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## Homeless and Runaway Youth: Selected Resources

### PRELIMINARY REPORT

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PRELIMINARY REPORT

C A L I F O R N I A

R E S E A R C H B U R E A U

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# Overview

## HOMELESS AND RUNAWAY YOUTH PROJECT

The California Research Bureau (CRB), in participation with the California Council on Youth Relations (CCYR), and with support from The California Wellness Foundation, has been conducting a major research and policy initiative to bring attention to the issues facing homeless youth in California. These include lack of shelter and educational opportunities, health and mental health needs, and problematic interaction with law enforcement agencies and the courts.

In addition to this report, the project involves the following research components that have been informing several public policy seminars.

- Journalist Nell Bernstein has completed a street-outreach survey that employed young people who were or had been homeless to interview over 200 of their peers around the state. In addition, New America Media (formerly Pacific News Service) organized focus groups of homeless youth in several cities. Ms. Bernstein is the author of a CRB report summarizing the research findings about homeless and runaway youth's experiences, their ideas about the kind of support that would help them the most, and the changes they would like to see happen in policy or law.\*
- Youth media will produce a DVD to highlight the youth's recommendations to state policymakers.
- Patricia Julianelle, JD, authored a CRB report, *The Educational Success of Homeless Youth in California: Challenges and Solutions*, which summarizes the education requirements and issues, and identifies successful educational program models.\*
- Youth involvement is an essential component of the project. The CRB examined how youth may be best prepared to participate in public policy forums and the results are discussed in the recent CRB report, *Preparing Youth to Participate in State Policymaking*, by Lisa Foster.\*
- A youth advisory group made up of homeless youth organized through the CCYR focuses on housing stability for its participants; it meets weekly to discuss issues and provide ongoing feedback to the project.

## ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF SELECTED RESOURCES

During the course of this project, the CRB has also been reviewing research and informational material on homeless and runaway youth to identify and summarize major issues and investigate promising program models. This has resulted in an annotated bibliography of selected resources which is presented here.

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\* These reports are available through the Internet at the California State Library's home page ([www.library.ca.gov](http://www.library.ca.gov)) under CRB Reports.

This bibliography - *Homeless and Runaway Youth: Selected Resources* - is a work in progress; new materials are being identified and added on an ongoing basis. It is available online on the California State Library's website ([www.library.ca.gov](http://www.library.ca.gov)) under CA Research Bureau Reports. Once the Homeless and Runaway Youth Project is completed, the bibliography will be published as a CRB report.

The bibliography is divided into subject areas and includes a section on websites that provide useful information and material on this population. While there are several good resources from the mid-1990s and before, we are focusing on the more recent ones available on homeless and runaway youth. As a result, the resources identified here have generally been published within the past ten years. In addition, this bibliography is comprehensive but not exhaustive; we encourage readers who wish to dig deeper to use the material and information identified as a guide to locating additional research and resources.

If you have questions, or if you know of a document or website that you feel should be included in the *Homeless and Runaway Youth: Selected Resources*, please contact Lisa Foster at (916) 653-6372 or [lfoster@library.ca.gov](mailto:lfoster@library.ca.gov) to provide this information.

## Selected Resources

### OVERVIEW

Ammerman, S.D., and others. *Homeless Young Adults Ages 18-24: Examining Service Delivery Adaptations*. Nashville: National Health Care for the Homeless Council, September 2004. Available at:  
<http://nhchc.org/Publications/101905YoungHomelessAdults.pdf>.

This report on homeless young adults in the United States covers some of the urgent issues that they face, including: health care, housing, education, employment, and social support. It recommends short and long term strategies for addressing these issues.

Burt, Martha R. *Understanding Homeless Youth: Numbers, Characteristics, Multisystem Involvement, and Intervention Options*. Testimony given before the U.S. House Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, June 19, 2007. Available at:  
<http://www.urban.org/publications/901087.html>.

Testimony by Dr. Burt, an expert on the issue of homelessness, covers the number of homeless youth, their characteristics, and the factors that predispose youth to become homeless, and the most promising points and types of intervention.

Center for Law and Social Policy. *Leave No Youth Behind: Opportunities for Congress to Reach Disconnected Youth*. J. Levin-Epstein and M. Greenberg, editors. Washington, DC: the Center, 2003. Available at:  
[http://www.clasp.org/publications/Disconnected\\_Youth.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/Disconnected_Youth.pdf).

This report discusses six programs that were considered by the 108th Congress for reauthorization, looking at policies to assist disconnected and at-risk (including homeless) youth. It identifies common challenges and concerns related to disconnected youth, and it includes a section on services and programs for homeless and runaway youth funded by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA).

Ferguson, Kristin M., and others. *Innovative Programs Servicing Homeless and Street-Living Children Around the World: A Compilation of Best Practice Models from Los Angeles, Mumbai, India and Nairobi, Kenya*. Los Angeles: Urban Research Publication, University of Southern California, 2005. Available at:  
<http://urban.usc.edu/sys/index.php?/area/category/Publications#homeless>.

This report explores how faith-based organizations use faith and religion to intervene in and influence the lives of street-living and homeless youth in three distinct cities and religious traditions. It describes best practice recommendations for the international policy and practice communities.

Fernandes, Adrienne L. *Runaway and Homeless Youth: Demographics, Programs, and Emerging Issues*. Washington, DC: Congressional Research Service, January 2007. Available at:  
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/general/detail/1451>.

This report for Congress describes homeless and runaway youth, including related factors and risks. It describes the evolution of federal policy, programs and funding support for this population, and also discusses emerging issues such as runaway and homeless youth as “disconnected youth” and youth outcomes.

Firdion, J.M. *Homelessness, Poverty and Foster Care, Encyclopedia of Homelessness*, edited by David Levinson. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications, 2004. Available at:  
<http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Sociology/faculty/silver/sirs/papers/firdion.pdf>.

This discussion focuses on the homeless and poorly housed populations in most western countries containing a large proportion of people who have spent time in foster care while children. It describes data collection difficulties, and causes and impacts of the linkage between homelessness, poverty, and foster care.

Hagan, John, and Bill McCarthy. “Homeless Youth and the Perilous Passage to Adulthood,” *On Your Own Without a Net: The Transition to Adulthood for Vulnerable Populations*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005, pp. 178-201.

This chapter provides a portrait of homeless youth based on findings from two studies of homeless youth in two large Canadian cities. It compares them with high-risk inner city youth and focuses escalating contact with the juvenile and criminal justice system.

