



CHICAGO COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

NO YOUTH ALONE

A Campaign to End Youth Homelessness

**Results of 2007 Survey of
Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Providers**

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This report demonstrates the extent to which homeless youths are underserved in Illinois. Though the statistics show that homeless youth programs are successful in helping youths achieve their potential, far too many youths never have the opportunity to access needed services.

According to a comprehensive 2005 study, the first statewide census since 1985, Illinois had 24,968 unaccompanied homeless youths in 2004.¹ Almost 30% of the homeless youths were under age 18; 62 percent experienced some form of victimization in their past year of homelessness; 38% were neglected or abused by a parent; and nearly 62% had a parent with a substance abuse problem. The findings of the 2005 study prompted the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless Youth Committee to survey homeless youth providers to learn more about how they are serving these youths in Illinois and to pinpoint the greatest unmet needs. The study revealed that homeless youths are able to move into safe, stable housing if they have access to homeless youth programs. However, currently, Illinois is experiencing a severe shortfall in resources to serve its homeless youths.

Executive Summary

- Homeless youth providers are able to help youths transition into appropriate housing: 87% of youths exiting programs moved into safe, stable housing.
- Those youths exiting programs were also able to secure employment (36%) and completed or were enrolled in a high school or a GED program (42%), post-secondary education (8.5%), or other educational program (36%).
- More youths were turned away than could be served in FY 2007: homeless youth providers served 2,895 youths in the last fiscal year but had to turn away 3,088, mainly due to lack of resources.
- Homeless youth providers housed only 1,077 of the 2,895 youths served.
- Providers reported that pregnant and parenting youths, and their young children, were in greatest need of services (37%).
- An increase in beds for homeless youths was the greatest unmet need cited by providers (38%). Providers also indicated employment assistance programs were needed (22%).
- Providers estimated that resolving their unmet needs would cost **\$5,453,955**. This number does not include the need for new programs in underserved areas or with underserved youth.
- Homeless youth providers from all over the state are in need of additional resources. In addition, some areas of the state have few or no homeless youth providers. A map showing where homeless youth providers are located throughout Illinois appears on the following page.

Recommendations

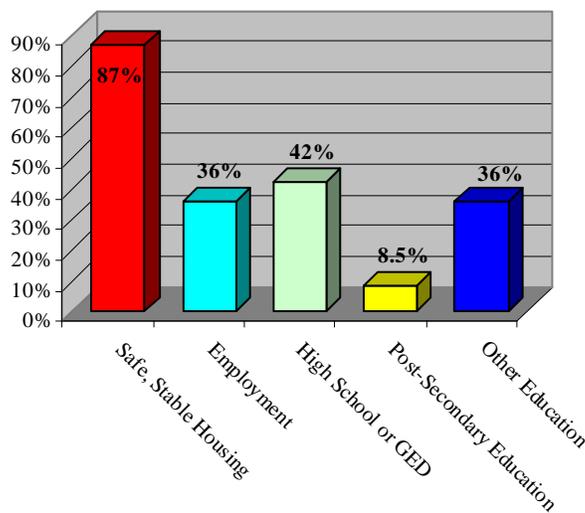
- Double the number of state-funded beds, from 318 to 636 in order to serve all youths requesting housing.
- Provide intensive employment services to homeless youths, particularly in the form of “transitional jobs,” i.e. paid internships and job training.
- Create new programs in areas of the state that lack any homeless youth services.
- Invest a significant amount of new resources to fully fund these services and more.

¹ T. Johnson and I. Graf (2005), *Unaccompanied Homeless Youth in Illinois: 2005* (Survey Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Chicago). Unaccompanied homeless youths were defined as non-ward individuals age 21 or younger who are not primarily in the care of a parent or legal guardian and who lack a safe or stable living arrangement.

Positive Youth Outcomes

The survey revealed that youths who accessed services provided by homeless youth providers were able to use those services to move toward a successful future. Programs reported that 856 unaccompanied homeless youths exited the programs in the last fiscal year.² As Table 1 reflects, 87% of those exiting successfully moved into safe, stable housing, and 36% secured employment. Exiting youths were also enrolled in or had completed high school or a GED program (42%), post-secondary education (8.5%), and other educational programs (36%).

Figure 1: Outcomes for Youths Exiting the Program



Key Fact: 87% of youths who receive services move into safe, stable housing.

