



April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Dear Fellow Legislators,

I am pleased to introduce this research report by the Senate Office of Research and the California Homeless Youth Project, *Addressing Youth Homelessness: A State Perspective*. This research was conducted at my request to explore the legislation, plans, programs, and funding other states have adopted and implemented to address youth homelessness. It contains analyses of the outcomes from state actions and discusses the evaluations that have been or are being conducted to document the results.

Researchers found that 41 states have interagency councils on homelessness, 34 states have 10-year plans to end homelessness, and 25 states specifically address unaccompanied homeless youth in their statewide plans. In contrast, California has pursued none of these actions.

I am committed to creating an action plan to reduce the number of runaway and homeless youth in California. Despite the fact that we have more than 200,000 children experiencing homelessness each year, our state has no clear and coordinated policy to address their needs or reduce their numbers. This report provides a foundation to create that policy.

I hope you will review this report and work with me to address the needs of homeless youth in our state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Liu". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**CAROL LIU**  
Senator  
21st District

## **Addressing Youth Homelessness: A State Perspective**

Senator Carol Liu asked the Senate Office of Research to provide an overview of what other states are doing to prevent and end youth homelessness. She requested information on legislation, plans, programs, funding, and any evaluations of state plans that have been adopted. As a result, this memo is set up as follows:

- Youth Homelessness: Policy Issues Addressed by States
- Recent State Legislation
- State Homeless Plans
- Evaluations of State Homeless Plans
- State Funding for Homelessness
- State Homeless Programs

This memo also includes three appendices: Appendix A lists Web site references for state 10-year plans to end homelessness, Appendix B lists Web site references for state housing trust funds, and Appendix C lists states and territories that have formed interagency councils on homelessness.

### **Youth Homelessness: Policy Issues Addressed by States**

Many studies address how and why homeless youth differ from the rest of the homeless population, and why, therefore, they should be addressed separately. While attention is increasingly being focused on youth aging out of foster care, homelessness is also a problem for youth exiting other institutions and systems, such as the juvenile justice system, treatment facilities, and mental health facilities. In addition, some young people run away from home in an effort to escape a dangerous situation, such as an abusive parent.

A comprehensive analysis published in 2003 by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty and the National Network for Youth outlined the broad areas relating to youth homelessness that had been legislated to date by various states.<sup>1</sup> Essentially, the primary policy question is how to balance protections of unaccompanied youth with preservation of their rights, privacy, and safety. The report notes that “how the law characterizes them not only determines the services that will be made available to them, but also indicates how society views them.” Highlights of the report’s findings, outlined below, help illuminate issues states have addressed or need to address in relation to youth homelessness.

- **Definitions of terms related to unaccompanied youth.** Most states consider individuals to be children, minors, juveniles, or youth if they

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<sup>1</sup> National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty and National Network for Youth, *Alone Without a Home: A State-by-State Review of Laws Affecting Unaccompanied Youth* (2003).

are under 18 years old. Individuals over 18 are generally considered adults. Fewer states explicitly define “runaway,” “homeless child,” “homeless youth,” or “homeless student.” Several states use terms such as “incorrigible,” “unruly,” “delinquent,” or “vagrant,” and a few states define a runaway as having fled his or her family “voluntarily” and/or “without permission.”

- **Youth in need of supervision.** Many states allow the juvenile court or family court to intervene with families or youth who “need supervision,” such as when a youth has run away from home. In many states, a youth who “needs supervision” (e.g., a Child in Need of Supervision, or CHINS) can be taken into custody by law enforcement or other government officials; the youth can then be provided services before or after going through court proceedings. Nearly every state has a statute relating to CHINS. Consequences of being considered a CHINS vary; most states allow a CHINS to be taken into custody without a court order, but some states prohibit housing of CHINS with juvenile delinquents. Once a case goes to court, a judge may send the youth to the parents’ or another relative’s home, place the youth on probation, award custody to the state or a treatment facility, require drug screening, revoke the youth’s driver’s license, or order fines or restitution. In many states, parents can be subjected to court-ordered treatment.
- **Status offenses.** Status offenses are behaviors or actions that are legally punishable only when committed by minors, such as running away from home, truancy from school, and violating curfews. The intent is to protect young people from being victimized, as well as preventing them from committing delinquent acts.
  - Running away. States assign runaway youth to either the juvenile justice system or the child welfare system. Almost all states allow law enforcement to take runaway youth into custody without a court order and without the youth’s permission. Most also offer services to runaway youth and their families, such as counseling, mediation, and alternative placements. A large number explicitly authorize police to return runaway youth directly to their homes without the youth’s permission.
  - Truancy. Where truancy is considered a status offense, it is defined as a certain number of unexcused absences from school. The ages at which education is deemed mandatory differs among states; compulsory education begins between ages 5 and 8 and ends between ages 16 and 18. Most states excuse students from school at 16.

- **Curfews.** Many states specifically authorize curfews. Many curfew laws include exceptions for activities such as employment, education, religious activities, or errands directed by a parent. In many cases, curfew ordinances exist at the local level regardless of state policy.
- **Emancipation.** When unaccompanied youth cannot be reunited with their parents or guardians, or connected to other relatives, they may become emancipated from their parents. Emancipation rights vary among states, but in general, emancipated youth are not permitted to vote, drive, drink alcohol, or enter the armed forces, prior to reaching the required minimum age. On the other hand, emancipation can authorize youth to control their own finances, enter into contracts, own property, consent to medical treatment, or marry. More than half of the states have a statutory emancipation process, some of which involve the court system. In some cases, parental consent is required, and some states establish a minimum age of 15 or 16.
- **Rights of youth to enter into contracts.** In general, when a minor enters a contract, it is not legally binding; the minor can break the contract without consequences. While this protects a minor, it can also make the minor less appealing to a retailer, such as a landlord, in the case of a rental agreement. Accordingly, about half of the states have enacted laws allowing minors to enter into legally binding contracts in specified circumstances; for example, many states give minors limited rights to obtain insurance (e.g., renter's, automobile, or health insurance) or buy a car.
- **Health care access for unaccompanied youth.** Young people under the age of 18 who are not living with their parents often struggle to obtain health care. Not only are finances an issue, but parental consent is often required. Even when unaccompanied youth are able to obtain health care, they often have no confidentiality protections if they are under 18. Every state has laws allowing at least one of the following groups to consent for their own health care: emancipated minors, minors living apart from their parents, married minors, minors in the armed forces, pregnant minors, minor parents, high school graduates, or minors over a certain age. In addition, every state has laws authorizing minors of varying ages to give their own consent for specified types of health care (e.g., emergency care, contraceptives, HIV/AIDS, drug/alcohol care, or outpatient mental health services).
- **Rights of unaccompanied youth to public education.** The federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act provides homeless unaccompanied youth the same right to free public education as accompanied youth. Homeless youth have the right to remain in one

school for the entire time they are homeless; the school district must provide transportation to and from the school via free bus passes, reimbursement for gas, or other services. These students also have the right to immediately enroll in school even if they lack the required documentation. Some states have adopted statutes or regulations to reinforce these rights.