Karabanow, Jeff. *Being Young and Homeless: Understanding How Youth Enter and Exit Street Life*. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc., 2004.

This book explores the increase of street youth populations in Canada, noting the distinct and diverse characteristics of this population. It examines street youth ‘careers’ and highlights how young people enter street life, cope and survive on the street.

Levin, Rebekah L., and others. *Wherever I Can Lay My Head: Homeless Youth On Homelessness*. Chicago: Center for Impact Research, March 2005. Available at:  
<http://www.impactresearch.org/documents/homelessyouthreport.pdf>.

This study describes the characteristics of, and the services and resources needed by, youth who live on Chicago’s streets and in its shelters. Homeless youth interviewers surveyed youth between the ages of 14-21 for this project.

Lindsey, Elizabeth W., and others. "How Runaway and Homeless Youth Navigate Troubled Waters: Personal Strengths and Resources." *Child and Adolescent Social Work Journal* Vol. 17, No. 2, 2000.

This article describes a qualitative study with twelve interviews from former runaway or homeless youth. The focus of the study was to find out what strengths and resources homeless and runaway youth use to be successful in their transition into adults.

Mayers, Marjorie. *Street Kids and Streetscapes: Panhandling, Politics, and Prophecies*. New York: Peter Lang Publishing, Inc., 2001.

This book explores the experience of kids living on the street and their visions for the future. It examines their participation in panhandling and the complexities that emerge as various economic, political, and social values converge and conflict in the urban landscape.

National Alliance to End Homelessness. *Fundamental Issues to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness*. Youth Homelessness Series, Brief No. 1. Washington, DC: National Alliance to End Homelessness, May 2006. Available at: [www.endhomelessness.org/files/1058\\_file\\_youth\\_brief\\_one.pdf](http://www.endhomelessness.org/files/1058_file_youth_brief_one.pdf).

This issue brief reviews the key issues surrounding youth homelessness, including causes and characteristics of homeless youth. It also explains the youth housing continuum, a development model for stable and supportive housing for young adults, and policy implications regarding youth homelessness. The brief also presents ten elements designed by the National Partnership to End Youth Homelessness.

National Coalition for the Homeless. *Homeless Youth*. NCH Fact Sheet #13. Washington, DC: National Coalition for the Homeless, June 2006. Available at: <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/publications/facts/youth.pdf>.

This fact sheet discusses the dimensions, causes, and consequences of homelessness among youth. It also includes program and policy issues and a list of resources.

Ringwalt, Christopher L., and others. "The Prevalence of Homelessness Among Adolescents in the United States." *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol. 88, No. 9, September 1998.

This study, part of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, used audiotaped interviews of a sample of close to 6,500 adolescents to identify whether they had spent the night in a variety of locations other than home in the previous 12 months.

Robertson, Marjorie J. and Paul A. Toro. *Homeless Youth: Research, Intervention, and Policy*. Presented at Practical Lessons: The 1998 National Symposium on Homelessness Research. Washington, DC: United States Department of Health and Human Services, August 1998. Available at: <http://www.aspe.hhs.gov/progsys/homeless/symposium/3-youth.htm>.

This report presents an overview of the homeless youth population who are on their own; it includes current research, estimates, characteristics, service needs, outcomes, and interventions.

Slesnick, Natasha. *Our Runaway and Homeless Youth: A Guide to Understanding*. Westport, Connecticut: Praeger, 2004.

This book summarizes the information known about runaway and homeless youth through the stories of a parent and three runaways. It describes the breadth of this problem and explains different types of runaway and homeless youths – why they leave home, what happens when they do, and some of the factors common to these youth and their families.

Smollar, Jacqueline. “Homeless Youth in the United States: Description and Developmental Issues.” *New Directions for Child and Adolescent Development* No. 85, Fall 1999, pp. 47-58.

This article defines and describes the homeless youth population and discusses adolescent development in relation to this population and the implications for social policies and services.

Toro, Paul. “Trials, Tribulations, and Occasional Jubilations While Conducting Research with Homeless Children, Youth, and Families.” *Merrill-Palmer Quarterly* Vol. 52, No. 2, April 2006, pp. 343-364.

This article is a personal account of 20 years of research on homelessness; it focuses on the methodological, practical, and ethical difficulties encountered and describes enjoyable aspects, role conflicts, and the evolution of research ideas.

Toro, Paul, and others. *Homeless Youth in the United States: Recent Research Findings and Intervention Approaches*. Paper presented at the Second National Homelessness Research Symposium, March 1-2, 2007. Washington, DC: Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Housing and Urban Development. [*This paper should be available in December 2007.*]

This paper provides a comprehensive overview of youth homelessness including an updated description of the population and intervention approaches.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. *Promising Strategies to End Youth Homelessness*. Report to Congress. Washington, DC: Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services, July 2007. Available at: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/content/docs/reporttocongress\\_youthhomelessness.pdf](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/fysb/content/docs/reporttocongress_youthhomelessness.pdf).

This report to Congress examines the state of homelessness among youth in the U.S. as well as innovative policy strategies that are being developed in different localities to address the problem.

U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Education and Labor, Healthy Families and Communities Subcommittee. *Hearing on Runaway, Homeless, and Missing Children: Perspectives on Helping the Nation's Vulnerable Youth*. Washington, DC: U.S. Congress, July 24, 2007. Available at: <http://edlabor.house.gov/hearings/hfc072407.shtml>.

This material consists of the webcast and the testimony presented at this hearing, including the National Alliance to End Homelessness, service providers, and homeless youth.

U.S. House of Representatives, Ways and Means Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support. *Hearing on Disconnected and Disadvantaged Youth*. Washington, DC: U.S. Congress, June 19, 2007. Available at: <http://waysandmeans.house.gov/hearings.asp?formmode=detail&hearing=569>.

This material consists of testimony from organization members of the National Collaboration for Youth on the need to implement the federal Youth Coordination Act to address the needs of disconnected youth.

Whitbeck, Les B., and Dan R. Hoyt. *Nowhere to Grow: Homeless and Runaway Adolescents and Their Families*. New York: Aldine de Gruyter, 1999.

This book focuses on the family histories and developmental impact of early independence on runaway and homeless youth. It is based on a study of over 600 youth and over 200 of their caretakers from large and small cities in four Midwestern states. The authors consider street social networks, subsistence, strategies, sexuality, and street victimization in relation to their effect on adolescent behaviors and well-being.