Success Stories

Homeless Youth Can “Make It” When Provided with Services

◆ Unity Parenting and Counseling

“R.J.” entered the program after being kicked out by her adoptive parent. R.J.’s young son was living with his father and grandmother, and R.J. needed assistance getting him returned to her. After she entered Harmony Village, her case manager helped her get police assistance to have her son returned to her. R.J. graduated high school this year and is now enrolled in Robert Morris College. She has participated in several advocacy activities while at Harmony Village. She is currently caring for her son successfully and looking forward to starting college in mid-September.

◆ Wheaton Youth Outreach

“Sarah” came to the program at age 19 with a ninth-grade education, desperately trying to parent an infant diagnosed as “failure to thrive.” The baby’s father was incarcerated. Sarah had been without housing for four months and was “couch surfing.” Two years later, Sarah has her GED and holds a job making \$2,200 a month, where she has received four employee recognition awards and completed a company-subsidized Dale Carnegie course. She has learned to parent effectively, freed herself from an abusive relationship, and learned to manage her finances. She has a driver’s license, owns a vehicle, and maintains car insurance. Sarah now faces new challenges. At her income level, she is unable to receive any subsidies. Daycare costs \$850 per month in addition to her household, transportation, and medical expenses. Thus she will leave us on tottering financial footing. Sarah is a success, but the public benefits program is a failure.

² Based on 26 out of 29 responses to this question.

♦ **Le Penseur Youth & Family Services**

“A client will be moving out in the next few months. She has come a long way. She came to us in June 2006 without a high school diploma or a job, and she was stripping for money. She left the program after 10 months, lived on her own for 2 months, and then returned to our program because her living situation was not working out. Now she is a high school graduate with a full-time job and is ready to move on her own. She has changed so much. She is a young lady that I know will make a difference. We are so proud of her.”

♦ **New Moms**

“Ms. L,” age 19, entered the program in January and exited in June to her own apartment. The mother of two children ages 2½ years and 7 months, she continues to be part of an aftercare program and is currently working full time in the field that she desires. She was able to accomplish her goals by working closely with our employment coordinator and her case manager. New Moms assisted her with her move to the new apartment by providing her with the things that she needed to settle into her new place. She continues to strive in her new place of employment as well as her new place of residency.

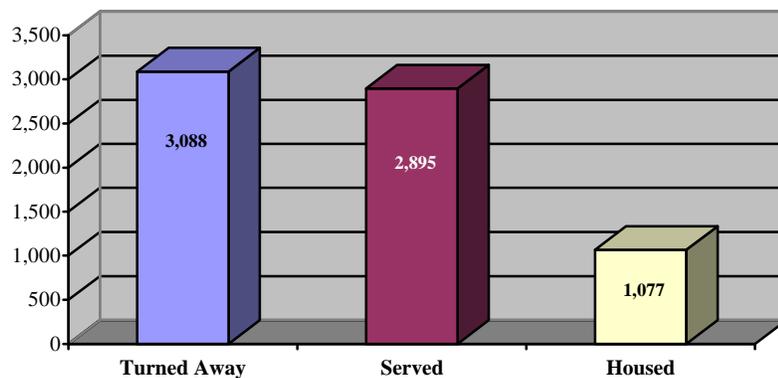
♦ **Heartland Human Care Services, Neon Street Dorms**

A homeless youth came to Chicago from Ecuador at the age of 15 and was initially placed in the International Children's Center. When he aged out of that program at 17, he became homeless and moved to the Dorms. He successfully completed the program and now works two jobs and has his own apartment.

Unmet Needs

Although homeless youths served by providers were able to move into safe, stable housing, more than half the youths who sought services were turned away, largely due to lack of resources. A total of 3,088 were turned away in the last fiscal year.³ Only 2,895 youths were served⁴ and 1,077 were housed.⁵ On average, each program housed 45 youths in a year but turned away 134 youths. While it is possible that some “turnaways” may have been double-counted because they tried to get into more than one program or enroll in a program multiple times throughout the year, this number still reflects the reality that unaccompanied homeless youths are underserved in Illinois—particularly because youths may also have been served by more than one program in the last fiscal year.

Figure 2: Youths Served, Housed, or Turned Away



Key Fact: In FY 2007, 3,088 youths were turned away. On average, each program turned away 134 youths.

³ Based on 23 out of 29 responses to this question.

