



Welcome to the Funders Network for Youth Success e-news! As we mentioned last month, we wanted to provide you with a look at various ways you can connect and learn alongside your colleagues investing in solutions to end youth homelessness. As a member of the Funders Network for Youth Success, you'll receive quarterly newsletters focused on the latest information, programming, and resources about youth homelessness.

As our nation faces the COVID-19 pandemic, philanthropy's collective learning and action is crucial to supporting people experiencing homelessness and service providers in our communities. In the coming months, Funders Together will be providing webinars, funder calls, and resources as communities respond to COVID-19 and work to address the well-being and unique needs of vulnerable populations, such as young people of color and LGBTQ youth experiencing homelessness. If you have questions, please contact me at tabitha@funderstogether.org

Youth Homelessness Programming

[COVID-19 Relief Package: What Philanthropy Needs To Know and Act On](#)

Friday, April 3 | 2:00 - 3:15pm ET, 11:00am - 12:15pm PT

With the passing of the COVID-19 Relief Package, it is critical for philanthropy to work closely with state and local governments to coordinate responses and resources to ensure the safety of people experiencing homelessness and to prevent people from experiencing homelessness or housing instability due to COVID-19.

This webinar will provide an update from national partners about what the final bill includes and what was left out, what needs and concerns they're hearing from communities across the country, and how philanthropy should be engaging in public-private partnerships to leverage resources and maximize COVID-19 response efforts in communities to support people experiencing homelessness and service providers. We'll also look at how funders are supporting their communities and critical questions or areas for concern that we are thinking about.

Speakers include:

- Nan Roman, President and CEO, National Alliance to End Homelessness
- Ann Oliva, Senior Advisor to the Homelessness Field
- Chris Ko, Director of Homeless Initiatives for the United Way of Greater Los Angeles
- Kollin Min, Senior Program Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

[Funders Together Weekly COVID-19 Calls](#)

Wednesdays | 3pm ET, 12pm PT

Join our next weekly funder call for an opportunity to connect with peers and have candid and open conversations about what is happening in communities related to supporting people experiencing homelessness during the COVID-19 pandemic. To make this an interactive and engaging dialogue, attendees should be prepared to talk about 1) what is happening in your community? 2) How are you and/or other funders responding? and 3) What questions do you have for the group?

[Point Source Youth Weekly COVID-19 Calls](#)

Wednesdays | 2pm ET, 11am PT

Point Source Youth is hosting weekly COVID-19 webinars every Wednesday at 2pm ET to ensure that the National Youth Homelessness Community has direct access to leading experts across relevant fields amidst the Coronavirus Pandemic. Register to access these weekly calls, as well as additional resources on the [weekly calls page](#).

Webinar Recording: [Opportunities for Impact with Host Homes](#)

In this webinar, we were joined by Larry Cohen and Orlando Roybal from Point Source Youth, Elvis Guzman from The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, and Tammy Marsashlian from United Way of Greater Los Angeles to discuss the work that is happening in Baltimore and Los Angeles around Host Homes, how funders are currently engaging in this work, and where they are additional opportunities.

Access to the webinar recordings is only available to Full Members of Funders Together. If you are interested in joining to view these recordings as well as gain access to other Full Member benefits, contact Stephanie Chan, stephanie@funderstogether.org or visit our [Join Us page](#).



Youth Homelessness News

[Los Angeles County Dedicates \\$11.8M in State Homelessness Funding to Youth](#)

The Chronicle of Social Change (January 23, 2020)

[Trump admin unlawfully axing LGBTQ discrimination protections, suit claims](#)

NBC News (March 19, 2020)

[LGBTQ Youth Among the Most Vulnerable as Homeless Centers Close](#)

The Advocate (March 24, 2020)

[Tackling Youth Homelessness with Cash During Coronavirus](#)

The Chronicle of Social Change (March 24, 2020)



Network Member Spotlight



**United Way
of the Midlands**

In 2013, [United Way of the Midlands](#) initiated the Youth in Transition (YIT) movement in response to a growing number of homeless youth in the community. Since its development, over 50 public and private partners and community leaders have joined the mission.

United Way of the Midlands formed the Youth in Transition Initiative to focus on young people, age 17 to 24, who are experiencing homelessness, vulnerable to experiencing homelessness, or are at risk for other poor outcomes due to a lack of social and financial support. This includes youth transitioning out of foster care or juvenile or adult justice, runaway youth, unaccompanied youth, or other youth who may be overlooked in their system of care.

Since its inception, the YIT movement has expanded to include youth specific street outreach, 40 new units of housing for youth, and the opening of a youth drop-in center. In December 2017, the [Midlands Youth Plan](#) was released, which includes eight measurable goals and 16 specific strategies for homeless prevention, improved discharge planning, community level reporting and measurement of success, outreach including specialized access points for youth, and development of housing and services to fill gaps. To advance progress in accomplishing this goal, UWM established a data use agreement with the state data-warehouse and received approval to complete a matching cohort study examining predictors of youth homelessness. This study's results are outlined in the [Youth In Transition: System Experience Prior to Homelessness](#) report.

The information from this study helped inform the work of the YIT movement. When the movement started, only two agencies were providing housing with services to youth in Richland and Lexington counties. In the last three years, there has been a dramatic expansion of housing and services including implementing youth-specific street outreach, 78 new units of shelter and housing for youth, and opening a youth drop-in center. The Youth in Transition movement seeks and incorporates input from youth through focus groups, high school age and young adult surveys, youth participation in the Youth in Transition group and Steering Committee, and a youth leadership program which has developed into a Youth Action Board.

The investment of the United Way of the Midlands in convening and research has helped propel their plan to end youth homelessness in Richland and Lexington counties. As they have seen huge momentum in their work, they continue to strive to support youth people experiencing homelessness to create solutions to support those most vulnerable in their community.

For more information about the Youth In Transition initiative, reach out to [Jennifer Moore](#), Senior Director for Financial Stability, United Way of the Midlands.

A purple banner with a white laptop icon on the left and the text "Youth Homelessness Resources" in white, sans-serif font to its right.

Youth Homelessness Resources

[Funders Together Youth Homelessness Resource Page](#)

These resources provide a snapshot of the current youth homelessness landscape for funders and support funders in identifying the role they can play in advancing the working happening both nationally and locally. From upcoming programming to partners in the work to policy updates, we will be updating this page with timely resources as they become available, so bookmark this page and check back often!

[Funders Together COVID-19 Resources for Philanthropy](#)

In light of concerns surround COVID-19 and how it's affecting our neighbors and communities, we know it's been top of mind for many funders and partners. This page hosts general resources for funders as well as resources focused on COVID-19's impact on housing and homelessness.

Have upcoming programming, resources, or news to share? [Let us know](#) so we can include in our next quarterly Funders Network for Youth Success e-news!

Funders Together to End Homelessness

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