Witkin, Andrea L., and others. "Finding Homeless Youth: Patterns Based on Geographical Area and Number of Homeless Episodes." *Youth and Society* Vol. 37, No. 1, September 2006, pp. 62-84.

A census of homeless youth was conducted in locations across L.A. County. The authors examined and identified demographic and behavioral differences between homeless youth in cruise and noncruise areas.

### **Target Populations**

Courtney, Mark, and others. *Youth Who Run Away from Substitute Care*. Chapin Hall Working Paper. Chicago: Chapin Hall Center for Children, University of Chicago, 2005. Available at: <http://www.chapinhall.org/>.

This study explores the antecedents and consequences of running away from foster care. It uses both administrative and qualitative data to understand the experiences of runaway youth in the Midwest.

Delgado, Melanie, and others. *Expanding Transitional Services for Emancipated Foster Youth: An Investment in California's Tomorrow*. San Diego: Children's Advocacy Institute, University of San Diego School of Law, January 2007. Available at: [http://www.caichildlaw.org/TransServices/Transitional\\_Services\\_for\\_Emancipated\\_Foster\\_Youth.FinalReport.pdf](http://www.caichildlaw.org/TransServices/Transitional_Services_for_Emancipated_Foster_Youth.FinalReport.pdf).

This study shows how problems in foster youth programs become homeless youth problems. It touches a wide variety of issues such as housing, education, and health care while focusing on the transition between foster care and emancipation.

Mottet, Lisa, and John M. Ohle. *Transitioning Our Shelters: The Guide to Making Our Shelter Safe for Transgender People*. New York: National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, National Coalition for the Homeless, 2003. Available at: <http://www.thetaskforce.org/downloads/reports/reports/TransitioningOurShelters.pdf>.

This guide, directed at shelter administrators and government officials, discusses policies and issues around ensuring privacy and safety for transgender residents and implementing a nondiscrimination policy while creating safe, hospitable environments for all residents. The guide applies to youth and adults and includes a section that deals specifically with youth issues.

National Alliance to End Homelessness. *Exploring Racism's Impact on Youth Homelessness in America*, Meeting held July 9, 2007. PowerPoint presentations: "Descriptive Overview: African American Youth in Transitional Living Programs," by Von E. Nebbitt; "Disproportionality in Homeless Youth," by Richard Hooks-Wayman and LaKeshia Pope; "Exploring Racism's Impact on Youth Homelessness in America: Overview and Research," by Adrienne Fernandes; and "Selected Results from Minority Executive Leadership Initiative Survey," by Kayla Jackson. Available at: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/1694>.

Research indicates an over-representation of African Americans and American Indians among homeless youth. Material from the July 9, 2007 meeting illustrates and supplements the broad discussion on race and youth homelessness; it reviews the current data and research, and explores the link between child welfare systems and juvenile justice systems and youth homelessness.

Ray, Nicholas. *Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Youth, An Epidemic of Homelessness*. New York: National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute, National Coalition for the Homeless, 2006. Available at: [http://thetaskforce.org/reports\\_and\\_research/homeless\\_youth](http://thetaskforce.org/reports_and_research/homeless_youth).

This is an in-depth report on Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Transgendered youth within the homeless population. It examines the number of LGBT youth, how they become homeless, critical issues they face, and what policies and programs have been enacted specifically for this population.

Reeg, Bob, and others. *Families on the Edge: Homeless Young Parents and Their Welfare Experiences (A Survey of Homeless Youth and Service Providers)*. Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy and National Network for Youth, 2002.

This report focuses on the experiences of homeless young parents (typically ages 18 through 21) with the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program. It reports the findings from a survey of more than 100 homeless youth and 20 service providers, and provides policy and practice recommendations.

Ringwalt, Christopher L., and others. "Familial Backgrounds and Risk Behaviors of Youth with Thrownaway Experiences." *Journal of Adolescence* Vol. 21, 1998, pp. 241-252.

In this study, experiences among homeless youth who are thrownaway (specifically told to leave home) are studied in two national samples. Prevalence of experiences and comparisons of family backgrounds and risk behaviors are studied and reported.

Shirk, Martha, and Gary Stanglar. "I Never Want to Sleep on the Street: Raquel Tolston, San Francisco" in *On Their Own: What Happens to Kids When They Age Out of the Foster Care System*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press, 2004, pp. 109-135.

This book tells the story of ten young people (including Raquel) who face economic and social barriers stemming from the disruptions of foster care when they cross the threshold of adolescence into adulthood. Raquel's story entails running away and homelessness.

## **FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS**

Julianelle, Patricia, and others. *Alone Without a Home: A State by State Review of Laws Affecting Unaccompanied Youth*. Washington, DC: National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty and National Network for Youth, 2003.

This publication provides summaries, legal citations, and analyses of laws relevant to unaccompanied, homeless youth in each of the states, including California.

Legal Services for Children, Inc. *Legal Rights and Options for Runaway Teens*. San Francisco: Legal Services for Children, Inc., May 2001.

The purpose of this guide for homeless and runaway youth is to help them understand their legal rights within common situations; for example, how to obtain healthcare, or how to get an education while not living under the care of parents/legal guardian(s).

National Legal Center on Homelessness and Poverty. *Legal Tools to End Youth Homelessness*. Washington, DC: the Center, May 2004. Available at: <http://www.nlchp.org/content/pubs/Legal%20Tools%20to%20End%20Youth%20Homelessness1.pdf>.

This booklet is an introduction to some of the federal laws that offer legal tools to support young people who run away or have been forced out of their homes and provide them with resources to end their homelessness and give them the opportunity to lead safe, fulfilling lives.

Reeg, Bob. "The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act and Disconnected Youth" *Leave No Youth Behind: Opportunities for Congress to Reach Disconnected Youth*. Washington, DC: Center for Law and Social Policy, July 2003, pp. 53-63. Available at: [http://www.clasp.org/publications/Disconnected\\_Youth.pdf](http://www.clasp.org/publications/Disconnected_Youth.pdf).

This chapter describes the programs and activities authorized by the federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Act. It highlights the intersection between homeless youth and the Act, and offers recommendations for improving it.

## **EDUCATION**

Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis (CHEPA), Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California. *The Navigator: Directions and Trends in Higher Education Policy*, Vol. VII, Issue I, Fall 2007. Available at: <http://www.usc.edu/dept/chepa/navigator/fall07/nav2007f.pdf>.

