

# NEWS & NOTES

An interactive newsletter to keep you informed.

## What Works in Preventing & Ending Youth Homelessness? *A Systematic Review of the Evidence*

This spring, VoYC will undertake a systematic review of homelessness interventions. Why? Because for all our efforts, there is no universal understanding of what works. VoYC is working to change that.

VoYC will look closely at documented interventions and their impact on important youth outcomes like education, employment, crime and victimization, and social and emotional well-being. Special attention will be paid to impacts on different groups of youth and young people.



"Homeless youth across this country deserve access to effective, evidence-based programming that will better their lives and ultimately end youth homelessness altogether. The VoYC Systematic Evidence Review is an essential step along that path," said Darla Bardine, Executive Director of the National Network for Youth.

Knowledge gathered will inform service providers, funders, policymakers, and advocates, as well as lay groundwork for continued progress. To learn more about the Systematic Evidence Review, visit our website [here](#).

## Voices in Action

### *Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness Together*

VoYC collaborated with partners in Austin, TX this month in developing the evidence review described above. Last month, VoYC gathered feedback from youth homelessness experts in Orlando, FL.

In both sites, youth and service providers were asked for reflections on how homeless and unstably housed youth talk about housing status, common causes of youth homelessness



and housing instability, programming needs, and gaps in available services.

*Matt Morton, Voices of Youth Count, with youth in Austin, TX.*

Local dialogue is essential to VoYC efforts. In the coming months, VoYC will share preliminary findings from the evidence review with the field to aid in interpretation of findings and recommendations for next steps.

## **Nat'l Conference on Ending Family & Youth Homelessness** *Coming Together for Youth & Families*

More than 1,000 activists, funders, providers, government officials and more gathered in Houston, TX last week with one goal in mind: ending family and youth homelessness.

The [2017 National Conference on Ending Family and Youth Homelessness](#) both represented and provided momentum to this growing movement. The VoYC team was there, including representatives from Chapin Hall, the Raikes Foundation and the Melville Charitable Trust.



*Matt Morton and Jennifer Vidis of Voices of Youth Count and Megan Blondin of MANY in Houston, TX.*

Of particular interest was a workshop sharing results from the [A Way Home America 100-Day Challenge](#) to address youth homelessness in Austin, Cleveland, and Los Angeles. The conference also featured the latest perspectives on housing and intervention strategies, crisis response system development, coordinated entry, and federal policy goals.

## **ABA Builds Homeless Youth Legal Network** *Join Effort to Increase Legal Services for Homeless Young People*

The American Bar Association is creating a Homeless Youth Legal Network to increase critically needed legal services for youth and young adults experiencing homelessness. This Network will provide information and foster collaboration to help attorneys and other advocates address existing gaps in legal services and improve outcomes for homeless youth and young adults, including those transitioning from the child welfare system and exiting the juvenile justice system.



If you are interested in joining the network please complete this [brief survey](#) and sign up for the listserv by emailing [hyln@americanbar.org](mailto:hyln@americanbar.org). For more information, please contact Kelly Russo at [kelly.russo@americanbar.org](mailto:kelly.russo@americanbar.org).

## **Join in Ending Youth Homelessness** *March Convenings Across the USA*

VoYC will join service providers, policymakers, and experts in Washington, D.C. on March 13-14 for the [2017 National Summit on Youth Homelessness](#), hosted by National Network

for Youth. The summit will focus on the intersection between policy and practice to end youth homelessness.

Additionally, VoYC's [Matt Morton](#) will present at the upcoming [2017 International Corporate Citizenship Conference](#) on March 26-28 hosted by the Boston College Corporate Community Center. The event is designed to educate corporate funders about the issue of youth homelessness. Matt will link the current state of policy research to opportunities for action.



If you know of an upcoming event important to preventing and ending youth homelessness, please contact us at [voyc@chapinhall.org](mailto:voyc@chapinhall.org).

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