

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Los Angeles Coalition to End Youth Homelessness

**Date Submitted:** 01/18/2021 08:54 AM

**Council File No:** 20-1524

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles is home for one of the largest populations of the young people experiencing homelessness. Before COVID-19, according to Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority, there were over 4,000 Angelenos under the age of 25 who were unaccompanied and unhoused—a 19% increase over the previous year. It is estimated that there are 17,000 homeless students in LAUSD. And almost 20% of students across the 9 campuses in the Los Angeles Community College District have experienced homelessness in the past year. We also young people that these estimates represent an undercount of youth experiencing homelessness as they often overlook youth who are couch surfing or precariously housed. Young people make up 38% of Los Angeles' total COVID cases. With the economic and educational fallout of COVID-19, like that of the 2008 recession, this will disproportionately impact young people. Unemployment rates as a result of COVID-19 show similar trends; youth and young people of color are experiencing unemployment rates over 50%. Youth are disproportionately suffering. Losing their jobs, in turn, increases exposure and complicates attempts to contain this virus. The nature of homelessness, housing instability, and now a pandemic requires resources to circumvent increased exposure and complicate attempts to contain the virus and stabilize the lives of LA's young people who find themselves in this predicament often due to forces outside of their own control. Youth experiencing homelessness require specific attention to their special set of needs. Often the pathways into homelessness for young people are different than adults; the pathways out are often different as well. In fact, 92% of homeless youth cite fragile social networks as their cause of homelessness, making LA's social strengthening programs even more critical. Young people also often require different types of housing options, like rapid rehousing or shared housing, and other programs and services that match their developmental needs. In the absence of a real commitment to young people, Los Angeles' youth are at risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19, exploitation and trafficking, mental health crises, poverty, unemployment, unintended pregnancies. Ending youth homelessness is not just a moral imperative—it is also one the most effective ways to prevent adult homelessness. 1 in 5 adults in LA's permanent

supportive housing units were first homeless under the age of 25. Ending youth homelessness is therefore an upstream solution to the overall crisis of homelessness in Los Angeles. Our City Council can accomplish this goal by recognizing that young people need specific and well-funded homelessness services that are developmentally appropriate. Targeted investments are the only way to divert youth's trajectories from chronic homelessness to long-term self-sufficiency. In communities across the state, youth are experiencing homelessness for long-term episodes, therefore we must act now to divert these youth from a lifetime of homelessness and early death. Committing the bare minimum of funding will not meet the needs of LA's young people experiencing homelessness. It does not account for the impact of COVID-19, which has its own identified, inequitable impacts on Los Angeles' coordination of care for youth at-risk of or experiencing homelessness and black, indigenous, and people of color. The City of Los Angeles is anticipated to receive over \$55 million in HHAP Round 2 funding in 2021 to combat homelessness and support Los Angeles most vulnerable community members. The CAO's office has recommended that the City commits the minimum required percentage to young people experiencing homelessness (8%) which results in slightly over \$4 million. We, the undersigned, are members of the Los Angeles Coalition to End Youth Homelessness, recommend the 25% of The City of Los Angeles Homeless Housing Assistance, Prevention Program Funding (HHAP) designated to transition aged youth. Email: [LACEYH@findyourlens.co](mailto:LACEYH@findyourlens.co)

# LACEYH

Los Angeles Coalition to  
End Youth Homelessness

## Respond to the Needs of Young People Experiencing Homelessness in LA

**Los Angeles is home for one of the largest populations of the young people experiencing homelessness.** Before COVID-19, according to Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority, there were over 4,000 Angelenos under the age of 25 who were unaccompanied and unhoused—a 19% increase over the previous year. It is estimated that there are 17,000 homeless students in LAUSD. And almost 20% of students across the 9 campuses in the Los Angeles Community College District have experienced homelessness in the past year. We also young people that these estimates represent an undercount of youth experiencing homelessness as they often overlook youth who are couch surfing or precariously housed.

**Young people make up 38% of Los Angeles' total COVID cases.** With the economic and educational fallout of COVID-19, like that of the 2008 recession, this will disproportionately impact young people. Unemployment rates as a result of COVID-19 show similar trends; youth and young people of color are experiencing unemployment rates over 50%. Youth are disproportionately suffering. Losing their jobs, in turn, increases exposure and complicates attempts to contain this virus. The nature of homelessness, housing instability, and now a pandemic requires resources to circumvent increased exposure and complicate attempts to contain the virus and stabilize the lives of LA's young people who find themselves in this predicament often due to forces outside of their own control.

