



voices from the street

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EXPERTS ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA (11/11)

The following contacts are some good resources for policymakers and others who wish to learn more about youth homelessness and hear from experts who work directly with homeless youth and have experience in related areas. This list represents a place to start; several other resources are available. Please contact Ginny Puddefoot at gpuddefoot@library.ca.gov if you would like some additional contacts on specific areas, or if you have a suggestion for this list.

NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION	BACKGROUND	AREAS OF EXPERTISE
<p>Sherilyn Adams, LCSW Executive Director Larkin Street Youth Services 1138 Sutter St. San Francisco, CA 94109 sadams@larkinstreetyouth.org (415) 673-0911 http://www.larkinstreetyouth.org/</p>	<p>Service Provider – directs non-profit that offers a range of housing options from shelter to permanent supportive housing along with essential services including education, technology and employment training; healthcare (mental health, substance abuse and HIV services); and case management. Larkin Street’s continuum of care is internationally recognized as a model of innovative and effective care for homeless youth.</p>	<p>[Child abuse and family violence issues, substance abuse, mental health, and HIV/AIDS; services for homeless youth]</p>

<p>Nell Bernstein 1563 Solano, No. 293 Berkeley, CA 94707 nellbernstein@att.net (510) 543-6258</p>	<p>Journalist & Author – works with the California Homeless Youth Project; previously worked with the California Research Bureau on projects related to the mental health issues of young people in the foster care and juvenile justice systems and children of arrested and incarcerated parents.</p>	<p>[Homeless youth; children of incarcerated parents; youth voice and participation; youth media]</p> <p><i>Voices From the Street: A Survey of Homeless Youth By Their Peers</i> (with L. Foster, 2008)</p> <p><i>All Alone in the World: Children of the Incarcerated</i> (2005)</p>
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<p>Heather Carmichael, LCSW Executive Director My Friend’s Place P.O. Box #3867 Los Angeles, CA 90028 hcarmichael@myfriendsplace.org (323) 908-0011 x106 http://www.myfriendsplace.org/</p>	<p>Service Provider – directs one of the most visited resource centers in Southern CA that offers a comprehensive continuum of care that includes free emergency resources such as food and clothing in combination with health, educational, and mental health services.</p> <p>Member of the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership (HHYP), a collaboration of youth-serving agencies that prevent and reduce youth homelessness through direct service, research, policy development, and training/capacity building.</p>	<p>[Homeless youth; trauma model programs; community collaborations around service planning]</p> <p><i>Psychological First Aid for Youth Experiencing Homelessness</i> (Contributor, National Childhood Traumatic Stress Network, 2010)</p> <p><i>Culture and Trauma Brief: Trauma Among Homeless Youth</i> (Contributor, National Childhood Traumatic Stress Network, 2007)</p>

<p>Sam Cobbs Executive Director First Place for Youth 1744 Broadway, Suite 304 Oakland, CA 94612 scobbs@firstplaceforyouth.org (510) 272-0979 http://www.firstplaceforyouth.org</p>	<p>Service Provider – directs this statewide non-profit that provides affordable housing and supportive services to former foster youth to provide them the opportunity to gain the skills they need to succeed on their own. It includes a housing program, an employment and academic enrichment program, counseling, youth community center, collaboration with other community agencies, and community education.</p>	<p>[Transition-age foster youth; homeless youth; housing and support services]</p>
<p>NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION</p>	<p>BACKGROUND</p>	<p>AREAS OF EXPERTISE</p>
<p>Simon Costello Associate Director Children, Youth & Family Services L. A. Gay & Lesbian Center Jeff Griffith Youth Center 7051 Santa Monica Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90038-1042 scostello@lagaycenter.org (323) 860-2281 http://www.lagaycenter.org/site/PageServer?pagename=YW_Youth_Services</p>	<p>Service Provider – Oversees drop-in center, emergency shelter and transitional housing for homeless lesbian, gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered (LGBT) youth. Services and programs include health, mental health and substance abuse services, and GED, youth employment and independent living skills programs.</p> <p>Member of the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership (HHYP), a collaboration of youth-serving agencies that prevent and reduce youth homelessness through direct service, research, policy development, and training/capacity building.</p>	<p>[Homeless and at-risk LGBT youth; LGBT foster youth; HIV education and prevention]</p>