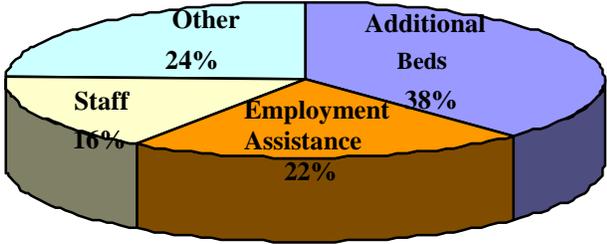
⁴ Based on 29 out of 29 responses to this question.

⁵ Based on 26 out of 29 responses to this question.

The programs were also asked to report their unmet needs, the amount required to meet those needs, and the number of underserved youths in the area. For a detailed list of unmet needs and estimated costs, see the Appendix. Their responses were not a surprise: The most commonly identified need was additional beds (38%). Additionally, the programs reported that they needed to increase staff (16%) and provide employment assistance (22%). Figure 1 shows a breakdown of homeless youth providers' unmet needs. Adding together the estimates offered by providers shows that they will require **\$5,453,955** to meet the currently unmet needs of youth.

Projected costs of meeting unmet needs of youth:
\$5,453,955

Figure 3: Homeless Youth Providers' Greatest Unmet Needs



◆ **Teen Living Programs (TLP)**

“Vanessa” was born to a 14-year-old mother and raised by her grandmother. At age 12, she found her grandmother murdered. In need of a place to stay, she “couch surfed” among extended family and friends. A police officer told her about Teen Living Programs, and she arrived at Belfort House when she was 18. While there, Vanessa found employment, saved \$8,000, and graduated into the CaSSA (independent living) program. TLP staff helped her land her current job in a medical clinic. Now living independently, she has maintained her apartment and her employment for almost four years and is working to complete her nursing degree.

◆ **Children’s Home and Aid**

TS, age 19, entered into the Transitional Youth Services Program homeless, unemployed, and pregnant with her second child. She was attending high school and on track to graduate. Through the program, TS obtained full-time employment. She completed her high school education and recently moved into her own apartment. TS is currently working on stabilizing childcare for her two children. She has a goal of attending college in the future.

◆ **Lazarus House**

“Brian” came to us unemployed, without transportation, and very discouraged. He had dropped out of high school and had no job skills. He now has two jobs, is enrolled at a local community college for job training, has a vehicle, and is beginning to work toward his GED. His relationship with his family has greatly improved as they’ve seen he is making an effort to turn his life around. The biggest change I’ve seen is his smile—he actually has one!”

◆ **Mental Health Center of Champaign—Roundhouse**

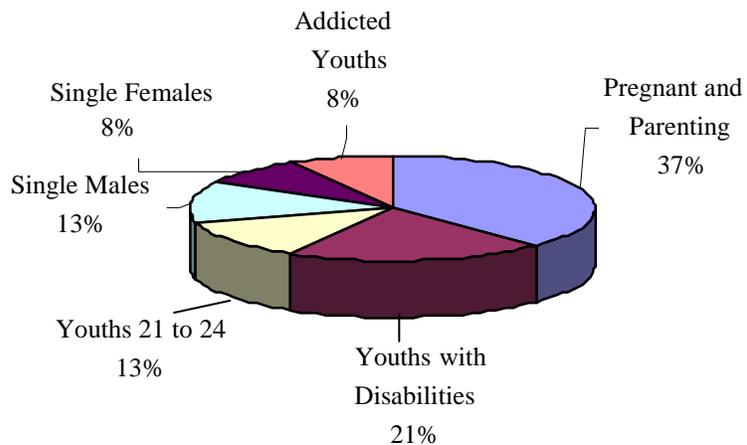
A 17-year-old African-American female, referred to us through the Comprehensive Community-Based Youth Services program, reported drug use by her mother that affected the mother's ability to care for her effectively. Through a petition filed by the youth's caseworker, the mother was court-ordered to let her live at a friend's house to finish her senior year of high school. In her two stays at Roundhouse, the young woman participated with increasing self-motivation in life-skill development to increase her independent living skills. She often stated that being at the Roundhouse allowed her to relax for the first time in years.