- **Harboring unaccompanied youth.** Youth who are separated from their parents often seek assistance from other relatives, friends, neighbors, or private and nonprofit agencies or organizations. Some states have enacted laws that explicitly prohibit the “harboring” of runaway youth; many statutes make it a crime to contribute to the delinquency or dependency of a minor, interfere with custodial rights, or to conceal a minor. Many states make harboring a crime only if the individual or organization fails to inform law enforcement.
- **Services and shelters for unaccompanied youth.** Since states are constitutionally responsible for ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of their citizens, unaccompanied youth fall under state jurisdiction. Only a small number of states explicitly assign responsibility for runaway and/or homeless youth services and/or shelter to a specific executive branch agency. While many states establish a licensure requirement specifically for runaway and homeless youth shelters or programs, an equal number regulate these shelters under a broader child-care license.

### Recent State Legislation

In the past five years, many states have enacted legislation addressing homeless youth issues. The following table provides highlights of these measures.<sup>2</sup>

State	Legislation
Colorado	Defines homeless youth as children aged 11–21. Allows host family homes to provide services to homeless youth and outlines requirements the homes must meet. Requires the shelter or facility to notify the county when a homeless youth is admitted. Allows referrals for additional services. Provides that family foster homes shall not accept a homeless youth if foster children are in the home.
Connecticut	Requires the Department of Children and Families to review and monitor placement of out-of-state, runaway, and homeless youth and to issue an annual report to the General Assembly regarding these placements.

<sup>2</sup> National Conference of State Legislatures, “Homeless and Runaway Youth” (updated April 2010), at <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=18275> and e-mail communication (September 16, 2011).

<b>State</b>	<b>Legislation</b>
Georgia	Provides for exclusions from criminal liability for harboring an unaccompanied youth if the parents are notified within 72 hours.
Illinois	One measure establishes a program of transitional discharge from foster care for teenage children, under which former foster youth under age 21, who encounter significant hardship upon emancipation, may re-engage with the Department of Children and Family Services and the Juvenile Court to obtain support services. Another measure allows state identification cards to be issued to homeless persons at no fee.
Indiana	Provides that an emergency shelter, shelter care facility, or program that provides services to homeless or low-income individuals may provide shelter and other specified services to a child without the permission of the parent, guardian, or custodian.
Kansas	Allows runaway programs and homeless shelters to provide dental hygiene services to youth in their care.
Maine	Requires the Department of Health and Human Services to implement a comprehensive program for homeless youth and runaways through performance-based contracts with organizations and agencies licensed by the department to provide street and community outreach, drop-in programs, emergency shelter, and transitional living services.
Minnesota	Defines a homeless youth as a person age 21 or younger who lacks a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence. Requires the commissioner of Human Services to report on homeless youth, youth at risk of homelessness, and runaways.
Nebraska	Authorizes Affordable Housing Trust Fund assistance to programs benefiting homeless youth.
Nevada	Requires approved youth shelters to make a reasonable, bona fide attempt to notify the parent, guardian, or custodian of the whereabouts of a homeless or runaway youth as soon as possible, except in cases of suspected abuse or neglect. Clarifies that a "runaway or homeless youth" is a youth under the age of 18.
North Dakota	Creates a state data system on lost or missing children.
Oregon	Transfers all duties, functions, and powers relating to runaway and homeless youth from the State Commission on Children and Families to the Department of Human Services.
Tennessee	Prohibits a school from denying a child admission because he or she has not been immunized or is unable to produce immunization records due to being homeless.
Utah	Requires a person who harbors a minor who is a runaway to notify the parent or legal guardian, the Division of Child and Family Services, or, under specified circumstances, a peace officer or detention center, within eight hours of the time that the person begins providing shelter or becomes aware that the minor is a

State	Legislation
	runaway.
Washington	One measure requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to track additional expenditures related to transportation of homeless students. Another requires a licensed youth shelter or similar organization to contact the parent of a minor within 72 hours and provides that specified information regarding a runaway child may be made publicly available by the State Patrol upon request of a parent, custodian, or guardian. A third measure allows subcontractor organizations of the state's independent youth housing programs to pay for mental health services and tuition costs for court-ordered classes when such services are necessary to maintain housing.

## **State Homeless Plans**

### **Ten-Year Plans to End Homelessness**

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, more than 270 communities have adopted the Alliance's "Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness."<sup>3</sup> This list includes more than two dozen states (but not California). The 10-Year Plan, first published in 2000, calls for adoption of four key strategies to address homelessness: plan for outcomes (collect data to identify subgroups, then determine effective strategies to address each subgroup; "close the front door" (make poverty programs more accountable so programs can intervene to prevent homelessness before it occurs); "open the back door" (develop and subsidize affordable housing); and build the infrastructure (address systemic problems, such as a lack of appropriate services for those who need them).<sup>4</sup>

Plans vary a great deal in scope and size. Some run less than 10 pages, and basically reflect the Alliance's outline. Others go more in depth, identifying populations, summarizing existing resources (largely federal), and outlining specific goals and activities. Still others are updates of past plans, including actions that have been taken. The table below highlights how the 34 state 10-year plans address homeless youth.

<sup>3</sup> M. William Sermons, Peter Witte, Homelessness Research Institute, National Alliance to End Homelessness, *State of Homelessness in America: A Research Report on Homelessness* (January 2011) at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/3668>.