This CHEPA issue focuses on education and homeless youth. It discusses current research on the educational experiences of homeless youth in Los Angeles and offers preliminary policy recommendations; it also offers the views of scholars and homeless advocates on how homeless students might be better served.

Duffield, Barbara, and others. *Educating Children Without Housing: A Primer on Legal Requirements and Implementing Strategies for Educators, Advocates and Policymakers*. Washington, DC: American Bar Association, Commission on Homelessness and Poverty, 2007.

This book provides basic information on homelessness as it relates to education. It includes an overview of the McKinney-Vento Act; school responsibilities for identifying, providing outreach, and meeting homeless student needs; special populations; and resources.

Hernandez, Debra, and others. "Services to Homeless Students and Families: The McKinney-Vento Act and Its Implications for School Social Work Practice." *Children and Schools* Vol. 28, No. 1, January 2006, pp. 38-44.

This article summarizes key aspects of the 2001 reauthorization of the Act and outlines how school social workers can become more involved in its implementation and the expansion of services.

Julianelle, Patricia F. *The Educational Success of Homeless Youth in California: Challenges and Solutions*. Sacramento: California Research Bureau, 2007. Available at: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/07/07-012.pdf>.

This report discusses key issues related to the challenges homeless youth face in achieving their educational goals. It describes federal and state programs and funding, identifies successful practices and model programs, and presents policy options that address these challenges.

Julianelle, Patricia F., and Maria Foscarinis. "Responding to the School Mobility of Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness: The McKinney-Vento Act and Beyond." *Journal of Negro Education*, Vol. 72, No. 1, Winter 2003, pp. 39-55.

This article explores the school mobility of homeless children and youth and its impact on academic achievement. It also discusses the role and uses of the McKinney-Vento Act and describes its successes in addressing this mobility.

Moore, Jan. *Unaccompanied and Homeless Youth: Review of Literature (1995-2005)*. Washington, DC: National Center for Homeless Education, April 2006. Available at: [http://www.serve.org/nche/products\\_list.php#uy\\_lit\\_review](http://www.serve.org/nche/products_list.php#uy_lit_review).

This review is based on literature concerning unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness that was published between 1995 and 2005. It provides an overview of the challenges these young people face and includes research about why they leave their homes, how they live after leaving, and what interventions are being used to assist them.

National Center for Homeless Education. *Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program: Analysis of 2005-2006 Federal Data Collection and Three-year Comparison*. Washington DC: U.S. Department of Education, 2007. Available at: [http://www.serve.org/nche/downloads/data\\_comp\\_03-06.pdf](http://www.serve.org/nche/downloads/data_comp_03-06.pdf).

This report provides a summary and analysis of the 2005-06 state data collection required by the U.S. Department of Education of the McKinney-Vento Education of Homeless Children and Youth program. The 2005-06 data is also presented in comparison to the 2003-04 and 2004-05 data collections.

National Center for Homeless Education. Homeless Education Issue Briefs, including: *Best Practices in Homeless Education Series*, *Connecting Schools and Displaced Students Series*, and *McKinney-Vento Law into Practice Series*. Greensboro, NC: National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE). Available at: <http://www.serve.org/nche/briefs.php>.

The NCHE provides a series of briefs pertaining to the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act that offer implementation strategies.

National Coalition for the Homeless. *Education of Homeless Children and Youth*. NCH Fact Sheet #10. Washington, DC: National Coalition for the Homeless, June 2006. Available at: <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/publications/facts/education.pdf>.

This fact sheet examines the barriers to public education faced by homeless children and youth, the progress that states have made in removing these barriers, and current policy issues. It also provides a list of resources.

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. *Educating Homeless Children and Youth: The 2007 Guide to Their Rights*. Washington DC: the Center, Updated 2007. Available at: <http://www.nlchp.org/publications.cfm>.

This report goes over the McKinney-Vento Act, and helps people understand what resources are available for homeless or runaway youth with a focus on education.

Skyles, Ada, and others. *School Engagement and Youth Who Run Away from Care: The Need for Cross-System Collaboration*. Chapin Hall Working Paper. Chicago: Chapin Hall, University of Chicago, 2007. Available at: <http://www.chapinhall.org/>.

This paper presents the voices of a group of foster youth who ran away from placement and the perspectives of the adults who cared for them. It is presented in order to understand the individual and system factors that may impact the educational experiences and choices of youth in care.

U.S. Department of Education. *Report to the President and Congress on the Implementation of the Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act*. No Child Left Behind. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, 2006. Available at: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/homeless/rpt2006.doc>.

This report provides information on programs supported under McKinney-Vento and describes activities that the U.S. Department of Education has undertaken to address the educational needs of homeless children and youth. The report finds that states and local education agencies have generally made significant progress in reducing barriers to enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school.

U.S. Department of Education, Planning and Evaluation Service. *The Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program: Learning to Succeed*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Education, Planning and Evaluation Service, 2002. Available at: [www.ed.gov/offices/OUS/PES/esed/learnsucceed/volume2.pdf](http://www.ed.gov/offices/OUS/PES/esed/learnsucceed/volume2.pdf).

This report presents strategies that states, districts, and schools can use to overcome barriers that keep homeless children and youth from getting the education to which they are entitled. Appendices include promising practices and contact persons, a list of online resources of organizations and advocacy groups, a bibliography, and questions/answers about special education and homelessness.

## **EMPLOYMENT**

Ferguson, Kristin M. "Implementing a Social Enterprise Intervention with Homeless, Street-Living Youths in Los Angeles." *Social Work* Vol. 52, No. 2, April 2007, pp. 103-111.

Job training programs often fail to address homeless youths' mental health issues that constitute barriers to productive employment. This article describes the Social Enterprise Intervention model as an alternative intervention to acquire vocational and business skills, clinical mentorship, and linkages to services. It compares this model to existing intervention models.

Rio, J., and J. Martinez. *An Annotated Bibliography on Employment and Homelessness*. New York: Corporation for Supportive Housing, April 2007. Available at: <http://documents.csh.org/documents/cheta/CHETA-bibliography.pdf>.

This listing of over 130 journal articles and reports on employment services and homelessness is published by the Chronic Homelessness Employment Technical Assistance Center (CHETA). Citations include brief descriptions of each study or report along with the source; most of these references are available on the web.