◆ **Hull House—Emerge**

She was 19 and pregnant. We had no openings. Other programs were filled. She called almost every day and encouragement was given to her. She ended up having a baby boy and still being homeless and going from place to place. An opening finally became available, and she and her son were placed in a safe apartment. She cried when she opened the door to her Hull House-sponsored apartment. She took life-skill classes, attended therapy to work through her trauma associated with being homeless, found a job, and was able to get her son into safe daycare. She worked with the Emerge nurse to learn parenting skills and safe sex practices and received preventative medical services. A few months ago, she was hired at Chase Bank and is doing well in her data entry position. She has her dignity back, and her child is well-adjusted and has a safe place to live. The young lady is saving money toward her future. Without the services that she received, there is no telling where she would have ended up.

The survey also revealed that certain groups of homeless youths are in particular need of services. The most common group identified as “underserved” by providers was pregnant and parenting youths and their children (37%). Youths with disabilities were also a commonly identified group of underserved youths (21%). This group also includes those with behavioral problems or mental health problems who do not meet eligibility requirements for government aid for people with disabilities. Figure 2 shows the breakdown of the most frequently reported underserved youths.

Figure 4: Most Frequently Reported Underserved Youths

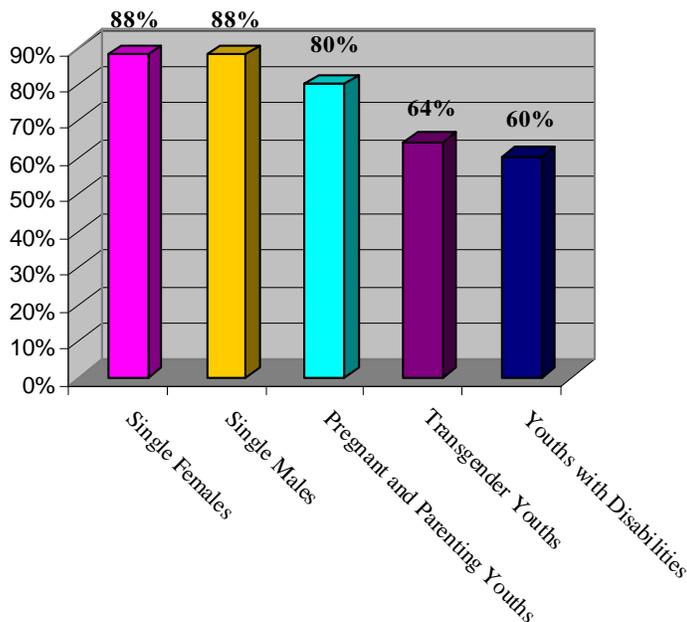


Key Fact: Pregnant and parenting youths are the most likely to be underserved.

Youth Served

The providers reported that they provided some type of service to 2,895 homeless youth. The total number of youths housed in FY 2007 was 1,077.⁶ These numbers may reflect some duplication, however, because some individuals may have been served or housed by more than one program in a given year. Existing programs can serve a total of 448 youths at one time.⁷ On average, each program can serve 17 youths at any given time. Twenty-two programs serve single males, 22 serve single females, 20 serve pregnant and parenting youths, 15 serve youths with disabilities, and 16 serve transgender youths.

Figure 5: Percentage of Programs Serving Youth Subpopulations



⁶ Based on 25 out of 29 responses to this question.

⁷ This reflects the number of youths receiving services, not the number of beds.

♦ Project NOW

“Brandy,” age 17, and her 7-month-old child were staying with a family member who wanted custody of the child. Brandy became upset about this and had a mental breakdown. She became hospitalized, and her son went into foster care. When Brandy was released from the hospital, she was not able to return to her family member’s home. As a temporary solution to her homelessness, she joined her son in foster care. She applied for the Youth Transitional Housing program and was accepted. From the first day she entered the program, she began working toward her goals of completing her GED, getting a job, and getting a driver’s license. Within the first three months, Brandy took all the GED tests and received a GED while she supported herself and her son through the TANF program. Within the next two months, she was hired at a stable job. During her time in school and job searching, Brandy continued to address and maintain her mental health through referrals made by her case manager. Gaining life skills was important to Brandy. She and her child’s father successfully completed parenting and nutrition classes. She paid her program fees every month and passed all housing inspections. Six months after entering the program, Brandy turned 18, passed her driver’s license test, and purchased a car. By the seventh month in the program, Brandy had completed all her goals and had secured a permanent apartment for herself, her child, and her child’s father.

♦ Community Crisis Center

A young woman who had been in the Transitional Living Program for two years was granted an extra month to complete her educational goal. She obtained her GED while in the program. She was working full-time, raising three children, and living in permanent housing when she graduated from the program.