<sup>4</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness, *A Plan Not a Dream: How to End Homelessness in Ten Years* (June 1, 2000) at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/585>.

### How State 10-Year Plans Address Homeless Youth<sup>5</sup>

State	Definition of Homeless Youth	Recommendations to Address Homeless Youth
<b>Alabama</b> (2006)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.	
<b>Alaska</b> (2009)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of units available to youth transitioning from state custody.</li> </ul>
<b>Arizona</b> (2009)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Re-establish a formal interagency working group on joint discharge planning.</li> <li>• Identify gaps between policies and practices by interviewing individuals recently discharged from state institutions.</li> <li>• Make recommendations for enforcing or revising existing discharge planning policies.</li> <li>• Develop and implement interagency checklists for pre-release use.</li> <li>• Review all discharge planning guides regarding aging out of foster care and processes for re-entry.</li> <li>• Enlist help of various youth (foster, homeless, Youth Commission) to create an updated version of a statewide discharge planning guide for foster youth.</li> </ul>
<b>Colorado</b> (2006)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth (but see “Homeless Youth Plans” later in this memo).	

<sup>5</sup> Plans accessed through National Alliance to End Homelessness, “Ten Year Plan Database” at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993> and through various state Web sites (see Appendix A for specific citations). In cases where a plan has been updated, this chart only references the most recent update.

<p><b>Delaware</b> (2007)</p>	<p>Unaccompanied youth: includes youth exiting foster care, child mental health care, or the youth rehabilitation system.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create new housing specifically for persons who are chronically homeless or at risk of becoming chronic homeless. Specifically, establish new units of transitional and permanent supportive housing to serve young adults exiting foster care; and provide new rental subsidy vouchers, good for five years, to youth exiting foster care.</li> <li>• Remove barriers to existing housing.</li> <li>• Improve discharge and transition planning. Specifically, make all children in foster care eligible for, and assist them to sign up for, federally assisted housing waiting lists at the age of 16, to improve access to housing at 18.</li> <li>• Improve supportive services for homeless persons.</li> <li>• Enhance data collection and technology.<sup>6</sup></li> </ul>
<p><b>District of Columbia</b> (2010)</p>	<p>None.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish resource centers to help assess individuals' needs and connect them with community resources; centers would also serve subpopulations, such as unaccompanied youth.</li> </ul>

<sup>6</sup> Note: these goals are addressed to three targeted groups, one of which is homeless youth as defined in the table.

<b>Florida</b> (2011)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remove barriers to unaccompanied homeless youth, as well as minor homeless youth, to access their birth certificates needed for state identification to access school, health services, and employment.</li> <li>• Provide short-term housing assistance to families in crisis to avoid costs to the child welfare system by ensuring that housing stability is not a factor in placing children in state care.</li> <li>• Provide state investments for supportive housing for young people leaving the foster care system to reduce homelessness among unaccompanied youth.</li> </ul>
<b>Georgia</b> (2009)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and adopt state policies to end discharge of individuals from institutions (including foster care and juvenile justice programs) directly to homeless facilities, which are unprepared and unable to meet the supported service needs of the individual.</li> </ul>
<b>Hawaii</b> (2008)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish interventions to prevent homelessness among working families and specific subpopulations, such as youth aging out of the foster care system.</li> <li>• Provide homeless children and youth access to educational services. Action items include developing workshops on issues facing homeless children and youth to provide understanding and foster better teaching techniques.</li> </ul>
<b>Idaho</b> (2007)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.	
<b>Iowa</b> (2006)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand the Statewide Homeless Study to include more information on youth, the chronic homeless, and families.</li> </ul>

<b>Kentucky</b> (2009)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support legislative initiatives to develop education and training relating to discharge planning for individuals exiting corrections, psychiatric institutions, and medical facilities, as well as for youth aging out of foster care.</li> </ul>
<b>Louisiana</b> (2009)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.	
<b>Maine</b> (2008)	Unaccompanied youth experiencing homelessness: Youth ages 12 to 24 who are not at home with parents or guardians, many of whom cannot return to a stable family living situation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinate state planning and funding for services from emergency through stability for unaccompanied youth, including family reunification, emergency shelters, street outreach, transitional living, and permanent housing.</li> <li>• Ensure safe and appropriate housing and rental subsidies for families and youth, to allow rapid re-housing and stability into adulthood.</li> <li>• Ensure that physical health, mental health, and chemical health needs of unaccompanied youth are met to help ensure long-term stability and success.</li> </ul>
<b>Maryland</b> (2005)	Homeless youth: Youth under age 18 who are homeless and, in many cases, have either run away or have been kicked out of their original homes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure successful transition to adulthood for youth aging out of foster care.</li> </ul>
<b>Massachusetts</b> (2007)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth, other than including “youth aging out of systems of foster care” in the opening vision statement.	
<b>Michigan</b> (2010)	Homeless youth: Youth between the ages of 18 and 24 experiencing homelessness.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communities have developed small supportive housing developments and/or provided tenant-based rental assistance to homeless youth.</li> </ul>

<b>Minnesota</b> (2007)	Homeless youth: Youth who do not have family able or willing to support them; they have fallen through the cracks of our child welfare system, primarily due to lack of capacity.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain the 2004 plan's goal to make two-thirds of housing opportunities available to single adults and unaccompanied youth, with the remainder targeted to families with children.</li> <li>• Pursuant to the 2004 plan recommendation, the department of health services, authorized by state legislation, has directed counties to develop discharge plans for all youth in foster care beginning at age 16. Plans must include housing and employment options, and the assigned county case manager is to work closely with the youth and foster provider to implement the plan. Foster youth may petition to stay in foster care until age 21 (state wards remain in foster care until age 21.)</li> </ul>
<b>Missouri</b> (2003)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.	
<b>Montana</b> (2007)	Unattended youth: Homeless youth under age 18.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Generate awareness, create and publicize information about homelessness as it exists within specific subpopulations, including adults without children, the chronically homeless, homeless families with children, unattended youth, and re-entry populations.</li> </ul>
<b>Nebraska</b> (2010)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct local WIA Area Youth Councils to determine services and resources available in each area and connect Continuum of Care members with efforts to address youth employment issues.</li> <li>• Collect data on the demographics of homeless youth to help understand any issues relating to youth transitioning from youth rehabilitation treatment centers and/or foster care.</li> </ul>