Rio, John, and Gary Shaheen. *Linking One-Stop Career Centers and Homeless Assistance & Housing Programs*. New York: Corporation for Supportive Housing, October 2006. Available at: <http://documents.csh.org/documents/doclib/linkonestopshahp.pdf>.

This paper (published by CHETA) proposes that employment programs and services organized under the Workforce Investment Act and delivered through One-Stop Career Centers can be better linked with those organized under the McKinney-Vento Act delivered through local Continuums of Care. It also provides some proposed models for implementing those partnerships.

U.S. Department of Labor. *2004 Department of Labor Annual Report to the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Labor, August 2005. Available at: <http://www.dol.gov/dol/audience/2004homelessreport.htm#foster>.

This report provides an overview of the Department of Labor's programs and services that address homelessness and assist homeless individuals to become a part of the workforce. Targeted Prevention and Intervention Programs include the Job Corps Foster Care Initiative that is also directed at homeless youth.

## **HEALTH AND MENTAL HEALTH**

Cochran, Bryan, and others. "Challenges Faced by Homeless Sexual Minorities: Comparison of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Homeless Adolescents With Their Heterosexual Counterparts." *American Journal of Public Health* Vol. 92, No. 5, May 2002, pp. 773-777.

This study looked at differences between homeless sexual minorities and their heterosexual counterparts in terms of physical and mental health difficulties and concludes that gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender homeless youth are at increased risk for negative outcomes. The authors make recommendations for treatment programs and discuss implications for public health.

Darling, Nancy, and others. "Do Street Youths' Perceptions of Their Caregivers Predict HIV-Risk Behavior?" *Journal of Family Psychology* Vol. 19, Issue 3, September 2005, pp. 456-464.

This study examines street youths' perceptions of their caregivers and the association between these perceptions and their HIV-risk behavior in a random probability sample of over 700 youth from Los Angeles and San Diego.

Health Care for the Homeless Clinician's Network. "Protecting the Mental Health of Homeless Children and Youth." *Healing Hands* Vol. 4, No. 1, February 2000. Available at: [http://www.nhchc.org/Network/HealingHands/2000/hh.02\\_00.pdf](http://www.nhchc.org/Network/HealingHands/2000/hh.02_00.pdf).

This article reviews the literature, summarizes risks and service needs of this population, and highlights recommended strategies to prevent the developmental delays and major behavioral problems associated with prolonged homelessness.

Kidd, Sean A. "Factors Precipitating Suicidality among Homeless Youth: A Quantitative Follow-Up." *Youth Society* Vol. 37, No. 4, June 2006, pp 393-422.

Homeless youth are at high risk for suicidal behavior. This article discusses the survey findings of over 200 homeless youth in New York and Toronto about the impact of feeling trapped and helpless. It describes experiences at home and on the streets that were socially isolating and disempowering, leading to lives marked by little perceived control, loneliness, and low self-regard.

Kidd, Sean A. "The Walls Were Closing in, and We Were Trapped": A Qualitative Analysis of Street Youth Suicide." *Youth Society* Vol. 36, No. 1, September 2004, pp 30-55.

"The majority of street youth trade difficult lives at homes for difficult lives on the streets." This study analyzes the experiences and feelings about suicide of 80 youth in agencies and on the streets of Toronto, Ontario, and Vancouver through semi-structured interviews. Interviews revealed themes of worthlessness, loneliness, hopelessness, and most centrally the feeling of being "trapped."

Kurtz, P. David, and others. "How Runaway and Homeless Youth Navigate Troubled Waters: The Role of Formal and Informal Helpers." *Child & Adolescent Social Work Journal* Vol. 17, Issue 5, October 2000, pp. 381-402.

This paper, part of a larger study, focuses on how formal and informal helping resources enable these youth to resolve difficulties, deal with hazards, and achieve some level of self-defined success in young-adulthood. The primary research design was in-depth interviews with 12 formerly homeless and runaway youth.

Kushel, Margot B., and others. "Homelessness and Health Care Access After Emancipation: Results From the Midwest Evaluation of Adult Functioning of Former Foster Youth." *Archives of Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine* Vol. 161, No. 10, October 2007, pp. 968-993.

This prospective cohort study looks at the association between housing status and health care access and outcomes among young adults aging out of the child welfare system. It finds that having an episode of homelessness after emancipation is associated with worse health access but not worse outcomes.

Mallett, Shelley, and others. *Disrupting Stereotypes: Young People, Drug Use and Homelessness*. A report of selected results from Project i: Homeless Young People in Melbourne and Los Angeles (2000-2005). The Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, University of Melbourne and The Center for Community Health, University of California, Los Angeles, August 2003. Available at: <http://www.projecti.org.au/research/research.html>.

This report examines the nature and extent of substance use by homeless youth as well as the reasons they give for using drugs and alcohol. It considers the relationship between substance use and their homeless experience and how it changes over time. It also explores service providers' perspectives on substance use.

(Project i is a five-year collaborative study by the University of Melbourne and the University of California, Los Angeles that focuses on homeless young people in Melbourne and Los Angeles from 2000-2005. Funded by the U.S. National Institute of Mental Health, this study generated other research reports and journal articles which are listed/can be accessed through: [http://www.kcwhs.unimelb.edu.au/research/themesprojects/sei/project\\_i](http://www.kcwhs.unimelb.edu.au/research/themesprojects/sei/project_i).)

Mallett, Shelley, and others. "Young People, Drug Use and Family Conflict: Pathways into Homelessness." *Journal of Adolescence* Vol. 28, Issue 2, April 2005, pp. 185-199.

This study, conducted using qualitative interviews of over 300 homeless youth ages 12- 20 years, examines the relationship between young people's drug use and their pathways into homelessness. Four pathways involving personal or familial drug use are identified.

National Child Traumatic Stress Network Culture and Trauma Speaker Series. *Working with Homeless and Runaway Youth*. Teleconference with speakers Arlene Schneir and Daniel Ballin, May 24, 2007. Los Angeles: National Child Traumatic Stress Network. Available for viewing at: <http://mediasite.nctsn.org/nctsn/catalog/>.

The two speakers in this teleconference identify the number and characteristics of homeless youth in the U.S., review the unique aspects of trauma for runaway and homeless youth, and identify the key treatment implications for this population. They discuss whether homeless youth are a cultural group, and why it is important

to understand the cultural context for the behaviors exhibited by runaway and homeless youth.