◆ **The Night Ministry**

An excerpt from a letter written by a client (an African-American female, age 18) at the emergency program in West Town:

“My life was pretty crazy before coming to the Open Door Shelter. I had dropped out of school and felt like an outsider at home. My one-year-old daughter and I had been going back and forth staying with friends. I called dozens of agencies trying to find a place to stay, and they were either full or wouldn't take kids. Finally I got into Open Door. I was worried about staying at a shelter (Would it be dirty? Would the food taste bad?), but this is the best shelter I've ever seen or heard of. Now I feel like I am getting my life on track. I took a GED prep class and am getting ready to take the test. I'm participating in a jobs program where the instructor really understands what we're going through and is teaching us how to look for a job and how to interview. He is trying to get me an internship to work with an RN because that is my career goal. I'm looking for scholarships so one day I can go to college. I am also trying to move into the Transitional Living Program at Open Door so I can have more time here to focus on making myself a better person. The Open Door Shelter has been a good opportunity for my baby and me. As long as you are helping yourself, the staff will help you. They see the potential in me and are helping me use this time as a stepping stool to something better. Plus, we get three meals every day and have access to a crib and a washing machine, and the counselors are very supportive. I feel like I've changed a lot by being here.”

The age range of youths served varied between providers. Four programs reported that they served youths as old as 24. Twenty-one programs served youths under 18. Of these programs, nine served youths as young as 17, four served youths as young as 16, four served youths as young as 14, and another four programs served youths under the age of 14.

Providers were asked the number of beds “designated” for homeless youths.⁸ The total number of reported beds is 352.⁹ The Illinois Department of Human Services funds 318 beds that are specifically designated for homeless youths. Programs also rely on additional funding sources and a few do not receive state funding at all.

Based on this bed count of 352 and a 2005 point in time estimate of 4,102 unaccompanied homeless youths in Illinois¹⁰, programs are able to house less than 9% of this population.

Key Fact: A total of 448 homeless youths can be served in Illinois on a given day, or about 1 in 5 homeless youths.

⁸ Not all providers provided housing exclusively to homeless youths.

⁹ Based on 25 out of 29 responses to this question.

¹⁰ T. Johnson and I. Graf (2005), *Unaccompanied Homeless Youth in Illinois: 2005* (Survey Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Chicago.)

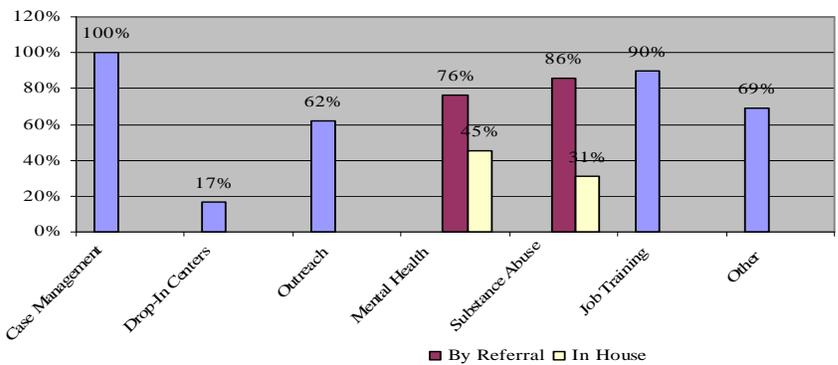
Program Costs and Services Provided

Providers were asked to state their total program costs. The total cost of the responding programs was \$11,164,166, an average of about \$429,391 per program.¹¹ The average cost per homeless youth is \$4,205.¹² However, this cost per youth varies significantly based on type of program and length of stay.

Average program cost per homeless youth: **\$4,205**

Homeless youth providers offer many services in addition to housing. All provide case management services. Other services include drop-in centers (17%), outreach services (62%), mental health services by referral (76%), in-house mental health services (45%), substance abuse treatment by referral (86%), in-house substance abuse treatment (31%), and job training (90%). Twenty respondents indicated that they provide services other than the ones listed.

Figure 6: Percentage of Programs Providing Services



¹¹ Based on 26 out of 29 responses to this question.

¹² Based on 25 out of 29 responses.