<p><b>New Hampshire</b> (2007)</p>	<p>Unaccompanied youth: Runaway or homeless youth who have left home for any of a number of reasons (i.e., runaways, throwaways, or those escaping neglectful, physical, or substance abuse environments) and are not in the physical custody of a parent or legal guardian.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to advocate to the legislature and governor to establish a study committee to examine the ability of the state's homeless youth to make a successful transition to adulthood.</li> </ul>
<p><b>New Jersey</b> (2003)</p>	<p>None.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify gaps/capacity in funding to develop supportive housing models, with special focus on hard-to-house, youth, and other at-risk populations.</li> <li>• Evaluate models for housing and services for ex-offenders, inmate release, and juvenile youth.</li> <li>• Identify "chronic homeless" population and subpopulations, including foster care and runaway youth.</li> <li>• Identify strategies to provide educational opportunities for youth in foster homes, on the streets, and in homeless youth programs.</li> </ul>
<p><b>North Carolina</b> (2005)</p>	<p>Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.</p>	
<p><b>North Dakota</b> (2008)</p>	<p>None.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build awareness about the homeless liaison program and other initiatives designed to address the needs of homeless youth.</li> </ul>

<b>Oklahoma</b> (2008)	Homeless youth: Young people estranged from their families who live on the streets, have no stable housing, or are not well served by current housing options for adult homeless people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the availability of appropriate supportive Housing First models for homeless youth and youth transitioning out of foster care or juvenile services by at least 25% over the 2008 inventory by 2012.</li> </ul>
<b>Oregon</b> (2008)	Unaccompanied youth: A person age 17 or younger not accompanied by an adult or parent/guardian who is age 18 or older.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify or leverage funding to create or expand rapid re-housing for individuals, underserved families, and youths.</li> <li>• Increase the state's ability to better serve youth who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, by increasing the number of youth in case management.</li> <li>• Develop an inventory/roadmap of all services available to families with children, unaccompanied youth, and single adults.</li> </ul>
<b>Pennsylvania</b> (2005)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve transition planning to prevent homelessness among high-risk groups, primarily offenders returning to the community and youths aging out of systems such as child welfare and foster care.</li> <li>• Identify barriers encountered by individuals being discharged from the child service system.</li> <li>• Expand county children and youth use of transitional living programs and supervised independent living programs (for youths still in the system) to prevent homelessness among youth leaving the foster system.</li> </ul>
<b>Rhode Island</b> (2006)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.	

<b>South Carolina</b> (2004)	None.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the number of street outreach workers in both urban and rural areas, targeting persons with serious mental illnesses, HIV/AIDS, and runaway youth.</li> </ul>
<b>Utah</b> (2011)	Homeless youth: Teenagers and young adults, typically aged 15–24, who end up on their own without parents or guardians and without a permanent, safe place to stay.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This year, a youth-specific point-in-time survey was conducted with the intent of obtaining more information on homeless youth age 15–24.</li> </ul>
<b>Vermont</b> (2009)	Plan does not specifically address homeless youth.	

<p><b>Washington</b> (2008)</p>	<p>Homeless youth: An individual under the age of 18 living outside, in a building not meant for human habitation or which he or she has no legal right to occupy, in an emergency shelter, or in a temporary housing program that may include a transitional and supportive housing program.</p>	<p>In 2008, the state:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Funded 32 beds of new transitional housing and case management through the new Independent Youth Housing Program, for youth aging out of the foster care system.</li> <li>• Placed AmeriCorps members with nonprofit agencies and schools to serve homeless youth.</li> <li>• Consolidated youth homeless data and identified next steps to improve that data.</li> </ul> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assign responsibility for homeless youth facilities and teen foster care to a specific agency to coordinate service delivery.</li> <li>• Measure effectiveness via a survey of clients and subcontracting agencies.</li> <li>• Increase access to existing state resources targeted to youth who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.</li> <li>• Expand eligibility to include youth up to age 21 and youth not in state care.</li> <li>• Extend foster care housing to youth ages 18–21 who are enrolled in college or vocational education.</li> <li>• Modify statute to encourage youth to stay in school rather than evicting them for truancy.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Wisconsin</b> (2007)</p>	<p>None.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explore needs and opportunities for housing homeless youth (under 18).</li> <li>• Improve outcomes, including reduced homelessness, for children aging out of foster care.</li> <li>• Administer Former Foster Care Youth Grant in Milwaukee.</li> <li>• Request Department of Public Instruction to send a contact list of Runaway Programs to each school district homeless liaison and provide the info on its Web site.</li> <li>• Ensure Departments of Public Instruction and Health and Family Services provide a contact list of Runaway Programs to each of their regional and community-based offices and homeless liaisons.</li> <li>• Expand transitional living programs for homeless youth, both 16–18 and 18–21, with federal supportive housing funds.</li> <li>• Encourage family shelters to allow adolescent males to remain with their families in shelter.</li> <li>• Determine the need for Second Chance Homes throughout the state.</li> <li>• Use existing funds to expand and strengthen existing street outreach programs.</li> <li>• Consider expanding outreach programs to homeless families or youth.</li> <li>• Provide youth aging out of foster care with all benefits for which they are eligible.</li> <li>• Track number of benefits acquired to monitor progress and show cost benefit.</li> </ul>
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## Homeless Youth Plans

Federally Required Plans. Some federal programs require states to submit information annually as a condition of funding. For example, as referenced earlier in this memo, the McKinney–Vento Homeless Assistance Act requires states to ensure that every homeless child “has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including preschool education, as provided to other children and youth.” States must identify homeless children, allow them to enroll in school even if they lack documentation, and provide transportation services if necessary. The McKinney–Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program, administered by the U.S. Department of Education, allocates formula grants to each state; states then award sub-grants to local education agencies based on the number of homeless children identified within a district. As a condition of funding, states must submit data to the U.S. Department of Education on homeless children.<sup>7</sup>

Family Homelessness. The number of homeless families with children has increased significantly over the past decade, now comprising roughly one-third of the total homeless population. Nearly half (44 percent) of homeless mothers lived outside their homes at some point during childhood; of these women, 20 percent were placed in foster care. Families who have experienced homelessness experience much higher rates of separation than other low-income families, at least partially because many homeless shelters do not accept men. Recommendations of the National Center on Family Homelessness to combat family homelessness include:

- Placing families directly into permanent housing rather than into motels.
- Preventing children’s placement into foster care due solely to homelessness or unstable housing by providing families with intensive wrap-around services.
- Enrolling families into federal entitlement programs such as Medicaid, rather than paying for costly emergency services.
- Paying for stabilization services for families exiting the shelter system.
- Making family homelessness a priority of state interagency councils on homelessness and other planning efforts related to homelessness and poverty.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Mary Cunningham, Robin Harwood, Sam Hall, Urban Institute, Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center, *Residential Instability and the McKinney–Vento Homeless Children and Education Program: What We Know, Plus Gaps in Research* (May 2010) at <http://www.urban.org/uploadedpdf/412115-mckinney-vento-program.pdf>.

