Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebook Series

What is the Guidebook Series?

This Guidebook Series is designed for Continuum of Care (CoC) leadership and partners as a direct, hands-on action plan in efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness. Each guidebook includes:

- Suggested strategies,
- Identification of promising practices, and
- Considerations that can be implemented immediately.

Why read the Guidebooks?

With the launch of Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, the Federal Administration established goals 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. The purpose of these Guidebooks is to help communities:

- Learn to approach this goal by building comprehensive systems of care
- Ensure the appropriate type of housing assistance and level of services are available within the community
- Reach out and partner with a comprehensive set of traditional and non-traditional youth homelessness stakeholders
- Incorporate experiences of homeless of formerly homeless unaccompanied youth and incorporate this into the coordinated community plan
- Use innovative practices to design better projects and strong comprehensive plans to prevent and end youth homelessness
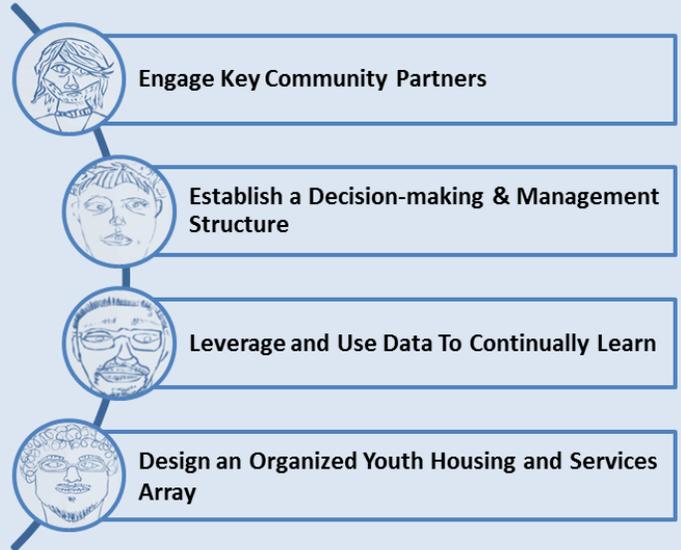
Where are the Guidebooks found?

The Guidebooks can be found at: https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5138/ending-youth-homelessness-a-guidebook-series/

How can the "Ending Youth Homelessness Guidebooks" help?

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.

- Engage Key Community Partners
- Establish a Decision-making & Management Structure
- Leverage and Use Data To Continually Learn
- Design 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.

Child Welfare · Education · Workforce · Justice · Housing · Health · Community

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.

- Primary Prevention
- Identification and Engagement
- Emergency and Crisis Response
- Tailored Housing and Services