



## Public Policy Priorities and Agenda June 2016

---

**Our Policy and Advocacy Strategic Goal :** Improve public policies and systems that address or omit homeless and at-risk youth.

### **Our Policy and Advocacy Objectives**

- Create a policy and legislative platform and agenda
- Foster greater awareness through social media and online tools
- Work to better coordinate and leverage resources
- Streamline administrative policies and barriers
- Increase policy and advocacy skills Support a Coordinated Entry System (CES) for Youth
- Priorities

### **Resources & Funding**

- Increase investments and resources
- Better leverage current resources and funding from mainstream public service and benefits systems
- Seek additional funding for supportive services
- Increase investments in coordination and capacity building

### **Coordination of Services & Resources**

- Support Coordinated Entry System for Youth
- Promote the use and expansion of an online directory of resources and services
- Advocate for full engagement of mainstream systems in youth homelessness
- Advocate for access to critical youth data available through a variety of sources

### **Access to Housing & Supportive Services**

- Increase employment resources and support for youth
- Improving access to food
- Promote and coordinate the expansion of housing and beds for youth
- Support diverse and effective housing models
- Reduce barriers created as a result of criminalization
- Create more safe havens and crisis housing
- Improve access to substance abuse services

### **Our Approach**

- Leveraging the resources and expertise of members and partners
- Ensuring input and direction is inclusive of youth themselves
- Promoting and supporting a network of advocates that can be mobilized quickly and massively
- Utilizing data and research to inform policy and support advocacy