



voices from the street

CA Homeless Youth Project
 900 N Street, Suite 300
 P.O. Box 942837
 Sacramento, CA 95814
 (916) 653-7843
cahomelessyouth.library.ca.gov

NATIONAL EXPERTS ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS 10/10

The individuals below are policy, legal, or research experts on youth homelessness at the national level. This list represents a place to start; there are several other knowledgeable resource people that are not listed. Please contact Ginny Puddefoot at gpuddefoot@library.ca.gov if you would like some additional contacts on specific areas, or if you have a suggestion for this list.

NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION	AREAS OF EXPERTISE
<p>Maureen Blaha Executive Director National Runaway Switchboard (NRS) 3080 N. Lincoln Ave. Chicago, IL 60657 mblaha@1800RUNAWAY.org (773) 289-1720 http://www.1800runaway.org/</p>	<p>[Homeless youth, runaway youth]</p> <p>Ms. Blaha directs the NRS, the federally designated national 24-hour crisis line (1-800-RUNAWAY) and information clearinghouse for runaway and homeless youth; its mission is to help keep these youth safe and off the streets. She is also an ex-officio to the Interstate Commission for Juveniles. The NRS conducted a comprehensive statistical analysis of crisis calls from 2000-09 to identify caller characteristics, issues, and trends.</p>
<p>Barbara Duffield Policy Director National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) 4701 Connecticut Avenue, NW #402 Washington, DC 20008-5625 bduffield@naehcy.org (202) 364-7392 http://www.naehcy.org/</p>	<p>[Education issues and policy for homeless children and youth; McKinney-Vento Act]</p> <p>NAEHCY is an education and advocacy organization which connects educators, parents, advocates, researchers, and service providers to ensure educational and overall success for children and youth who lack safe, permanent, and adequate housing. Among her duties as Policy Director, Barbara Duffield conducts trainings throughout the country on implementing the McKinney-Vento Act. She has also published several academic articles on issues relating to the education of homeless youth, including co-authoring <i>Educating Children Without Housing, A Primer on Legal Requirements and Implementation Strategies for Educators, Advocates and Policymakers</i> (American Bar Association, 2009).</p>

NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION	AREAS OF EXPERTISE
<p>Amy Dworsky, PhD Senior Researcher Chapin Hall - University of Chicago 1313 E. 60th Street, Chicago, Illinois 60637 adworsky@chapinhall.org (773) 256-5164 http://www.chapinhall.org</p>	<p>[Foster youth; transition-age youth; homeless youth]</p> <p>Dr. Dworsky's research at the University of Chicago's Chapin Hall includes youth aging out of foster care and the educational trajectories of homeless youth. She is co-investigator for the Midwest Evaluation of the Adult Functioning of Former Foster Youth, a prospective study that has been following a sample of young people from three states as they transition out of foster care, and has published several reports and briefs on issues relating to homeless youth. She co-authored <i>Homeless Youth in the United States: Recent Research Findings and Intervention Approaches</i> presented at the 2007 National Symposium on Homelessness Research.</p>
<p>Adrienne Fernandes-Alcantara Specialist in Social Policy Domestic Social Policy Division Congressional Research Service (CRS) Library of Congress 101 Independence Avenue SE Washington D.C. 20540 afernandes@crs.loc.gov (202) 707-9005 http://openocrs.com/</p>	<p>[Homeless youth; foster youth; disconnected youth race and youth homelessness]</p> <p>As a Specialist in Social Policy, Ms. Fernandes-Alcantara has published several CRS reports commissioned by members of Congress and presented on youth homelessness issues, including <i>Runaway and Homeless Youth: Demographics, Programs, and Emerging Issues</i> (CRS, January 2007). She presented <i>Exploring Racism's Impact on Youth Homelessness in America: Overview and Research</i> at the National Alliance to End Homelessness 2007 Conference.</p>
<p>Michael Pergamit, PhD Senior Research Associate Center on Labor, Human Services & Population The Urban Institute 2100 M Street NW Washington, DC 20037 mpergamit@urban.org (202) 261-5276 http://www.urban.org/</p>	<p>[Runaway youth, foster youth] [Runaway youth, foster youth, transition age youth]</p> <p>Dr. Pergamit is researcher with the Urban Institute, a nonpartisan economic and social policy research organization whose subjects includes youth aging out of foster care and runaway youth. He is the Principal Investigator on the study <i>Runaway Youths' Knowledge and Access of Services</i> (2010) and the co-Principal Investigator of an evaluation of HUD's Family Unification Program. He is also the author of the Occasional Paper <i>On the Prevalence of Running Away From Home</i> (Urban Institute, April 2010).</p>

NAME & CONTACT INFORMATION	AREAS OF EXPERTISE
<p>Robert Reeg Public Policy Director National Network for Youth (NN4Y) 1050 Connecticut Ave. NW, PO Box 66492 Washington, DC 20036 breeg@nn4youth.org (202) 265-7271 http://www.nn4youth.org/</p>	<p>[Runaway youth, homeless youth, disconnected youth; homeless young parents]</p> <p>The NN4Y represents more than 500 public, community-based, and faith-based organizations that provide services to youth and families. It was the architect of the federal Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA). As Public Policy Director, Mr. Reeg oversees education, networking, training, and policy advocacy with federal, state, and local lawmakers. He is co-author of <i>Families on the Edge: Homeless Young Parents and their Welfare Experiences, A Survey of Homeless Youth and Service Providers</i> (2002).</p>
<p>Casey Trupin, JD Staff Attorney Columbia Legal Services 101 Yesler Way, Suite 300 Seattle, WA 98104 Casey.trupin@columbialegal.org (206) 287-9665 www.columbialegal.org</p>	<p>[Homeless youth legal issues; model state statutes; education]</p> <p>As Special Advisor, and former chair, to the American Bar Association's Commission on Homelessness and Poverty, Mr. Trupin advocates for at-risk, homeless and foster youth. He co-founded and directed the Street Youth Legal Advocates of Washington (SYLAW) and remains on the Advisory Board, and has written articles on legal issues related to homeless children, youth and adults. Mr. Trupin has co-edited a number of books, including <i>Educating Children Without Housing, A Primer on Legal Requirements and Implementation Strategies for Educators, Advocates and Policymakers</i> (American Bar Association, 2009), and <i>Runaway and Homeless Youth and the Law: Model State Statutes</i> (American Bar Association, 2008).</p>
<p>Les Whitbeck, PhD Professor Department of Sociology 739 Oldfather Hall University of Nebraska-Lincoln Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0324 lwhitbeck2@unl.edu (402) 472-5562 http://cyfs.unl.edu/index.shtml</p>	<p>[Homeless youth; risk factors; mental health; resilience; gang involvement]</p> <p>Sociologist Les Whitbeck has published numerous academic journal articles describing his continuing research on homeless youth. He authored <i>Nowhere to Grow: Homeless and Runaway Adolescents and their Families</i> (1999), and <i>Mental Health and Emerging Adulthood Among Homeless Young People</i> (2009), the first study that follows homeless youth into young adulthood and reviews the mental health consequences of runaway episodes and street life.</p>