



FUNDERS NETWORK FOR YOUTH SUCCESS

Welcome to the Funders Network for Youth Success newsletter! Here we share various ways you can connect and learn alongside your Funders Network for Youth Success colleagues investing in solutions to end youth homelessness.

[Reflections on Homelessness Prevention from Our Canadian Neighbors](#)



A delegation of Funders Together staff and members attended last month's "cross-border learners' exchange" between Canadian and U.S. foundations around youth homelessness prevention. Director of Networks Michael Durham [penned this article](#) to document his experience in Toronto, summarizing the two-day meeting itself and reflecting on what this means for the movement stateside.

Michael's principal reflection is that certain strategies represented by the Canadian programs are indeed working to reduce inflow into the youth shelter system and should be replicated, but racial and LGBTQ+ justice seemed peripheral and most prevention solutions appeared more like diversion. We must address how far upstream we go to prevent the trauma of housing instability, including abolition of the systems causing such harm, without losing the focus on homelessness.

[Read the post here.](#)



Youth Homelessness Programming

Preventing Youth Homelessness Series: The Role Of Healthcare

Tuesday, November 29 | 2 PM ET/11 AM PT



Aruna Krishnakumar
Callen-Lorde Community
Health Center



Barbara DiPietro
National Health Care for
the Homeless Council



Michael Durham
Funders Together to
End Homelessness

Preventing Youth Homelessness Webinar Series: [The Role of Healthcare](#)

Tuesday, November 29, 2022 | 2:00pm ET, 1:00pm CT, 12:00pm MT, 11:00am PT

Building off the [February 2022 convening](#) on the prevention of youth homelessness, Funders Together is organizing follow-up webinars to dive deeper into the intersecting issues affecting young people's lives.

Join us for our next edition in the series as we explore some key issues at the intersection of youth housing stability and the healthcare industry.

Healthcare plays a crucial role in determining whether youth continue to face housing insecurity or have the resources that they need to thrive. Healthcare policy rooted in justice has the potential to support young people and provide a form of stability to help them avoid housing insecurity or homelessness.

We'll also discuss what opportunities exist for the healthcare system to play a larger role in identifying and supporting youth facing homelessness, all with recommendations for funders.

REGISTER 

Stay tuned for upcoming editions on the role of family engagement, eviction prevention services, and other issues essential for preventing youth homelessness.

View recordings of the September installments of the series:

- [The Role of Employment Services](#)
- [The Role of Education](#)



Youth Homelessness News

[Young and Homeless in Rural America](#)

New York Times | September 29, 2022

[LA Takes a Fresh Look at Youth Homelessness](#)

City Watch LA | September 22, 2022



Network Member and Partner Spotlight



Point Source Youth

[Point Source Youth](#) (PSY) is a national organization committed to ending youth homelessness by placing the power and resources in the hands of young people. As an organization, it grounds itself in the values of anti-racism, demanding hope and liberation, and youth leadership. Alongside national and community partners, PSY has been the lead technical assistance implementer of [Direct Cash Transfers](#) (DCTs) in communities throughout the country, providing two years of housing resources directly to young people.

DCTs are an intentionally anti-racist response that places power and resources in the hands of young people, who are the best stewards of funding to address their own needs, with a particular focus on BIPOC and LGBTQ+ youth.

A key component in PSY's approach is when it begins working with a community, it hires 3-8 youth consultants to work alongside PSY's DCT Directors. These youth assist in organizing focus groups in the community to inform how the DCTs will be individualized to that community. They also ultimately work with program staff of the lead community-based organization implementing the services alongside the cash payments, and participate in the evaluation of services and technical assistance.

The way "Cash Plus" DCT programs work is simple. Program staff distribute funds to youth at a frequency that works best for them, typically twice a month, while offering optional but impactful services, that are led and by young people, designed to increase housing stability. Wholly centered around youth choice and autonomy, core components to a DCT program include:

1. **Cash:** The amount of money going directly to youth for approximately 24 months, usually tied to the amount of rent needed to afford a shared housing rental in the community, approximately \$30,000 over two years. Young people also receive a one-time \$3,000 payment.
2. **Flexible and Youth-Led:** Services are typically provided by young people to young people, and the cash is always unconditional.

3. **Plus:** The coaching (formerly known as case management), housing navigation, and financial empowerment programming that is offered to youth by youth on an optional, opt-in basis.
4. **Engagement:** The ongoing work performed by DCT program staff to ensure that youth receive funds and are aware of program offerings.

PSY is currently working alongside communities in New York City, NY; Oakland, CA; Los Angeles County, CA; San Francisco, CA, Baltimore, MD; Boston, MA and Portland and Deschutes County, OR to implement effective, innovative, and meaningful DCT programs. If you might be interested in learning more about PSY and direct cash transfers, including coordination support and key conversations with providers, funders, young people, and local advocates, please contact Lauren Knott, VP of Strategic Partnerships at lauren@pointsourceyouth.org.

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

[Cross-Systems Policy Opportunities to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness](#)

Funders Together's Funders Institute | July 2022

[2022 Southern Conference Recordings](#)

Point Source Youth | October 2022

[Family First Toolkit Part 3: Evaluating & Improving Quality](#)

Chapin Hall | September 2022

[The Financial Health of Young America](#)

Young Invincibles | September 2022

[Working Harder Just to Be Seen and Heard: Barriers to Financial Aid for Homeless and Foster Youth](#)

SchoolHouse Connection | October 2022

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

Funders Together to End Homelessness

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