◆ **Midwest Youth Services**
 “Stephanie,” at 17 years old, was running away and had mental health and developmental delay issues. Her goal was to become independent. The service plan included working on relationship skills with her parents, maintaining school success, budgeting, and other independent living skills. The case manager made referrals to employment and mental health services and provided counseling and skill building. Stephanie completed her high school education. She recently came to visit and thanked her case manager for helping her stay in school. She was grateful to be able to get a better job and support herself.

◆ **Hoyleton Youth & Family**
 A brother and sister were referred to the program by their mother after being involved in a domestic violence situation. She wanted her children in our Basic Center while she lived in a shelter, because she was unable to find a shelter where they could remain together. She was adamant that her son and daughter remain together. We placed the youths in our Host Home, where they stayed for 15 days. When the mom found a shelter that would accept her, she and her daughter were reunified. The son remained in the host home. This was a difficult period for him, but staff made sure that family meetings and counseling were provided. The mother then found a stable living environment and a job so that the family could be reunited. Today, the family is together.

◆ **Mary's Mission and Shelter**
 Fifteen young males from our program have graduated from college. Among these graduates are two with degrees in electrical engineering, four with degrees in criminal justice, one with a degree in biochemistry, one with a degree in agricultural sciences, and the other seven with degrees in business administration.

Methodology and Program Information

For the purposes of the survey, an “unaccompanied homeless youth” is defined as a non-ward individual age 24 or younger who is not primarily in the care of a parent or legal guardian and who lacks a safe and stable living arrangement. Unaccompanied homeless youth providers from throughout the state of Illinois were included in the survey.

Of the 36 providers originally surveyed, four of the providers did not provide the type of services addressed in the survey (i.e., housing) and were eliminated from the list of survey participants. An additional program provider returned the survey but indicated that it did not provide housing services for homeless youths. Of the remaining 31 providers, CCH received responses from 24 providers—a response rate of 77%. Several of these providers had more than one homeless youth program and therefore completed multiple surveys.¹³ In total, 29 responses were included in the data set.

Not all respondents provide housing services specifically for unaccompanied homeless youths. However, all programs included in the data set indicated that they house homeless youths in their existing housing programs. Of the 29 respondents, 18 are transitional shelters, 6 are emergency shelters, and 2 are independent living programs. The remaining 4 are either some other type of housing program or a combination of housing types. Housing arrangements included congregate housing (13), scattered-site housing (11), and some other type of housing arrangement (5).

The maximum length of stay in the housing depends on the type of housing provided. The maximum stay in an emergency shelter ranges from 21 to 120 days, and the average ranges from 7 to 120 days. Transitional living and independent living programs allow youths to stay anywhere from 18 to 24 months, with the average ranging from 6 to 12 months in transitional and slightly less in independent living programs.

Limitations

Data collected through the survey have some limitations. There is a dearth of homeless youth programs in Illinois, and their experiences vary. Not all existing programs responded to the survey, and many programs that did respond did not answer all survey questions. In addition, many of the questions required open-ended responses that necessitated interpretation on the part of the researchers. Although survey conditions leave some questions open, the data collected do offer a meaningful picture of the services provided and the unmet needs of homeless youths in Illinois.

¹³ Providers were instructed to fill out a survey for all programs they operated to serve unaccompanied homeless youths.

Conclusion

The data from this survey show that homeless youth programs are able to provide the youths they serve with what they need to move into safe, stable housing. As shown in the “success stories,” many youths are able to use the tools afforded them by homeless youth programs to lead successful lives. However, the survey also revealed that homeless youth providers are able to serve fewer than half of those requesting services, or just 12 percent of the 24,968 unaccompanied homeless youths statewide.¹⁴ In addition, even when youth are served, programs often do not have the resources to meet all of their needs. Survey responses show that service providers need more funding to add additional shelter beds, qualified staff members, and job training programs.

The map on page 2 illustrates that there are large pockets of the state where there appear to be no programs with housing and other services specific to the needs of unaccompanied homeless youths. Youth homelessness is geographically distributed throughout Illinois, due to factors that transcend geographic boundaries: i.e. family poverty, youths running from abusive situations, or youths being kicked out of their homes on the basis of their sexual orientation. In fact, Chicago and suburban Cook County only account for 36 percent of unaccompanied homeless youths in the state.¹⁵ Closer examination reveals a need and justifies the creation of new youth programs in regions currently without programs.