<p>Heather M. Dearing, MSW Executive Director California Coalition for Youth (CCY) PO Box 161448 Sacramento, CA 95816 heather@calyouth.org (916) 340-0505 http://www.calyouth.org/</p>	<p>Advocate & Service Provider – directs a statewide organization of youth, advocates and allies, and youth-serving non-profit organizations that serve disconnected youth ages 12-24.</p> <p>CCY operates the California Youth Crisis Line, a toll-free helpline available 24 hours a day to youth and their families in crisis or need, including homeless and runaway youth.</p>	<p>[Transition-age youth; youth in crisis]</p> <p><i>Too Big to Ignore: Youth Homelessness in California</i> (with the John Burton Foundation for Children Without Homes, 2009)</p>
<p>Kriste Draper, JD University of San Diego School of Law 5898 Alcala Park San Diego, CA 92110 kristedraپر@sandiego.edu (619) 260-4806 http://www.caichildlaw.org/hyop.htm</p>	<p>Advocate & Service Provider – staff attorney; developed and directs the Homeless Youth Outreach Project (HYOP) that provides legal and advocacy services to homeless youth.</p>	<p>[Legal issues related to homeless youth; homeless youth]</p>
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<p>Paul L. Freese, Jr., JD Director of Litigation & Advocacy Public Counsel 610 South Ardmore Ave/ P.O. Box 76900 Los Angeles, CA 90076 pfreese@publiccounsel.org (213) 385-2977 http://www.publiccounsel.org/</p>	<p>Advocate – supervises attorneys and staff providing pro bono legal services and serves on committees, task forces and working groups focused on the needs of the homeless and on disadvantaged youth.</p>	<p>[Homeless courts; homeless youth; legal issues related to homeless youth]</p> <p><i>Runaway and Homeless Youth and the Law: Model State Statutes</i> (Contributor, American Bar Association, 2009)</p>

<p>Toni Vaughn Heineman, DMH Professor of Psychiatry University of California, San Francisco Executive Director A Home Within 2500 18th Street San Francisco, CA 94110 Toni.heineman@ucsf.edu (415) 621-1749 http://www.ahomewithin.org/</p>	<p>Clinician – founded the Children’s Psychotherapy Project and directs A Home Within that connects foster children and youth with volunteer mental health professionals who provide therapy for “as long as it takes.” Author of <i>Building a Home Within: Meeting the Emotional Needs of Children And Youth in Foster Care</i> (2005) over 40 articles and presentations on clinical work with foster children.</p>	<p>[Attachment theory; foster children; homeless youth] <i>Relationships Beget Relationships: Why Understanding Attachment Theory is Crucial to Program Design for Homeless Youth</i> (California Homeless Youth Project, 2010)</p>
<p>Patricia Johnson, MBA Director, CA Council on Youth Relations New America Media 275 9th Street San Francisco, CA 94103 pjohnson@newamericamedia.org (415) 503-4170 http://newamericamedia.org/</p>	<p>Educator – directs the California Council on Youth Relations (CCYR), a project of New America Media, the first and largest collaboration of ethnic news organizations. CCYR youth participants provide input to the California Homeless Youth Project. Founder of the Game Theory Academy and teaches economic decision-making to at-risk youth.</p>	<p>[Youth voice and involvement; economic decision-making]</p>
<p>Peter LaVallee Director, Youth Services Division Redwood Community Action Agency 904 G Street Eureka, CA 95501 peterlav_ysb@sbcglobal.net (707) 443-8322 x203 http://rcaa.org/ysb/</p>	<p>Service Provider – directs a continuum of care for homeless and runaway youth that is part of a community nonprofit agency; services include street outreach & drop-in, emergency shelter, transitional housing, mentoring, employment and emancipation assistance.</p>	<p>[Homeless youth; transition age youth; juvenile justice and delinquency prevention; rural issues]</p>
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<p>Carissa Phelps, Esq. carissa@carissaproject.com http://www.carissaproject.com/</p>	<p>Survivor, Attorney, Advocate, Trainer, & Speaker - works directly with children that have been sexually abused and exploited. Award winning documentary tells Carissa's personal story of overcoming sexual exploitation at the age of 12, to complete a JD/MBA in 2007 at UCLA. Consults w/coalitions, teams, and faith-based organizations Against Child Trafficking.</p>	<p>[Connecting with survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation; rights of children; restitution and civil claims for survivors of child exploitation; homeless and runaway youth]</p>
<p>Ginny Puddefoot, MPH, MPP Director, California Homeless Youth Project California Research Bureau, California State Library 900 N Street, Rm. 300 Sacramento, CA 95814 gpuddefoot@library.ca.gov (916) 653-7381 cahomelessyouth@library.ca.gov</p>	<p>Policy Analyst & Educator – Directs the research and policy initiative targeted at state and local policymakers that highlights the issues and challenges faced by unaccompanied homeless youth and engages youth in research and policy discussions. Co-produced, with New America Media, a 30-minute DVD: <i>Voices From the Street: Homeless Youth Speak Out on State Policy.</i></p>	<p>[Homeless youth; children of arrested parents; state budget and legislative process; health care reform and public health; mental health] <i>Keeping Children Safe When Their Parents are Arrested: Local Approaches That Work</i> (with L. Foster, 2007)</p>
<p>Debbie Raucher, MSW Housing Specialist Homeless Youth Capacity Building Project John Burton Foundation 235 Montgomery Street, Ste. 1142 San Francisco, CA 94104 debbie@johnburtonfoundation.org (510) 593-8382 http://www.cahomelessyouth.org/</p>	<p>Advocate & Service Provider – manages a federally-funded project that organizes homeless youth providers to advocate for better local, state and federal policies, and expands the organizational capacity of nonprofit providers serving homeless youth through training and technical assistance.</p>	<p>[Transition-age foster youth; homeless youth; federal funding; capacity building] <i>Too Big to Ignore: Youth Homelessness in California</i> (with the California Coalition for Youth, 2009)</p>

