of higher education. The 100-Day Challenge Team worked closely with on-campus Financial Aid Offices to identify and follow-up with students who may face financial and housing stability challenges, including students utilizing the Maryland Tuition Waiver for Foster Care Recipients and those applying as “independent” on financial aid applications. The 100-Day Challenge Team also collaborated with on-campus supportive services programs to help identify students who may be struggling with housing stability. One such program is PGCC Cares, a program at Prince George’s Community College that helps students respond to challenges that impact their academic success, such as paying for tuition, housing, and transportation.

Prince George’s County has also invested in community-wide efforts to improve self-identification of homelessness among higher education students. Local colleges and universities are working to provide a pathway for current and prospective students to identify as homeless and to support campus staff in making referrals for housing assistance programs and resources. Prince George’s County has developed the R-U-OK? Campaign to help students self-identify as homeless based on five

youth-generated questions around housing stability. The homelessness awareness campaign was launched during the 100-Day Challenge for use on university and college campuses and is currently being expanded community-wide for use across youth-serving systems and providers.

In **Suburban Cook County**, collaboration between the homeless response system and school districts resulted in better identification of youth experiencing homelessness. The 100-Day Challenge Team worked with school districts to train key staff on identifying youth experiencing homelessness and to increase opportunities for students to self-identify as homeless. Self-identification of homelessness was strengthened through youth-led efforts to reduce the stigma around homelessness, increase student awareness of their rights under the McKinney-Vento program, and improve access to information on homelessness resources accessible within educational settings.

Southern Nevada's 100-Day Challenge brought together youth-serving systems to improve processes for identifying and serving systems-involved youth at risk of homelessness. The 100-Day Challenge Team compiled a collaborative, cross-system list of youth at risk of homelessness and tracked their experience through the systems in which they are involved. In particular, the juvenile justice and child welfare systems were able to identify a significant number of youth with dual system involvement.

Innovative Use of Technology

The 100-Day Challenge encourages communities to invest in innovative solutions to preventing and ending youth homelessness. A number of communities utilized the 100-Day Challenge to expand and explore the use of technology as an innovative tool for addressing youth homelessness.



Spotlight on Miami-Dade County, FL

Miami-Dade County is working to create innovative new connections with youth experiencing homelessness through the expanded use of a mobile phone application operated by Educate Tomorrow, a 100-Day Challenge partner agency. The Educate Tomorrow App supports and encourages students in developing critical life skills as they transition into adulthood. Students are able to use the mobile application to identify their needs, track their goals, and access mentoring, employment, housing and goal-setting resources. Miami-Dade County is working to expand use of this application to a wider audience of community partners and youth experiencing homelessness. The community plans to use the expanded Educate Tomorrow App to maintain stronger connections with youth as they move through the homeless system of care and as their needs change. Service providers will also be able to track their contacts with youth through the application in order to better coordinate time and resources with partner agencies as they collaborate to meet clients' needs.

The **Sacramento** 100-Day Challenge Team utilized Facebook and Instagram as part of its communication strategy with the larger community. The Team also developed a weekly newsletter

that is regularly distributed digitally to all system leaders in the community to inform them of the Team's progress and to share ways that these leaders can support them in the Challenge.

Suburban Cook County is exploring options to expand the use of the Chicago StreetLight App for connecting youth experiencing homelessness to beds to and increasing youth-specific outreach.

Beyond the 100 Days: Sustaining Momentum and Moving Forward

The 100-Day Challenge begins with an intentionally short timeframe and limited scope of work in order to spur action, focus, progress, and innovation. The work in each community is not over when the 100 days are completed, as communities leave with new momentum and buy-in from cross-system partners to keep pushing forward toward the goal of preventing and ending youth homelessness.

Each 100-Day team identifies priorities and recommendations unique to their community and to their progress for their work beyond the 100 days. Teams are encouraged to adopt a monthly or quarterly meeting structure, ideally with monthly or quarterly targets, in order to sustain their momentum, lock in gains, and continue making system improvements.

100-Day Team Priorities for Sustainability

Miami-Dade County, FL	
Team's Action Plans For Ongoing Work <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expand and diversify youth involvement at every level of programs and the CoC. 2. Expand the use of the Educate Tomorrow App to identify youth needs and quickly connect them to resources. 3. Leverage social media as a tool to connect youth to programs. 4. Operationalize data collection and use. 	Recommendations To System Leaders <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Secure funding for youth positions. 2. Build out Miami-Dade's network of engaged system leaders. 3. Develop and implement universal and comprehensive youth homelessness trainings. 4. Mandate sexual orientation and gender identity and expression (SOGIE) and Racial Equity trainings. 5. Create youth-centric housing options.

Prince George's County, MD

Team's Action Plans For Ongoing Work

1. Strengthen authentic youth collaboration and development of a Homeless Youth Action Board (HYAB).
2. Increase housing options.
3. Increase awareness, use, and accessibility to tuition waiver and improve efficiency processes.
4. Continue to strengthen systems and structure to continue building momentum.

Recommendations To System Leaders

1. Continue and strengthen policy alignment to build momentum and advance the work on the ground.
2. Increase affordable housing options.
3. Continue integration with education.

Sacramento, CA

Team's Action Plans For Ongoing Work

1. Continue to review the by-name list of 700 youth on the housing queue to ensure quick connection when openings in program arise.
2. Continue to share data across systems to find youth and to coordinate services.
3. Meet monthly for Case Conferencing with Coordinated Entry.
4. Demonstrate the value of all youth providers using HMIS to facilitate housing placements and track outcomes in housing stability, education, employment, wellness, and parenting.
5. Implement a universal mental health screening tool for youth that is used across programs.
6. Continue to build a cross agency housing locator team to end competition for apartments and collaborate to retain landlords.
7. Offer an annual Point-In-Time Count event to better count the number of homeless youth in our community and extend a plethora of services.
8. Continue to partner with local colleges to address the issue of homelessness among college students. Develop a partnership with the John Burton Advocates for Youth to coordinate local funding opportunities with placing homeless college students into housing.
9. Continue to add partners into the 100-Day Challenge Team, breaking down silos and creating systems for communication and coordination.
10. Support Mayor Steinberg's plan to house homeless adults, while advocating that the community not forget that homeless youth need housing programs designed to meet their developmental needs.
11. Work to launch a Smart Shelter to assist partners in making the right placement into housing options.
12. Continue Sacramento's social media campaigns to educate the community about youth homelessness.

Southern Nevada/Las Vegas

Team's Action Plans For Ongoing Work

1. Strengthen youth collaboration.
2. Implement a resource sharing system.

Recommendations To System Leaders

1. Secure diversified and flexible funding.
2. Standardize case management training, case plan, and standards.

Suburban Cook County, IL

Team's Action Plans For Ongoing Work

1. Expand and strengthen the Youth Action Board.
2. Increase LGBTQ visibility, engagement and inclusion.
3. Implement school outreach and HB261 (Education for Homeless Children Act).

Recommendations To System Leaders

1. Explore options to expand the Chicago StreetLight App for connecting youth experiencing homelessness to beds in Suburban Cook County and increase youth-specific outreach.
2. Improve systems coordination, including with Juvenile Justice, the Department of Children & Family Services (DCFS), and Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services (CCBYS).
3. Invest in culture and behavior changes.