In Illinois, homeless youth programs are funded by the state through the Illinois Department of Human Services. Through fiscal year 2008 these programs are funded at \$4.7 million annually. Since 1998, there has only been a \$700,000 increase in homeless youth funding, despite the growing need for services and the rising program costs.

For these reasons, the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless is calling for an additional \$7 million annually. This would double the number of state-funded beds from 318 to 636. It would allow most youths requesting services to be served, particularly those who are most underserved, such as pregnant and parenting youths and youths with disabilities. New funding could be used to create new programs in areas of the state that currently lack any homeless youth services. New funds would also enable providers to pilot four to five transitional jobs programs statewide; the programs would provide intensive employment services to homeless youths in the form of subsidized employment with day-to-day job support.

Homelessness among our youths is a clear violation of the human right to housing. The imperative is there—the statistics show that homeless youths are in great need, yet we know what works to equip homeless youths to lead productive lives. This funding is a crucial investment in the future of Illinois. Join us in working to solve this problem.

¹⁴ T. Johnson and I. Graf (2005), *Unaccompanied Homeless Youth in Illinois: 2005* (Survey Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Chicago.)

¹⁵ *Ibid.*

APPENDIX

2007 Survey of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Providers: Provider Unmet Needs and Necessary Funding

The 2007 Survey of Unaccompanied Homeless Youth Service Providers asked homeless youth providers in Illinois to report their unmet needs and estimate the cost of fulfilling those needs. Below is a list of providers and their reported needs:

- Association for Individual Development (AID)
309 N. New Indian Trail
Aurora, IL 60506
1-630-966-4000

AID would serve more homeless youths under the age of 18. It estimates that it would need \$25,000 to create a part-time and full-time position.

- Children's Home & Aid
Transitional Youth Services
2133 Johnson Road
Granite City, IL 62040
1-618-452-8900

Children's Home & Aid would increase its staffing in order to serve additional youths. It estimates it needs \$496,440 to hire another case manager and provide services to twice the number of youths per year.

- Heartland Human Care Services
Neon Street Dorms
4822 N. Broadway, 2nd Floor
Chicago, IL 60640
1-773-433-1253

Heartland Human Care Services would add another 10 beds to shelter homeless youths. This would cost \$466,615.

- Hoyleton Youth & Families Services
Basic Center and Transitional Living Program (TLP)
5900 Forest Boulevard
Washington Park, IL 62204
1-618-482-3414

Hoyleton would use additional funding to provide more emergency and transitional housing services to youths. It would add additional shelter beds (Host Home and residential) and extend the length of emergency placement from 15 to 30 days. To serve in the TLP program for 18 months costs about \$20,000 per client. Hoyleton anticipates an additional \$20,000–\$25,000 cost to add six additional Host Home beds and increase the number of residential beds contracted with providers.

- Hull House
Emerge
1030 W. Van Buren
Chicago, IL 60617
1-312-235-5317

Hull House needs \$100,000 to expand the program by at least 5 more family slots and 10 more single slots. It also needs \$80,000 to fund additional staff to collaborate and network with employers, and therapeutic recreation and respite care for mothers.

- La Casa Norte
Solid Ground Supportive Housing Program
3533 W. North Avenue
Chicago, IL 60647
1-773-276-4900

La Casa Norte would implement a new transitional jobs program for homeless and at-risk youths.

- Lazarus House
214 Walnut Street
St. Charles, IL 60174
1-630-587-2144

Lazarus House would use new funds for transportation—reliable, modest used cars—for its clients.

- Le Penseur Youth & Family Services
Transitional Living Program
15028 S. Dorchester Avenue
Dolton, IL 60419
1-708-849-1264

Le Penseur would provide more housing services for pregnant and parenting teens.

- Mary's Mission and Shelter Care
642 S. Martin Luther King Avenue
Waukegan, IL 60085
1-847-623-2136

Mary's Mission & Shelter Care could take in 20 homeless youth with an additional \$751,900.

- Mental Health Center of Champaign
Roundhouse
311 W. White Street
Champaign, IL 61820
1-217-398-8080

Roundhouse would increase the number of staff, so that more community-based work could be done with youths. This would cost \$30,000 per additional worker.

- Mental Health Center
Homeless Youth
1801 Fox Drive
Champaign, IL 61820
1-217-398-8080

The Mental Health Center would hire more case managers to adequately serve the number of clients referred. It also needs more funds for training, more emergency shelter beds, more flexible funding to provide clients assistance in securing housing, employment, and transportation, and a job coach position to offer youth more intense job skills training. The center estimates this would cost \$35,000 per additional worker; \$2,500 for all workers to attend at least one training per year, and \$10,000 per year for two emergency shelter apartments.