<sup>8</sup> The National Center on Family Homelessness, *Why Are Families Homeless?* (Updated June 2011), and *America’s Youngest Outcasts: State Report Card on Child Homelessness* (2009) at <http://www.familyhomelessness.org/>.

Colorado. Colorado has produced a plan specifically targeted at homeless youth.<sup>9</sup> The plan's goals are as follows:

- Prevent youth homelessness by promoting a culture of individual, familial, community, and government responsibility. Strategies include ensuring that youth have access to identification and other vital documents upon exiting systems of care and improving the availability, accessibility, and effectiveness of mentoring programs.
- Provide safe, decent, easily accessible, and developmentally appropriate homes for every youth. Strategies include identifying housing needs and gaps for homeless and at-risk youth and facilitating appropriate housing and shelter development to meet those needs.
- Provide comprehensive, wrap-around services to achieve maximum self-sufficiency or reunification. Strategies include improving the youth information and referral process and ensuring that homeless youth have access to appropriate health, mental health, and substance abuse services.
- Create awareness and establish best practices and policies based on accurate data and strategic planning. Strategies include creating a public awareness campaign and coordinating research and data activities related to homeless youth.
- Identify and link vulnerable youth to appropriate housing and services. Strategies include training providers on exploitation and human trafficking relating to youth and creating homeless youth outreach web pages.<sup>10</sup>

### **Evaluations of State Homeless Plans**

#### **Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness Analysis of 10-Year Plans**

In March 2011, the Institute for Children and Poverty published a review of state homeless plans.<sup>11</sup> The Institute found “widespread rejection of the federal government’s focus on reducing chronic homelessness in the interest of cost-effectiveness,” noting that 26 of the 28 state plans they reviewed included special populations, such as homeless families with children. According to the analysis,

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<sup>9</sup> Colorado was the only state for which our office was able to find a homeless youth plan.

<sup>10</sup> Colorado Department of Human Services, Division of Supportive Housing and Homeless Programs, *Colorado Homeless Youth Action Plan January 2007 – December 2011* (updated June 2010) at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DOLA-Main/CBON/1251596040620>.

<sup>11</sup> Institute for Children, Poverty, and Homelessness, *Beyond Chronic Homelessness: A Review of Statewide Plans* (March 2011) at <http://www.redwhiteandbluebook.org/>.

interviewees cited lack of gubernatorial leadership as a major obstacle to effective implementation: governors “should signal homelessness as a policy priority by including it in their agendas, renewing executive orders establishing interagency councils, and requiring agency directors to actively participate in councils.” Not surprisingly, lack of funding was also widely cited as a major obstacle to plan implementation, both in terms of program funding and staff to implement the plan. The Institute found that 17 of the 28 states had either developed a new plan or updated the original 10-year plan, to account for lessons learned.

### **National Alliance to End Homelessness Analyses of 10-Year Plans**

In 2006, the National Alliance to End Homelessness analyzed all the state and community 10-year plans to end homelessness in 2006, which at the time totaled 220.<sup>12</sup> The analysis found that about half of the plans targeted strategies to homeless youth, including about one-fifth of the plans that specifically addressed homelessness among youth in the child welfare system. In addition, most plans outlined systems prevention activities, including improving discharge planning from correctional facilities, transitional services from foster care, or improving discharge plans from mental health facilities and hospitals. The analysis noted, however, that only about half of the plans identified a body that would take responsibility for plan implementation or identified funding sources to implement that plan. In 2009, the Alliance published a brief update of 10-year plans, which by then had increased to 234. The update found that recent plans focused more on targeting specific subpopulations, such as homeless families with children, than earlier plans. Regarding the key factors for successful implementation, the 2009 analysis noted that “inclusion of these factors is low” in the plans.<sup>13</sup>

### **State Funding for Homelessness**

According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, more than half of homeless assistance is comprised of state and local funding. The Alliance notes that “a number of states and localities have proposed cuts to homeless assistance programs for FY 2012 . . . Further, cuts are being made to mainstream social service programs, cash assistance, and employment programs that directly affect homelessness.”<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>12</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness, *A New Vision: What is in Community Plans to End Homelessness?* (November 2006) at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/general/detail/1397>.

<sup>13</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness, *A Shifting Focus: What's New in Community Plans to End Homelessness* (September 2009) at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2502>.

<sup>14</sup> National Alliance to End Homelessness, Homelessness Research Institute, “Homeless Assistance Program Funding: Federal Versus State and Local Assistance” (July 2011) at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/4129>.

Attempting to track state funding for homeless youth is a daunting task. The National Conference of State Legislatures does not track homeless youth funding at the state level, and 10-year homeless plans that reference funding tend to mention only sources, not amounts. As an example of the fragmentation of homeless funding, Minnesota's 10-year plan cites nearly a dozen funding sources for homelessness:

- Bond funds
- Housing Trust Fund
- Supportive Services Fund (Department of Human Services)
- Youth foster care transition funding
- Transitional housing (Department of Corrections)
- Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance
- Bridges rental assistance
- Housing assistance for mentally ill individuals
- Funding for re-entry projects including a housing component (Department of Corrections)
- Group Residential Housing
- Outreach grants (Department of Public Safety)<sup>15</sup>

Due to this complexity, state budget funding is not included in the memo.

