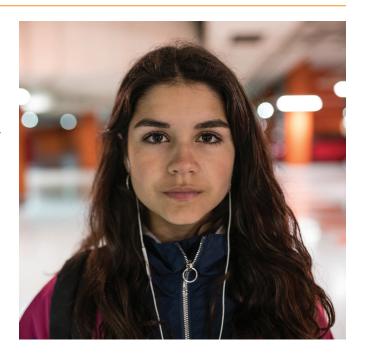
Executive Summary

In 2013, the California Homeless Youth Project (CHYP) published More Than A Roof: How California Can End Youth Homelessness, which included evidence-based policy recommendations to end youth homelessness in California. CHYP's You Count Project, which shows data on youth homelessness in California, revealed that California's Continuums of Care are currently only able to house 1 of every 7 homeless youth in the state. Depending on how one defines homeless youth, there are estimated 29,532 to 274,460 homeless youth in California. The 2021 Review is designed to follow-up on the work of More Than a Roof to show what legislation on youth homelessness has passed from 2013-2021 in California to provide information on policy steps still needed.



10 Key Areas and Their Legislation from 2013-2021:

GOVERNANCE

24 of 37 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Establish ending youth homelessness by 2020 as a state priority.

Legislation Highlights:

Budget Act funding allocations and the collaboration between state and other agencies

EDUCATION

23 of 44 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Improve educational outcomes for homeless youth to achieve stability and employment.

Legislation Highlights:

Fee waivers, reducing barriers to enrollment, and expansion of local education liaisons

HOUSING STRATEGIES

18 of 22 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Increase access to safe, stable, and affordable homes for unaccompanied homeless youth.

Legislation Highlights:

Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention includes \$5,722,774.07 in youth expenditures.

JUVENILE JUSTICE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

15 of 20 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Provide alternatives and improve law enforcement responses to homeless youth.

Legislation Highlights:

Rehabilitation programs, sealing of records, and licensing mandates

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

8 of 18 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Increase coordination and integration of the continuum of services and supports needed.

Legislation Highlights:

CalFresh eligibility, free birth records, and crisis centers/

PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION

7 of 11 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Prevent instances of homelessness before they occur

Legislation Highlights:

Addressed substance abuse, human trafficking, and foster care affecting youth

HEALTH

5 of 10 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Improve health outcomes for youth who are experiencing homelessness.

Legislation Highlights:

Created a category for "peer support specialists," and discharge planning.

RESEARCH AND DATA

2 of 5 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Better understand the number and characteristics of homeless youth.

Legislation Highlights:

Revision of goals to measure data on youth homelessness

EMPLOYMENT

2 of 6 bills passed

2013 Goal:

Improve employment opportunities and financial stability for homeless youth.

Legislation Highlights:

Government intern and student assistant positions for youth with lived expertise of homelessness

RURAL AREAS 0 of 0 bills passed

2013 Goal: Ensure that rural communities in California have the capacity to address youth homelessness in their local region.

Recommendations

- ► Funding prioritization is needed for youth homelessness efforts on infrastructure and capacity building.
- Create more low-barrier housing and services for youth through prevention and intervention efforts.
- Expand youth homelessness definition for effective identification, data collection, and service coordination.
- ► Focus on the needs of the most vulnerable populations of youth such as LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, trafficked youth, and those residing in rural areas.