



Ending Youth Homelessness

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) will be releasing products to help communities end homelessness among youth. With the launch of Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, goals were established to prevent and end youth homelessness by 2020. Youth experience homelessness for any number of reasons such as—abuse, family conflict, or aging out of foster care. Youth who are homeless are especially vulnerable to victimization, exploitation and traumatic stress.

Guide for Engaging Youth in Decision Making

This guide provides an overview of what meaningful youth engagement means in the decision making process and development of projects. When youth are meaningfully engaged as equal partners with adults, programs are stronger and youth are more likely to accept and adopt those projects. Included in this guide are suggested steps for engaging youth, best practices for engaging youth, and tips for both youth and adults for working together.



Coordinated Entry for Youth Brief

This brief provides an overview of the four Coordinated Entry core elements (Access, Assessment, Prioritization, and Referral) to Continuums of Care and youth housing and service providers. Since the coordinated entry process for youth should be informed by the expertise and capacity of all youth-serving providers and organizations in a community, the brief includes particular considerations for youth, key decision points within the process, and community highlights.



Using a Housing First Philosophy when Serving Youth

This brief provides an overview of the Housing First philosophy as it is geared to serving youth. Included are the core principles of Housing First as they relate to youth, different engagement strategies that can make the transition to a Housing First philosophy successful, and ways in which the organization may need to change or reorient itself.

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) for Youth Suite

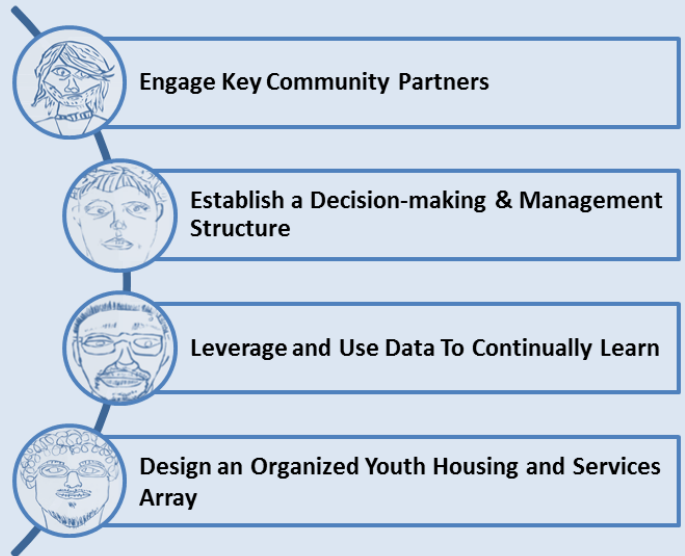
- **Jump Start Tool: RRH for Youth** provides an overview of the key steps Continuums and providers can take to quickly develop Rapid Re-Housing projects for youth. This tool includes descriptions of rapid re-housing program strategies that incorporate the core components of housing identification, rent and move-in assistance, case management, and services.
- **RRH for Youth Toolkit** (*coming soon*) provides community examples for the core components of rapid re-housing projects. Community examples include resources on recruiting and retaining landlords, finding and securing appropriate rental housing, housing stabilization plans, case management tools, and trauma informed, housing first, and progressive engagement approaches.
- **RRH for Youth FAQs** cover topics around landlords renting to youth, working to support negative experiences with a tenant, ensuring staff will be a good fit for RRH, and whether RRH is developmentally appropriate for youth.
- **RRH for Youth Checklist** to help CoCs and RRH project providers plan and implement rapid re-housing projects for youth. Needs at the system level, program design, and working directly with youth are incorporated.

<https://www.hudexchange.info/planning-your-coordinated-community-approach>

Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebooks

System Planning Guidebook

The System Planning guidebook provides an overview of Federal Partners' expectations and promising strategies for system planning to end youth homelessness. Ultimately, the system design will connect community partners and resources via an intentional strategy, and the youth homelessness system will meet the core outcomes for youth as described in the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) Federal Framework to End Youth Homelessness. This Guidebook focuses on engaging key community partners, establishing a decision-making and management structure, leveraging data across systems, and designing an organized youth housing and services array.



Mainstream System Collaboration Guidebook

The Mainstream System Collaboration Guidebook reviews the various mainstream systems needed to partner with homelessness system stakeholders in order to design and implement an effective system to prevent and end youth homelessness: Child Welfare, Education, Workforce, Justice, Housing, Healthcare, Early Childhood Education, Community Organizations, and Mainstream Benefits. For each system, 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.



Promising Program Models Guidebook

The Promising Program Models Guidebook is designed to help CoCs, youth-serving organizations, and other partners effectively serve the youth in their communities who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness. This Guidebook describes key features of emerging program models to prevent and end youth homelessness, highlighting promising practices and possible funding sources to help communities plan, develop, and improve their own youth-appropriate services. The Guidebook includes information on program models such as: Primary Prevention, Mobile "Street" Outreach, Drop-In Centers, Family Engagement, Youth Shelters and Emergency Services, Host Homes, Transitional Housing and Transitional Living, Rapid Re-Housing, Non-time-limited Supportive Housing. With a well-coordinated and proportionate housing and service delivery system, communities can prevent and end youth homelessness.