National Resource Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness. *Youth. A Bibliography*. September 2004. Available at:  
<http://homelessnessresourcecenter.org/pdfs/bibliographies/Youth.pdf>.

This 36-page bibliography provides an annotated list of reports and journal articles that address a range of issues related to homeless and transition-age foster youth. It includes studies about mental and physical health, and substance abuse.

O'Sullivan, Joanne, and Patricia Lussier-Duynstee. "Adolescent Homelessness, Nursing, and Public Health Policy." *Journal of Policy, Politics, and Nursing Practice* Vol. 7, 2006, pp.73-77.

This article calls for the impact of youth homelessness to be raised at the community level by community nurses and other health professions who interact with youth who are homeless. It provides a model for nurses to use in advocating for this population.

Rice, E., and others. "Pro-Social and Problematic Social Network Influences on HIV/AIDS Risk Behaviours Among Newly Homeless Youth in Los Angeles." *AIDS Care* Vol. 19, No. 5, May 2007, pp. 697-704.

This study looks at the social networks of 183 newly homeless youth in Los Angeles County over time. It assessed how their continued relationship to their home-based peers affects both facilitating and limiting risky sexual and HIV/AIDS drug-using behaviors. The authors discuss utilizing naturally occurring pro-social peer influences.

Schneir, Arlene, and others. *Trauma Among Homeless Youth*. Culture and Trauma Brief Vol. 2, No. 1. Los Angeles: National Child Traumatic Stress Network, 2007. Available at:  
[http://nctsn.org/nctsn\\_assets/pdfs/culture\\_and\\_trauma\\_brief\\_v2n1\\_HomelessYouth.pdf](http://nctsn.org/nctsn_assets/pdfs/culture_and_trauma_brief_v2n1_HomelessYouth.pdf).

This brief discusses why youth leave home and explores the types and consequences of trauma experienced by runaway and homeless youth. It also identifies treatment considerations based on focus groups of homeless youth conducted by Children's Hospital Los Angeles.

Slesnick, Natasha, and Jillian Prestopnik. "Dual and Multiple Diagnoses Among Substance Using Runaway Youth." *American Journal of Drug & Alcohol Abuse* Vol. 31, Issue 1, February 2005, pp. 179-201.

Relatively little is known about the diagnostic profile of runaway adolescents. The current study examines patterns of psychiatric dual and multiple diagnoses among treatment-engaged substance-abusing youth (ages 13-17) who were residing at a runaway shelter. The youths' psychiatric status was assessed as part of a larger treatment outcome study.

Solorio, M. Rosa, and others. "Predictors of Sexually Transmitted Infection Testing Among Sexually Active Homeless Youth." *Journal of AIDS and Behavior* Vol. 10, No. 2, March 2006, pp. 179-184.

This study used interviews with over 260 homeless sexually active youth to explore the characteristics that are associated with sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing, including age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and sexual risk behaviors.

Tyler, Kimberly A., and Katherine A. Johnson. "Pathways In and Out of Substance Use Among Homeless-Emerging Adults." *Journal of Adolescent Research* Vol. 21, No. 2, 2006, pp. 133-157.

This study uses qualitative interviews with 40 homeless young adults, aged 19 to 21 years of age in the Midwest, to determine who is responsible for the initiation of high rates of alcohol and drug use, the reasons for their continued use, and why some individuals eventually transition out of using while others do not.

U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. *Blueprint for Change: Ending Chronic Homelessness for Persons with Serious Mental Illnesses and Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorders*. Rockville, Maryland: Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, 2003.

This guide disseminates current information about ending homelessness for people – including youth – with serious mental illnesses and with co-occurring substance-use disorders. It reviews current and past research and contains advice on planning, organizing, and sustaining a system of care.

Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs. "Homeless, Runaway and Throwaway Youth: Sexual Victimization and the Consequences of Life on the Streets." *Research and Advocacy Digest* Vol. 7, Issue 1, October 2004. Available at: <http://www.wcsap.org/pdf/RAD%207-1.pdf>.

This issue of WCSAP's *Research and Advocacy Digest* deals with the intersection between sexual victimization and youth homelessness, both as a cause and result. It provides an overview of research on this topic area.

Whitbeck, Les B., and others. "Mental Disorder, Subsistence Strategies, and Victimization Among Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Homeless and Runaway Adolescents." *Journal of Sex Research* Vol. 41, Issue 4, November 2004, pp. 329-342.

This study compares participation in subsistence strategies, street victimization, and lifetime prevalence of five mental disorders (conduct disorder, major depressive disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, alcohol abuse, and drug abuse) among heterosexual males and females and gay, lesbian, and bisexual homeless and runaway adolescents. This is part of the first wave of a longitudinal study of homeless youth in four Midwestern states.

Williams, Nancy R., and others. "From Trauma to Resiliency: Lessons from Former Runaway and Homeless Youth." *Journal of Youth Studies* Vol. 4, Issue 2, June 2001, pp. 233-253.

This exploratory study presents findings on resiliency development in five former runaway and homeless youth. These five young women were compared and contrasted with their peers who continued to exhibit high-risk behaviors.

### **ATTACHMENT THEORY**

Henk, Joanne M. *Homeless and Runaway Youth: Attachment Theory and Research*. Doctoral Research Paper, Rosemead School of Psychology, Biola University, December 2001.

Homeless and runaway youth typically have more negative family experiences and feelings of detachment from family. Psychologists can contribute to the treatment of homeless and runaway youth through clinical work involving long-term treatment using knowledge of attachment theory and research.

Tavecchio, Louis W.C. "Attachment, Social Network, and Homelessness in Young People." *Social Behavior and Personality* Vol. 27, No. 3, 1999, pp. 247-262.

This study partially explains homelessness in young people within the framework of attachment theory. It examines the relationship between family background, parenting style, experiences of separation and loss, and quality of the attachment relationship in a group of homeless youth and two comparison groups. It also looks at the influence of social support.

Taylor-Seehafer, Margaret, and others. "Attachment and Sexual Health Behaviors in Homeless Youth." *Journal for Specialists in Pediatric Nursing* Vol. 12, No. 1, January 2007.

This study explores relationships and group differences in social connectedness and social support, and in sexual health behaviors in a sample of homeless youth.

Stefanidis, Nikolaos, and others. "Runaway and Homeless Youth: The Effects of Attachment History on Stabilization." *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry* Vol. 62, No. 2, July 1992, pp. 442-446.

