




Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth

Power ON! Youth Homelessness Service Provider Training

Eliminating Homelessness Among Nevada's Youth

Youth Homelessness vs. Adult Homelessness

Youth Homelessness

- Parent or Guardian Experiencing Homelessness due to: 
- Financial hardship
- Aging out of foster care
- Unstable child welfare placements
- Running away from parental abuse/neglect
- Being kicked out (e.g. LGBTQ or pregnant)
- Deportation or incarceration of guardian
- Death of a parent or guardian

Adult Homelessness

- Economic instability
- Job loss
- Addiction
- Abuse / Domestic Violence
- Mental or Physical Disability

Youth ages **12-17** are at **higher risk** for homelessness than adults nationwide.

Youth homelessness is different from adult homelessness because young people...

- Enter into homelessness with little or no work experience
- Are often forced into dropping out of school as a result of their homelessness
- Experience high levels of criminal victimization, including sexual exploitation and labor trafficking
- Often enter into homelessness without life skills such as cooking, money management, housekeeping, and job searching

Causes & Consequences of Youth Homelessness

Reality

- severe family breakdown
- running away from abuse and neglect
- being kicked out by their families
- falling through the cracks of the child welfare system
- deaths in the family that leave them with nowhere to turn
- economic, social, cultural, and a combination of these and other factors

Stigma

- not willing to look for resources
- threatening and dangerous
- no sense of responsibility
- lazy and unwilling to work
- delinquent and bad
- unruly and uncontrollable
- non-victims
- ran away for more freedom or not wanting to follow the rules

A Deeper Look Into Youth Homelessness

Mental Health

- An estimated 2.5 million children are homeless in the United States each year.
- 25 percent of children in shelters are in need of mental health services. This equates to 625,000 children who may need mental health support every year in the United States.
- Over 40 percent of homeless teens struggle with depression, a rate that is 12 percent higher than their housed peers (29%).
- Homeless teens consider suicide more often and are three times more likely to attempt suicide than housed teens (20% v. 6%).



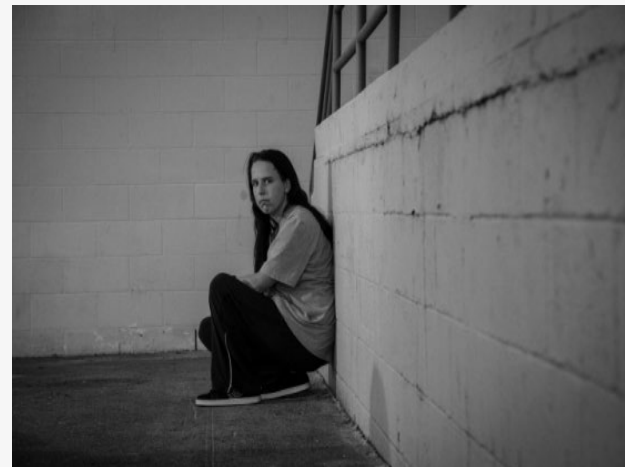
Keep in mind: Homeless youth have been exposed to violence, chronic poverty, and poor health care. These circumstances place many children at-risk of mental health problems prior to experiencing homelessness.

UNDERSTANDING YOUTH HOMELESSNESS



Youth Homelessness in Nevada


- **5th:** Las Vegas/Clark County's metro area ranking for total number of unaccompanied homeless youth (**over 2,000**) living on our streets and in our shelters on an average day in 2018 (U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development)
- **1st:** State of Nevada's ranking for the rate of unaccompanied homeless children & youth living on our streets *unsheltered* in 2018 (U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development)
- **14,598:** number of homeless youth enrolled in Clark County schools in 2015 – 2016, a 30% increase over the previous year (Clark County School District Title I HOPE office)




Questions?



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Thank you!