**Youth experiencing homelessness require specific attention to their special set of needs.** Often the pathways into homelessness for young people are different than adults; the pathways out are often different as well. In fact, 92% of homeless youth cite fragile social networks as their cause of homelessness, making LA's social strengthening programs even more critical. Young people also often require different types of housing options, like rapid rehousing or shared housing, and other programs and services that match their developmental needs. In the absence of a real commitment to young people, Los Angeles' youth are at risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19, exploitation and trafficking, mental health crises, poverty, unemployment, unintended pregnancies.

**Ending youth homelessness is not just a moral imperative—it is also one the most effective ways to prevent adult homelessness.** 1 in 5 adults in LA's permanent supportive housing units were first homeless under the age of 25. Ending youth homelessness is therefore an upstream solution to the overall crisis of homelessness in Los Angeles. Our City Council can accomplish this goal by recognizing that young people need specific and well-funded homelessness services that are developmentally appropriate. Targeted investments are the only way to divert youth's trajectories from chronic homelessness to long-term self-sufficiency. In communities across the state, youth are experiencing homelessness for long-term episodes, therefore we must act now to divert these youth from a lifetime of homelessness and early death.

**Committing the bare minimum of funding will not meet the needs of LA's young people experiencing homelessness.** It does not account for the impact of COVID-19, which has its own identified, inequitable impacts on Los Angeles' coordination of care for youth at-risk of or experiencing homelessness and black, indigenous, and people of color. The City of Los Angeles is anticipated to receive over \$55 million in HHAP Round 2 funding in 2021 to combat homelessness and support Los Angeles most vulnerable community members. The CAO's office has recommended that the City commits the minimum required percentage to young people experiencing homelessness (8%) which results in slightly over \$4 million.

**We, the undersigned, are members of the Los Angeles Coalition to End Youth Homelessness, recommend the 25% of The City of Los Angeles Homeless Housing Assistance, Prevention Program Funding (HHAP) designated to transition aged youth. Email: [LACEYH@findyourlens.co](mailto:LACEYH@findyourlens.co)**

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Sherin V

**Date Submitted:** 01/18/2021 02:34 PM

**Council File No:** 20-1524

**Comments for Public Posting:** ??Respond to the Needs of Young People Experiencing Homelessness in LA ??Jump to HHAP public comment toolkit ??  
??Los Angeles is home for one of the largest populations of the young people experiencing homelessness. Before COVID-19, according to Los Angeles Homelessness Services Authority, there were over 4,000 Angelenos under the age of 25 who were unaccompanied and unhoused—a 19% increase over the previous year. It is estimated that there are 17,000 homeless students in LAUSD. And almost 20% of students across the 9 campuses in the Los Angeles Community College District have experienced homelessness in the past year. We also young people that these estimates represent an undercount of youth experiencing homelessness as they often overlook youth who are couch surfing or precariously housed. ?? ??Young people make up 38% of Los Angeles' total COVID cases. With the economic and educational fallout of COVID-19, like that of the 2008 recession, this will disproportionately impact young people. Unemployment rates as a result of COVID-19 show similar trends; youth and young people of color are experiencing unemployment rates over 50%. Youth are disproportionately suffering. Losing their jobs, in turn, increases exposure and complicates attempts to contain this virus. The nature of homelessness, housing instability, and now a pandemic requires resources to circumvent increased exposure and complicate attempts to contain the virus and stabilize the lives of LA's young people who find themselves in this predicament often due to forces outside of their own control. ?? ??Youth experiencing homelessness require specific attention to their special set of needs. Often the pathways into homelessness for young people are different than adults; the pathways out are often different as well. In fact, 92% of homeless youth cite fragile social networks as their cause of homelessness, making LA's social strengthening programs even more critical. Young people also often require different types of housing options, like rapid rehousing or shared housing, and other programs and services that match their developmental needs. In the absence of a real commitment to young people, Los Angeles' youth are at risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19, exploitation and trafficking, mental health crises, poverty, unemployment, unintended pregnancies. ?? ??Ending youth homelessness is not

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??LACEYH HHAP TOOLKIT ??January 19, 2021 ??

??Background - Council file: 20-1524 ??Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) Program is a CA state block grant distributed to Cities, Counties, and Continuums. ??The City of Los Angeles is anticipated to receive over \$55 million in HHAP Round 2 funding in 2021 to combat homelessness and support Los Angeles most vulnerable community members. ??

The CAO’s office has recommended that the City commits the minimum required percentage to young people experiencing homelessness (8%) which results in slightly over \$4 million. ??However, given such the need of young people in LA, this should be increased to 25%. ??Targeted investments are the only way to divert youth’s trajectories from chronic homelessness to long-term self-sufficiency. ?? ??Talking Points: ??