This study looks at the attachment histories of a group of runaway and homeless youth aged 12-17. It discusses the clinical and program relevance of differences found within the group.

### **HOUSING AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

Corporation for Supportive Housing. *New Homes, Brighter Futures: Profiles of Housing Programs for Young Adults*. New York: Corporation for Supportive Housing, September 2007. Available at: <http://documents.csh.org/documents/doclib/NewHomeswithProfilesFINAL.pd>.

This report presents information on promising supportive housing models for youth who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. It discusses the role of supportive housing in ending homelessness among young adults and recommends practices for housing providers. It profiles ten permanent and transitional housing models, including five in California.

Durham, Kate. *Housing Youth: Key Issues in Supportive Housing*. San Francisco: Corporation for Supportive Housing, September 2003. Available at: <http://documents.csh.org/documents/pd/youth/housingyouth.pdf>.

This guide is intended as a tool for service providers, housing developers, funders, and other stakeholders interested in supportive housing (housing plus services) for youth who are on their own. It describes the need for such housing, as well as design and funding considerations.

John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes, and others. *Effective Practices in THP-PLUS: Providing Affordable Housing and Supportive Services to Youth Formerly in the Foster Care and Juvenile Probation Systems*. A Technical Assistance Document. San Francisco: The Foundation, 2007. Available at: [http://www.johnburtonfoundation.org/THP-Plus\\_Implementation\\_Guide.pdf](http://www.johnburtonfoundation.org/THP-Plus_Implementation_Guide.pdf).

This guide, developed by the THP-PLUS Statewide Implementation Project (a two-year collaboration among the Foundation, the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and the California Department of Social Services), supports the goal of the project: to reduce homelessness among former foster youth by expanding access to the Transitional Housing Program – Plus, the only fully state-funded housing program targeting this population. The guide provides information for developing and monitoring THP-PLUS programs, and additional resources.

Keys, Deborah, and others. *Who Can Help Me? Homeless Young People's Perceptions of Services*. A report of selected results from Project i: Homeless Young People in Melbourne and Los Angeles (2000-2005). The Key Centre for Women's Health in Society, University of Melbourne and The Center for Community Health, University of California, Los Angeles, August 2004. Available at: <http://www.projecti.org.au/research/research.html>.

This report describes the perceptions of 340 homeless youths about the range of services they access and their relationships with service workers, and the reasons they give for not using services within the following broad categories: housing, income support, community care, mental health, and generalist services.

(Project i is a five-year collaborative study by the University of Melbourne and the University of California, Los Angeles that focuses on homeless young people in Melbourne and Los Angeles from 2000-2005. Funded by the U.S. National Institute of Mental Health, this study generated other research reports and journal articles which are listed/can be accessed through the project website at: [http://www.kcwhs.unimelb.edu.au/research/themesprojects/sei/project\\_i](http://www.kcwhs.unimelb.edu.au/research/themesprojects/sei/project_i).)

Pierson, Carol L., and others. *The Applicability of Housing First Models to Homeless Persons with Serious Mental Illness: Final Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, July 2007. Available at: <http://www.huduser.org/Publications/pdf/hsgfirst.pdf>.

This report provides a basic description of the “Housing First” approach, short term outcomes that are being realized by the people it serves (including youth transitioning out of the foster care system), and several programs.

Straka, Doreen, and others. *Supportive Housing for Youth: A Background of the Issues in the Design and Development of Supportive Housing for Homeless Youth*. New York: Corporation for Supportive Housing, [2002].

This report serves as an overview of youth homelessness. It provides an initial assessment of the scope and breadth of the needs of homeless youth, and highlights several promising residential program models in different states, including California. It also contains systems change recommendations.

Thompson, Sanna J., and Vijayan K. Pilai. “Determinants of Runaway Episodes Among Adolescents Using Crisis Shelter Services.” *Journal of International Social Welfare* Vol.15, 2006, pp. 142-149.

This study investigates youth and family factors associated with runaway episodes for 349 youth using emergency shelter services in Texas and New York in order to determine individual and family effects on runaway recidivism.

Thompson, Sanna J., and others. “Short-Term Outcomes for Youth Receiving Runaway and Homeless Shelter Services.” *Research on Social Work Practice* Vol. 12, No. 5, 2002, pp. 589-603.

This study assesses the short-term outcomes among 261 runaway and homeless youth in four Midwestern states using emergency shelters and crisis services and compares them with similar youth using other longer-term treatment modalities.

## **SAFETY AND CRIMINALIZATION**

Blasi, Gary, and UCLA School of Law Fact Investigation Clinic. *Policing Our Way Out of Homelessness? The First Year of the Safer Cities Initiative on Skid Row*. Los Angeles: UCLA School of Law, September 2007. Available at: <http://www.law.ucla.edu/docs/Skid%20Row%20Safer%20Cities%20One%20Year%20Report.pdf>.

This research report summarizes the results of the *Safer Cities Initiative*, part of a larger project examining the problem of chronic homelessness in L.A.’s Skid Row. It examines the role of City and County policy in both contributing to and responding to that problem.

Chapple, Constance L., and others. “Gender and Arrest among Homeless and Runaway Youth: An Analysis of Background, Family, and Situational Factors.” *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice* Vol. 2, No. 2., 2004.

This study expands the minimal existing research on arrests of homeless youth and runaways. It looks for specific conditions that seem to be associated with arrests such as gender, time on the street, and time with deviant peers.

National Coalition for the Homeless and National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty. *A Dream Denied: The Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities*. Washington, DC: National Coalition for the Homeless and National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, January 2006. Available at: <http://www.nationalhomeless.org/publications/crimreport/report.pdf>.

This report continues a series of reports on the criminalization of homelessness; it documents “the worst offenders of 2005” as well as initiatives in some cities that represent more constructive approaches. It includes the survey results of laws and practices in 224 cities and of lawsuits in which those measure have been challenged.

Yoder, Kevin, and others. “Gang Involvement and Membership among Homeless and Runaway Youth.” *Youth & Society* Vol. 34, No. 4, June 2003, pp. 441-467.

This study documents the extent of gang involvement and membership in a sample of over 600 homeless and runaway youth from four Midwestern states. It compares gang members, gang-involved youth, and nongang youth on several dimensions, including sociodemographic characteristics, family background, school experiences, street experiences and exposure, emotional problems, substance use, and other behaviors.