### **Housing Trust Funds**

According to the Center for Community Change, 40 states (including California) have created housing trust funds. There are also dozens of city, county, and regional housing trust funds. California's state housing trust fund, created in 1985, was one of the first. It was funded from a portion of the proceeds from leasing state tidelands for oil drilling; however, throughout its history the Fund has received little or no monies. Some states have never funded their housing trust funds; others have raided them in recent years to help prop up ailing state general funds. State housing trust funds are funded from a wide variety of sources, including real estate transfer fees, interest on broker escrow accounts, document recording fees, and document stamp taxes. Most state housing trust funds are primarily targeted to acquisition, construction, preservation, or rehabilitation of affordable housing. A few states target homelessness—though not youth homelessness specifically. For example:

- Georgia. Georgia's State Housing Trust Fund for the Homeless is funded from the state's general fund. The trust fund supports local government and nonprofit homeless assistance programs that aim to stabilize families, house or provide services to homeless people and

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<sup>15</sup> Ending Long-Term Homelessness Advisory Council, *2007 Recalibration of the Business Plan for Ending Long-Term Homelessness in Minnesota* (June 2007) at <http://www.mnhousing.gov/initiatives/housing-assistance/homelessness/index.aspx>.

individuals affected by HIV/AIDS, and assist emergency shelters and transitional housing facilities.

- Missouri. Missouri passed legislation authorizing its three most populous counties to increase their document recording fees, if approved by a public vote, to support activities in the county serving the homeless population. All three counties approved the initiatives.
- Nebraska. Nebraska has two state housing trust funds. One is the Homeless Assistance Program, which is primarily funded by a document stamp tax. Grants provide emergency shelter and temporary housing, assist homeless migrant farmworkers, link housing assistance with programs to promote self-sufficiency, and prevent homelessness.
- Washington. Washington's housing trust fund was created in 1987. The state Legislature has since authorized two surcharges on the state's document recording fee to help eliminate homelessness. The trust fund makes awards to local governments to help homeless people access housing, prevent at-risk individuals from becoming homeless, address the root causes of homelessness, track and report homeless data, and facilitate the movement of homeless individuals toward more stable and independent housing.
- Wisconsin. Since 1993, the state has directed interest on real estate escrow accounts to the state's housing trust fund. Proceeds are used to make grants to organizations that provide shelter or services to homeless individuals or families.<sup>16</sup>

## **State Homeless Programs**

### **Interagency Councils on Homelessness**

U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. The US Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH), which is made up of 19 departments and agencies, issued the first-ever national plan to prevent and end homelessness in July 2010. The plan has four goals: end chronic homelessness in five years; end veterans' homelessness in five years; end homelessness among families, youth, and children in 10 years; and to "set a path to end all types of homelessness." USICH encourages states and communities to adopt similar plans. The only objective in the USICH plan that specifically addresses homeless youth is to "advance health

<sup>16</sup> "HTF: State Housing Trust Funds" and "HTF: Homeless Trust Funds" at Center for Community Change, <http://www.communitychange.org/>; Carolina Reid, "State Housing Trust Funds: Meeting Local Affordable Housing Needs," in *Community Investments* (Community Affairs Department, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco: Volume 17, No. 3, September 2005), pp. 13-15; and SOR review of state housing trust funds (see Appendix B for Web site links).

and housing stability for youth aging out of systems such as foster care and juvenile justice.” According to the 2011 plan update, the following actions have been taken toward this objective:

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is leading an Interagency Working Group on Youth Programs. A subgroup focused on transition-age youth is reviewing existing federal programs and identifying next steps.
- USICH staff is prioritizing outreach to unaccompanied youth and youth-serving providers in visits around the country.
- USICH, HHS, and HUD collaborated to increase awareness of how local communities can better count unaccompanied youth during HUD’s annual January 2011 point-in-time homeless count.
- HUD has commissioned a study of programs that assist youth who are aging out of foster care, which will be completed in 2012.
- The Departments of Education and Health and Human Services are working together to implement the Fostering Connections Act, a law enacted in 2008 to reform child welfare policy.
- The U.S. Department of Education hosted the first-ever summit on lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth in June 2011.<sup>17</sup>

State Interagency Councils on Homelessness. California is one of just 11 states lacking a state-level council on homelessness.<sup>18</sup> An interagency task force produced a 10-year plan to end homelessness, but it was never officially adopted or implemented. Several legislative attempts to create an interagency council on homelessness have been defeated. While nearly all state homeless councils include representatives from the state department of education, department of youth and families (or equivalent division of the department of social services), and homeless providers and/or advocates, none include a member specifically representing homeless youth.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>17</sup> United States Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness: 2010* and *Opening Doors: Federal Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness: Update 2011* at <http://www.usich.gov/>.

<sup>18</sup> See Appendix C for a full list of states and territories with interagency homeless councils.

<sup>19</sup> SOR review of state interagency homeless council Web sites.

### Other Interagency Coordination

Other states have formed committees or task forces to address youth homelessness. For example, in March 2008, Arizona created the Committee on Youth Homelessness, comprised of 13 community-based organizations and four state agencies. The committee has since grown to 50 participants, holds regular meetings, and is staffed by the state Department of Economic Security's Homeless Coordination Office.<sup>20</sup> In Colorado, the Statewide Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth advises the Office of Homeless Youth Services and helps implement the state Homeless Youth Action Plan. The full committee meets quarterly, and project workgroups meet on a regular basis.<sup>21</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Department of Economic Security, *Homelessness in Arizona: Efforts to Prevent and Alleviate Homelessness, 2010 Annual Report* (December 31, 2010) at <https://www.azdes.gov/daas/achh/plan/>.

<sup>21</sup> Colorado Advisory Committee on Homeless Youth at <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DOLA-Main/CBON/1251596040516>.

## APPENDIX A: 10-YEAR HOMELESS PLAN REFERENCES

Listed below are citations for the state ten-year plans to end homelessness referenced in the “State Homeless Plans” section of this memo. Where possible, the report is directly cited; however, in some cases the report could only be found through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Web site, which is cited accordingly.

The Governor’s Statewide Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Blueprint Towards a Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Alabama* (June 2006) at <http://www.servealabama.gov/homeless/Updated%20ICH%20Page/plan.htm>.