<p>Eric Rice, PhD Assistant Professor USC School of Social Work 1149 S. Hill St. Suite 360 Los Angeles, CA 90015 ericr@usc.edu (213) 743-4766 http://www.usc.edu/uscnnews/experts/1685.html</p>	<p>Educator & Researcher – committed to community-based participatory research, primarily on problems faced by homeless youth.</p> <p>Led a study to learn how homeless youth utilize the internet, social networking websites, and cell phone technologies to access home-based peers and family, and how such relationships promote healthy behaviors</p>	<p>[High risk adolescent behavior; homeless youth, HIV prevention, social network theory]</p>
<p>Arlene Schneir, MPH Associate Director Division of Adolescent Medicine Children’s Hospital Los Angeles 4650 Sunset Blvd., Mailstop #2 Los Angeles, CA 90027 aschneir@chla.usc.edu (323) 361-3904 www.chla.org</p>	<p>Advocate & Service Provider – oversees services for disenfranchised and vulnerable (including homeless) youth; directs the Community Trauma Treatment Center for Runaway and Homeless Youth (part of the SAMHSA funded National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative) that provides evidence-based clinical treatment and trauma-informed services for runaway and homeless youth ages 13-21 in the Hollywood community.</p> <p>Co-Chair of the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, a collaboration of agencies that prevent and reduce youth homelessness through direct service, research, policy development, and training/capacity building.</p>	<p>[HIV, adolescent pregnancy, trauma model programs, and community collaborations around service planning; homeless youth]</p> <p><i>Psychological First Aid for Youth Experiencing Homelessness</i> (National Childhood Traumatic Stress Network, 2010)</p> <p><i>Culture and Trauma Brief: Trauma Among Homeless Youth</i> (National Childhood Traumatic Stress Network, 2007)</p>
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<p>William G. Tierney, PhD Director, Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis Rossier School of Education University of Southern California 701 Waite Phillips Hall Los Angeles, CA 90089-4037 wgtiern@usc.edu (213) 740-7218 www.usc.edu/dept/chepa</p>	<p>Educator & Researcher – directs analysis of significant issues to support efforts to improve post-secondary education, including issues of equity and access for underserved populations (including homeless youth).</p> <p>Led an 18-month research project that documented the experiences of homeless youth in the Los Angeles school system and developed research driven policies on how to improve access to education for homeless youth.</p>	<p>[Homeless youth: education and public policy]</p> <p><i>Transitions to Adulthood for Homeless Adolescents: Education and Public Policy</i> (USC Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis, 2008)</p>
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