## **YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND YOUTH VOICES**

Foster, Lisa. *Preparing Youth to Participate in State Policymaking*. Sacramento, California: California Research Bureau, 2007. Available at: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/07/07-009.pdf>.

This report presents information about how youth organizations currently prepare youth for their role in state policymaking. It shares the perspectives of state legislative and administrative policymakers on how youth can most effectively participate in this process, and it also describes how young people feel about both their preparation and participation.

Foster, Lisa, and others. *Involving Youth in Policymaking and Coordinating Youth Policy: State-Level Structures in California and Other States*. Sacramento: California Research Bureau, 2005. Available at: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/05/05/05-005.pdf>.

This report examines what California is doing to increase youth participation and improve services by involving youth and encouraging collaboration between state agencies. The report also describes the actions that other states are taking to improve state-level youth participation and agency coordination.

Pacific News Service. *The Freedom Manual: A Roadmap for Roaddawgz*. A Project of Roaddawgz. San Francisco: Pacific News Service, 2005. Available at: <http://www.roaddawgz.org>.

This book is a collection of personal narratives, art, photography and practical advice about living “outside the system” written by and for homeless youth.

## **GENERAL HOMELESS COUNTS**

Applied Survey Research. *2007 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count*. Los Angeles: Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, October 2007. Available at: [http://www.lahsa.org/docs/homelesscount/2007/LA\\_HSA.pdf](http://www.lahsa.org/docs/homelesscount/2007/LA_HSA.pdf).

*Executive Summary* available at: <http://www.lahsa.org/docs/homelesscount/2007/Executive%20Summary.pdf>.

*Fact Sheet* available at: <http://www.lahsa.org/docs/homelesscount/2007/Los%20Angeles%20Continuum%20of%20Care.pdf>.

Based on one of the largest homeless count operations in the United States, this report provides an in-depth review of homelessness in Los Angeles City and County. It provides information on the number and characteristics of the homeless (including homeless youth) important for driving programs, services and planning.

Institute for the Study of Homelessness and Poverty. *Homeless Counts in Major U.S. Cities and Counties*. Los Angeles: Institute for the Study of Homelessness and Poverty, December 2005. Available at: <http://www.weingart.org/center/pdf/200512-city-county-homeless-counts.pdf>.

This document details the count of the homeless population in metropolitan areas across the country. The locales with the largest numbers of homeless residents relative to total population include Orange County, California (1.2%). This data does not identify homeless youth as a separate population; it only differentiates between chronic homeless individuals and homeless families.

Homelessness Research Institute. *Homelessness Counts*. Research Reports on Homelessness. Washington, DC: National Alliance to End Homelessness, January 2007. Available at: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/general/detail/1440>.

This report lays the groundwork for measuring efforts to reduce homelessness by establishing a baseline number of homeless people from which to monitor trends in homelessness. It uses point-in-time counts to provide national, state, and community-level estimates. This data does not identify homeless youth as a separate population; it only differentiates between chronic homeless individuals and homeless families.

## Useful Websites

- **California Youth Crisis Line** at: <http://www.youthcrisisline.org/index.html>.  
The California Youth Crisis Line is a statewide 24-hour, confidential phone line available to young people between the ages of 12-24, and concerned friends and family members. The California Coalition for Youth provides counseling and offers support, encouragement, and referrals to youth needing assistance or in crisis situations. The number is 1-800-843-5200. The website also has resources for youth and parents.
- **Institute for the Study of Homelessness and Poverty** at:  
<http://www.unitedwayla.org/GETINFORMED/RR/RESEARCH/Pages/default.aspx>.  
United Way recently acquired the research catalog of the Weingart Center Association's Institute for the Study of Homelessness and Poverty. Established in 1996, the Institute is an information, research, and policy resource on poverty, homelessness, and related issues in Los Angeles, statewide, and other areas.
- **National Alliance to End Homelessness** at:  
<http://www.endhomelessness.org/section/policy/focusareas/youth>.  
The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a nonpartisan organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States. The Alliance analyzes policy, develops policy solutions, and works collaboratively with the public, private, and nonprofit sectors to build state and local capacity to achieve that goal. It also provides data and research for policymakers and the public: the website contains fact sheets, reports, case studies, and presentations on a variety of issues that impact homeless youth. The Alliance has a "Youth" policy focus area.
- **National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY)** at: <http://www.naehcy.org/index.html>.  
The NAEHCY is a national grassroots membership association that serves as the voice for the education of children and youth in homeless situations. It connects educators, parents, advocates, researchers, and service providers to ensure school academic achievement and overall success for children and youth whose lives have been disrupted by the lack of safe, permanent and adequate housing.
- **National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE)** at: <http://www.serve.org/nche/>.  
Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the NCHE is a national resource center of research and information enabling communities to successfully address the needs of homeless children and youth and their families.

- **National Clearinghouse on Families and Youth (NCFY)** at: <http://www.ncfy.com/yd/rhy.htm>.

The NCFY links the public to information (such as fact sheets and reports) about the government programs that serve runaway and homeless youth. It collects and abstracts publications that examine the plight of these young people.

- **National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty (NLCHP)** at: <http://www.nlchp.org/>.

The NLCHP serves as the legal arm of the nationwide movement to end homelessness. To achieve its mission, the organization pursues impact litigation, policy advocacy, and public education. The Center has a “Children and Youth” program.

- **National Network for Youth (NN4Y)** at: [www.nn4youth.org](http://www.nn4youth.org).

The NN4Y champions the needs of runaway, homeless, and other disconnected youth through advocacy and services. The Network has initiated a long-term campaign – *A Place to Call Home: Permanency Plan for Unaccompanied Youth* – to prevent and end runaway and homeless situations among youth.

- **National Runaway Switchboard** at: <http://www.1800runaway.org/>.

The National Runaway Switchboard is a 24-hour crisis line with experienced front-line staff ready to keep runaway and at-risk youth safe and off the streets. The number is 1-800-RUNAWAY. The website also has resources for youth, parents, and educators.

- **Roaddawgz.org** at: <http://home.roaddawgz.org/stories/>.

Roaddawgz.org is the voice of homeless youth. This website connects homeless youth with each other and provides them with a space to develop communication skills and see themselves as part of an empowered community. Their often ignored and misunderstood voices are brought into the public forum through writing, art and multi-media expression.



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