Alaska Council on the Homeless, *10 Year Plan to End Long Term Homelessness in Alaska* (Adopted May 28, 2009) at <http://www.ahfc.us/homeless/homeless.cfm>.

Arizona Commission on Homelessness and Housing, *Housing Arizona: State Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* (2009) at <https://www.azdes.gov/daas/achh/plan/>.

Colorado Department of Human Services, *State of Colorado Homeless Policy Academy Mainstream Resources Action Plan* (August 2006) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Delaware Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Breaking the Cycle: Delaware’s Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness and Reduce Long-Term Homelessness* (February 2007) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Interagency Council on Homelessness, District of Columbia, *District of Columbia Strategic Action Plan to End Homelessness* (April 2010) at <http://ich.dc.gov/ich/cwp/view,a,1395,q,577447.asp>.

Florida Council on Homelessness, *2011 Report* (June 2011) at <http://www.dcf.state.fl.us/programs/homelessness/council/index.shtml>.

Georgia Interagency Homeless Coordination Council, *State of Georgia SFY 2009 Homeless Action Plan* (2009) at <http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/specialneeds/programs/sihc.asp>.

Hawaii Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Plan to End Homelessness in Hawaii* (Revised September 2008) at

[http://www.hawaiihomeless.org/Home\\_files/10%20year%20Plan-HI%20rev%200908.pdf](http://www.hawaiihomeless.org/Home_files/10%20year%20Plan-HI%20rev%200908.pdf).

Idaho Homelessness Policy Council, *Idaho's Action Plan to Reduce Homelessness* (April 2007) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Iowa Council on Homelessness, *A Comprehensive Homeless Strategy for Iowa* (2006) at <http://www.iowafinanceauthority.gov/index.cfm?nodeid=30068>.

Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness: Update 2009* at <http://www.kyhousing.org/kich/Content.aspx?id=492>.

Louisiana Interagency Action Council on Homelessness, *State of Louisiana Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness: The Road to Supportive Housing* (May 2009) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Statewide Homeless Council, *Maine's Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness* (March 11, 2008) at <http://www.mainehousing.org/programs-services/homeless/homeless-initiatives>.

Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Maryland 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness* (December 2005) at <http://www.msa.md.gov/msa/mdmanual/26excom/html/21home.html>.

Massachusetts Commission to End Homelessness, *Report of the Special Commission Relative to Ending Homelessness in the Commonwealth* (December 28, 2007) at <http://www.mahomeless.org/advocacy/FY'09/FinalhomelessnesscommissionreportJan9.doc>.

Michigan's Campaign to End Homelessness, *Working Together to End Homelessness: The Plan* (October 2010) at <http://www.thecampaigntoendhomelessness.org/MichigansCampaign/Michigans10YearPlan.aspx>.

Ending Long-Term Homelessness Advisory Council, *2007 Recalibration of the Business Plan for Ending Long-Term Homelessness in Minnesota* (June 2007) at <http://www.mnhousing.gov/initiatives/housing-assistance/homelessness/index.aspx>.

Governor's Committee to End Homelessness, *Ending Homelessness in Missouri* (2003) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Montana Council on Homelessness, *No Longer Homeless in Montana: A Report on the State of Homelessness and a Ten Year Plan to End It: 2006-2014* (December 2006) at [http://www.mtcoh.org/index.php?option=com\\_frontpage&Itemid=41](http://www.mtcoh.org/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=41).

Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness, *Completing the Journey: Nebraska's Action Plan for People Experiencing Chronic Homelessness* (2010) at <http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/fia/nhap/nhapplan.htm>.

Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness, *A Home for Everyone: New Hampshire's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness* (December 21, 2006) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

New Jersey State Policy Academy Team, *Preliminary Plan to End Homelessness in New Jersey* (December 1, 2003) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Interagency Council for Coordinating Homeless Programs, *North Carolina 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness* (February 2005 Draft) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

North Dakota Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Housing the Homeless: North Dakota's 10-Year Plan to End Long Term Homelessness* (October 2008) at [http://www.ndhomelesscoalition.org/images/10year/STATE\\_10\\_YEAR\\_PLAN.pdf](http://www.ndhomelesscoalition.org/images/10year/STATE_10_YEAR_PLAN.pdf)

Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Oklahoma's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness* (August 2008) at <http://www.homelessalliance.org/docs/OKStatePlan.pdf>.

Ending Homelessness Advisory Council, *A Home for Hope: A 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness in Oregon* (June 2008) at [http://www.ehac.oregon.gov/OHCS/EHAC/EHAC\\_OR\\_10\\_Year\\_Plans.shtml](http://www.ehac.oregon.gov/OHCS/EHAC/EHAC_OR_10_Year_Plans.shtml).

Pennsylvania Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Agenda for Ending Homelessness in Pennsylvania* (November 2005) through the National Alliance to End Homelessness Ten Year Plan Database at <http://www.endhomelessness.org/content/article/detail/2993>.

Policy Academy Plan Development Group, *State of Rhode Island Action Plan to End Homelessness* (January 16, 2006) at <http://www.hrc.ri.gov/documents/HomelessPlan.DOC>.

South Carolina Council on Homelessness, *Blueprint to End Homelessness in South Carolina* (November 2004) at <http://www.state.sc.us/dmh/homelesstateplan04.pdf>.

State of Utah Division of Housing and Community Development and Department of Community Culture, *Comprehensive Report on Homelessness 2011* (September 2011) at <http://housingworks.utah.gov/>.

Vermont Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Vermont Interagency Council on Homelessness 2008 Report to Governor Douglas* (February 2009) at <http://humanservices.vermont.gov/publications/vermont-interagency-council-on-homelessness-report-to-governor-douglas/view>.

State of Washington Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, *Ten-Year Homeless Plan: 2008 Annual Report* (December 2008) at <http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/823/default.aspx>.

Wisconsin Interagency Council on Homelessness, *Plan to End Homelessness in Wisconsin: "Homeward Wisconsin"* (July 2007) at <http://www.commerce.wi.gov/CD/docs/Housing-Reference/cd-boh-homelessnessplan.pdf>.

## APPENDIX B: HOUSING TRUST FUNDS

Listed below are Web sites related to state housing trust funds that were reviewed for the “State Funding for Homelessness” section of this memo.

