

Education for Impoverished Unhoused Youth & Community Advocates



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**An estimated 4.2 million
adolescents in the United States
experience an unhousing crisis**

According to the National Network for Youth

Addressing the Problem

- According to Michael Liu, Katherine Koh, and Stephen Hwang's research article *Mental Health and Substance Use Among Homeless Adolescents in the US*, "Homeless adolescents were identified as 'individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence'."
- "Kids who change schools twice in a single year are 50% less likely to complete their basic education." The National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.

One in 10 young adults ages 18-25 experienced homelessness over a 12-month period.



That's approximately 3.5 million young adults

One in 30 youth ages 13-17 experienced homelessness over a 12-month period.



That's approximately 700,000 youth



Community Level Intervention Programs

The National Law Center on
Homelessness & Poverty

- An organization that protects the rights of adolescents currently facing homelessness can continue their education.
- Works by educating school systems and advocates for children of the rights that adolescents have.

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Strengths & Weakness

Strengths:

- Has national offices and trains other law offices in how to pursue court cases.
- Works with families, educators, and other advocates as well as adolescents themselves to educate them of their rights.

Weaknesses:

- Website lists a wide range of supportive services but not specifically substance abuse.



Community Level Intervention Programs

The National Network for Youth

- An organization that works with individuals, organizations, and communities to eliminate youth homelessness in the United States.
 - Helps shape public policy and community practices.
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Strengths & Weakness

Strengths:

- Establishes programs to keep adolescents in crisis out of juvenile detention and child welfare systems.
- Consults nationally as well as seminars
- Offers webinars through their website

Weaknesses:

- It seems like the impact and community based solutions are clustered in New York, Pennsylvania, Chicago, and other isolated areas. This does not taken into account other cultural areas such as the south or other broader cities such as Seattle or Los Angeles.

References

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