

Block & Build for Youth Housing Stability

priorities for this ~~moment~~ and beyond

Funders Together
FOR HOUSING JUSTICE



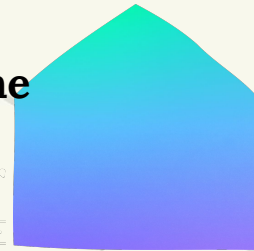
What is Housing Justice?

Housing justice means creating a society that offers assurance of safe, secure, affordable, and dignified living conditions where people have power and agency over how and where they live.

We believe housing is a fundamental human right and a building block for racial justice and liberation.

Housing justice recognizes that for generations equitable access to housing has been denied to Black and Indigenous people and other communities of color, which has fueled the disproportionate numbers of Black and other people of color experiencing homelessness.

By pursuing housing justice, Funders Together is unapologetically stating that homelessness is a racialized experience created and exacerbated by the forces of structural racism. Funders Together advocates for corrective action, such as reparations, to address the cumulative disparities and transform systems of accountability to ensure housing for all.



Two Frameworks for Strategic Decision Making

Every strategy can be viewed through two different lenses.

1. What does this political reality require?

BLOCK ↔ BUILD

- Defend what exists,
- Resist harmful policies,
- Protect hard-won gains.
- Create what does not yet exist,
- Build new systems,
- Shift power and invest in long-term change.

2. How deeply does this strategy change the system?

REFORM ↔ TRANSFORMATION

- Improve existing systems,
- Incremental change,
- Strengthen current models.
- Reimagine or replace systems,
- Change underlying conditions,
- Redistribute power and agency.



Two Frameworks for Strategic Decision Making

Every strategy can be viewed through two different lenses.

PLAINLY:

These frameworks answer different questions.

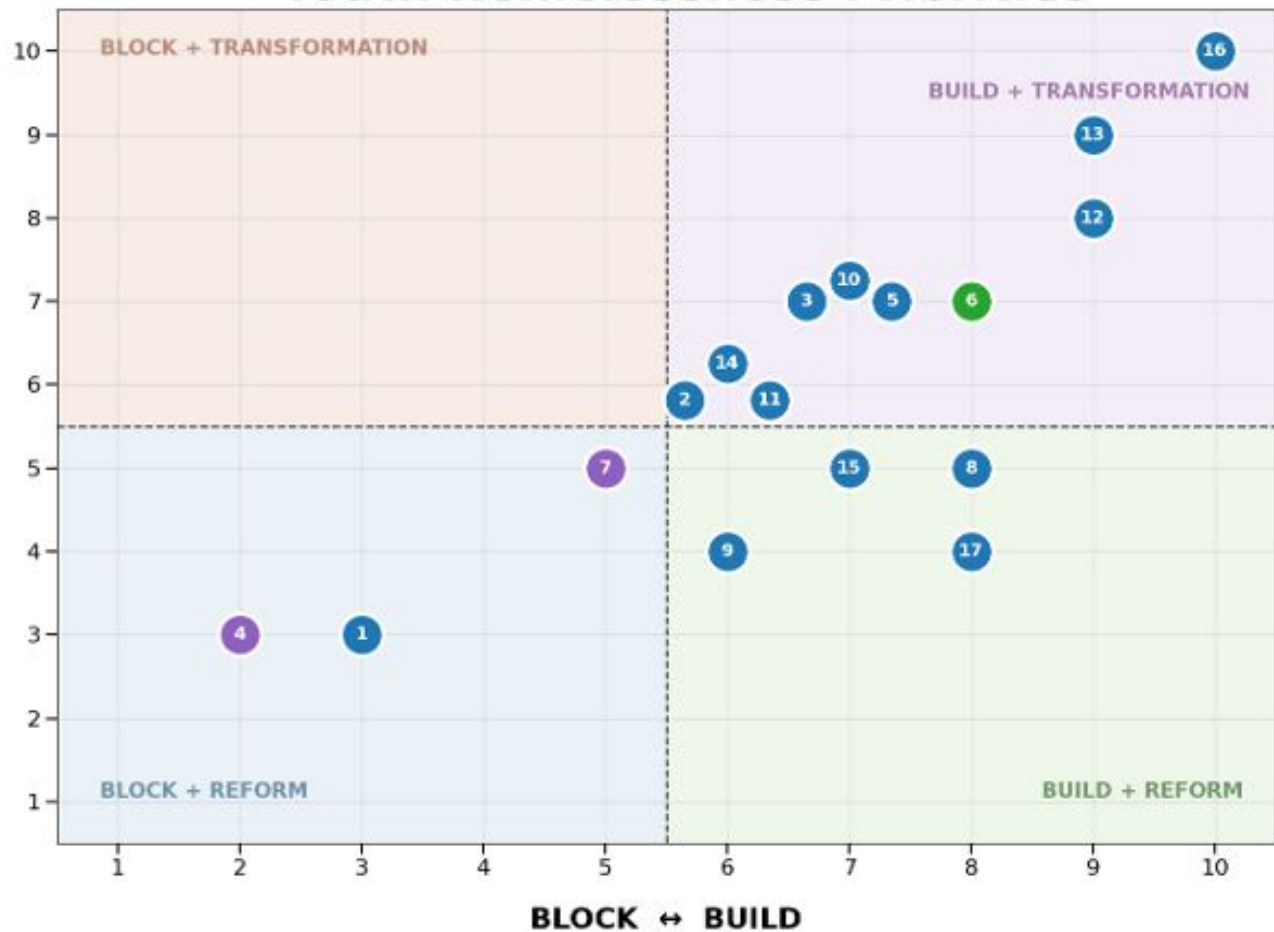
Block ↔ Build asks what does this political reality require?

Reform ↔ Transformation asks how deeply that work changes the systems producing youth homelessness.



Youth Homelessness Priorities

REFORM ↔ TRANSFORMATION



Plotted items

1. Protecting fed services funding (YHDP, RHY, MV)
2. Funding for systems reform (YHSI, YHDP What's Next)
3. Prevention pilots (PDP/PHYDP)
4. Anti-criminalization policies
5. Federal agency reform (HUD/HHS/Ed)
6. State offices of homeless youth
7. Building external advocacy
8. Expansion of core service funding (RHYA, MV, YHDP)
9. Youth CoC set-aside
10. Housing upon discharge from systems
11. Extended foster care
12. Youth voucher entitlement
13. Guaranteed income
14. Emergency cash assistance
15. Eviction prevention fund
16. Housing right for youth
17. PSH for youth

Placements are provocations, not final answers.