Center for Community Change: <http://www.communitychange.org/page/hf-state-housing-trust-funds>

Arizona State Housing Trust Fund:  
<http://www.azhousing.gov/ShowPage.aspx?ID=82>

Delaware Housing Development Fund:  
[http://www.destatehousing.com/Developers/dv\\_hdf.php](http://www.destatehousing.com/Developers/dv_hdf.php)

Connecticut Housing Trust Fund for Growth and Opportunity:  
<http://www.state.ct.us/ott/abouthousingtrustfund.htm>

Florida Housing Trust Fund (Florida Housing Coalition):  
<http://www.flhousing.org/trust-fund-advocacy>

Georgia State Housing Trust Fund:  
<http://www.dca.state.ga.us/housing/SpecialNeeds/index.asp>

Hawaii Rental Housing Trust Fund:  
<http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/hhfdc/developers/RHTF.html>

Idaho Housing Trust Fund (National Housing Trust):  
[http://www.nhtinc.org/downloads/id\\_preservation.pdf](http://www.nhtinc.org/downloads/id_preservation.pdf)

Illinois Affordable Housing Trust Fund:  
<http://www.ihda.org/ViewPage.aspx?PageID=105>

Indiana Housing and Community Development Fund:  
[http://www.ourindianahome.org/documents/oih\\_advisory\\_committee\\_report\\_summary.pdf](http://www.ourindianahome.org/documents/oih_advisory_committee_report_summary.pdf)

Iowa State Housing Trust Fund:  
[http://www.iowafinanceauthority.gov/en/for\\_communities\\_housing\\_org/state\\_housing\\_trust\\_fund/](http://www.iowafinanceauthority.gov/en/for_communities_housing_org/state_housing_trust_fund/)

Kansas Housing Trust Fund:  
[http://melindaklewis.files.wordpress.com/2009/06/housing\\_trust\\_fund.pdf](http://melindaklewis.files.wordpress.com/2009/06/housing_trust_fund.pdf)

Kentucky Affordable Housing Trust Fund:  
<http://www.kyhousing.org/page.aspx?id=319>

Housing Opportunities for Maine Fund:

<http://www.mainehousing.org/docs/reports/reports-homefund11.pdf>

Maryland Affordable Housing Trust:

<http://www.mdhousing.org/Website/programs/maht/Default.aspx>

Massachusetts Affordable Housing Trust Fund:

<https://www.masshousing.com/portal/server.pt?mode=2&uulD=%7BAEC3205D-953D-4243-AC65-C4F521932104%7D>

Minnesota Housing Trust Fund:

<http://www.leg.state.mn.us/docs/2002webarchive/statetreasurer/treasops/hous-tf/index.htm>

Missouri Housing Trust Fund:

[http://www.mhdc.com/housing\\_trust\\_fund/index.htm](http://www.mhdc.com/housing_trust_fund/index.htm)

Montana Trust Fund Loan Program: <http://www.mtfacilityfinance.com/tflp.mcp>

Nebraska Homeless Assistance Trust Fund:

<http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/fia/nhap/aboutnhap.htm>

Nevada Account for Low-Income Housing (Trust Fund):

[http://nvhousing.state.nv.us/low\\_income/liindex.htm](http://nvhousing.state.nv.us/low_income/liindex.htm)

New Hampshire Affordable Housing Trust: [http://www.nhhfa.org/bp\\_aht.cfm](http://www.nhhfa.org/bp_aht.cfm)

New Jersey Special Needs Housing Trust Fund:

<http://www.nj.gov/dca/hmfa/biz/devel/specneed/trust.html>

North Carolina Housing Trust Fund (North Carolina Housing Coalition):

<http://nchousing.blogspot.com/2011/05/why-we-need-nc-housing-trust-fund.html>

Ohio Housing Trust Fund:

<http://www.development.ohio.gov/community/ohcp/hf/OhioHousingTrustFundHomePage.htm>

Oklahoma Housing Trust Fund:

[http://www.ohfa.org/PageViewer.aspx?m=SUBPAGE\\_AboutHistory.html](http://www.ohfa.org/PageViewer.aspx?m=SUBPAGE_AboutHistory.html)

Oregon Housing Development Grant ("Trust Fund") Program:

[http://www.oregon.gov/OHCS/HRS\\_Housing\\_Dev\\_Grant.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OHCS/HRS_Housing_Dev_Grant.shtml)

Oregon Low Income Rental Housing Fund Program:

[http://www.oregon.gov/OHCS/CSS\\_Low\\_Income\\_Rental\\_Housing\\_Fund\\_Program.shtml](http://www.oregon.gov/OHCS/CSS_Low_Income_Rental_Housing_Fund_Program.shtml)

Rhode Island Housing Trust Fund: <http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/statutes/title42/42-55.1/42-55.1-1.htm>

South Carolina Housing Trust Fund:  
[http://www.sha.state.sc.us/Housing\\_Partners/Housing\\_Trust\\_Fund](http://www.sha.state.sc.us/Housing_Partners/Housing_Trust_Fund)

Texas Housing Trust Fund: <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/htf/>

Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund (Utah):  
<http://housing.utah.gov/owhlf/index.html>

Vermont Housing and Conservation Trust Fund:  
<http://www.smartgrowthvermont.org/learn/landscape/vhcb/>

Washington Housing Trust Fund:  
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov/site/493/default.aspx>

West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust Fund: <http://www.wvaht.org/>

Wisconsin Housing Cost Reduction Initiative Program:  
<http://commerce.wi.gov/CD/cd-boh-hcri.html>

**APPENDIX C: STATE INTERAGENCY HOMELESS COUNCILS**

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, as of July 2011 there were 41 active state and territory interagency councils on homelessness:

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Arkansas
- Colorado
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Idaho
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Maine
- Maryland
- Massachusetts
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- New Hampshire
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Puerto Rico
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia

- Virgin Islands
- Washington
- Wisconsin

In addition, the following states have formed interagency councils on homelessness, but the councils are either inactive or were never formally approved:

- California
- Connecticut
- Mississippi
- Montana
- Nevada
- New Jersey
- New Mexico
- New York
- Tennessee
- West Virginia
- Wyoming<sup>22</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness Web site at [http://www.usich.gov/audience/state\\_and\\_local\\_government/](http://www.usich.gov/audience/state_and_local_government/).