- Midwest Youth Services, Inc.
2001 W. Lafayette Avenue
Jacksonville, IL 62650
1-217-245-6000

Midwest Youth Services would increase the number of shelter beds and, to compete with State salaries, raise the salary base for case managers and on-call staff. It estimates a cost of \$70,000 to increase staff salaries and \$30,000 to ensure unlimited use of shelter beds and to recruit new foster parents.

- NCO Youth and Family Services
Youth in Transition
1022 Lorlyn Drive
Batavia, IL 60520
1-630-937-0376

NCO would add a female (age 18–21) youth housing program to service DuPage and Kane Counties. It estimates a cost of \$250,000. The program would mirror NCO's current programs available to males. NCO would also provide its youths with job skills, problem-solving crisis management, relapse prevention (mental health), mainstream services assessment, and life skills development to maintain independence.

- New Moms, Inc.
Cooperative Living Program
1856 N. Humboldt Boulevard
Chicago, IL 60647

New Moms needs to purchase a larger facility and increase the number of beds. If it had the funding, it would increase capacity to 50 beds by the year 2010. In addition, it would like to add staff to provide additional support with on-site practical life skills, and funding for incentives and planned recreation for young families. Additionally, as the moms progress toward self-sufficiency, they need to have rewards and incentives that recognize their efforts. Last, New Moms currently is limited in its ability to transport participants and would like to purchase a small bus.

- The Night Ministry
4711 N. Ravenswood
Chicago, IL 60640
1-773-506-6011

The Night Ministry turns away hundreds of homeless youths every year and therefore needs to increase its number of beds and supportive housing programs dedicated to youths. It costs approximately \$1 million annually for every 10 beds.

- Outreach Community Ministries
Wheaton Youth Outreach Transitional Living Program
122 W. Liberty Drive
Wheaton, IL 60187
1-630-682-1910

Outreach Community Ministries, with additional funding, would serve more youths by creating a new level of care in the transitional housing program for higher-functioning clients. This program would split rent in a permanent housing unit and provide a less intensive case management model. The cost per unit would be \$12,000 per client per year. Outreach Community Ministries could phase in three units the first year and add up to three in each succeeding year, at an initial \$36,000 the first year and \$72,000 the following year.

- Project Oz
Street Outreach and Transitional Living
1105 W. Front Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
1-309-827-0377

Project Oz would hire more staff to meet the needs of homeless youths and pay staff a competitive wage. It also needs additional housing for the youths it serves. It would hire three staff persons at \$50,000 per year (including benefits) (\$150,000 total) and add 25 beds (\$10,000 per bed), for a total of \$400,000.

- Rockford MELD
Emergency Shelter and Transitional Living Program
716 N. Church Street
Rockford, IL 61103
1-815-965-8336, ext. 33

Rockford Meld would hire a mental health professional. Among the homeless young mothers it serves, there are multiple untreated mental health issues, including depression, ADHD, bipolar disorders, trauma, and emotional issues. Rockford MELD estimates that it would need \$35,000–\$40,000 for salary and benefits.

- Southern Illinois Regional Social Services
Youth & Family Interventions
604 E. College
Carbondale, IL 62901
1-618-457-6703, ext. 258

Southern Illinois Regional Social Services would provide transitional housing to additional 18- to 21-year-olds and expand capacity to provide employment skills training and job placement. It estimates a cost of \$100,000 to double the capacity of the program.

- Teen Living Programs
162 W. Hubbard Street, #400
Chicago, IL 60610
1-312-568-5700

Teen Living Programs would create automated data tracking systems (\$50,000) and a transitional jobs program (\$400,000).

- Unity Parenting & Counseling
Harmony Village
7923 S. Maryland
Chicago, IL 60619
1-773-783-9200

Unity Parenting would provide on-site childcare/preschool (\$80,000), a transitional jobs program (\$175,000), and an additional six beds (\$105,000).

- YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago
Housing & Supportive Services Program
3801 W. 127th Street
Alsip, IL 60803
1-708-385-6700

YMCA of Metropolitan Chicago would hire an employment specialist (\$35,000) and life skills staff member (\$35,000) and would increase leasing funds (\$28,000).

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