

July 2017

NEWS & NOTES

An interactive newsletter to keep you informed.

Hidden Instability and Estimating Youth Homelessness *VoYC at the National Symposium on Solutions to End Youth Homelessness*

Like an iceberg, much of youth homelessness and housing instability remains unseen in conventional point-in-time counts. VoYC partnered with Gallup to address this knowledge gap, conducting a nationally representative phone-based survey of US adults. Matthew Morton spoke on the possibilities opened up by the VoYC national survey at the [National Symposium on Solutions to End Youth Homelessness](#). The presentation highlighted emerging insights, including this hiddenness and the diversity of youth experiences of housing instability.



Point Source Youth organized the two-day symposium, which focused on "launching systems and solutions that work." The event was a collaboration with the McSilver Institute for Poverty Policy and Research and the NYU Silver School of Social Work, with sponsorship from the National Alliance to End Homelessness.

Coming Together to End Youth Homelessness *NAEH Uniting Thought Partners in Washington, D.C.*

The National Alliance to End Homelessness is hosting its [annual conference](#) July 17-19 in Washington, D.C. This year's conference will feature a broader range of funder-related events and more opportunities for attendees to connect. Funders Together to End Homelessness will be holding its one-day [2017 Funders Institute](#) in conjunction with the conference.

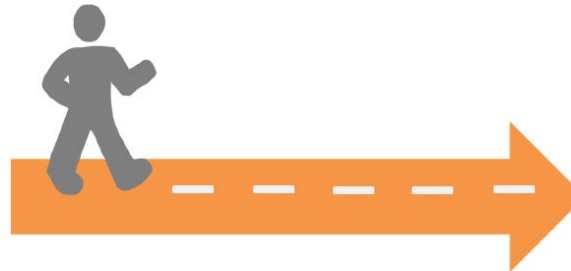


Matt Morton and Jenny Vidis of Chapin Hall with Megan Blondin of MANY at the 2017 National Conference on Ending Family and Youth Homelessness.

Chapin Hall Communications Director Marianne McMullen will partner with the [Frameworks Institute](#) to lead an innovation session at the conference titled "New Ways to Create and Communicate an Effective Message." Frameworks Institute uses innovative communications strategy to link research and advocacy to target audiences. VoYC looks forward to participating at the conference and finding new ways to work collaboratively with our partners to end youth homelessness.

Voices of Youth Count Asks: *What's Your Story?* *The In-Depth Interview Approach*

"If you were to think about your experience with housing instability as a story, where does your story begin?" Over the past year, VoYC interviewers asked this question of more than 200 young people experiencing homelessness or housing instability.



This question reflects two goals of the in-depth interviews: to center youth perspectives and to leverage novel research design. VoYC encouraged youth to frame their story however they wanted-starting at childhood, entering foster care, or a first day without stable housing. Young people were invited to help fill out a "housing timeline," which tracked key episodes in each personal narrative. VoYC's youth-driven approach made space for youth to act as experts on their own experiences.

By diving into young people's experiences, VoYC will provide insight into the complex factors affecting youth housing instability and homelessness. In depth interviews were conducted in five of the twenty-two partner sites: Philadelphia County, PA; Travis County, TX (Austin); Cook County, IL (Chicago); Walla Walla County, WA; and San Diego County, CA.

Liberty Mutual Highlights Homeless Youth Voices

Youth Homelessness a Focus at Corporate Citizenship Conference

Liberty Mutual and the Boston College Center for Corporate Citizenship in Boston highlighted youth homelessness in the annual [Corporate Citizenship Conference](#). Voices of Youth Count was there, along with other leaders in the field, speaking to comprehensive solutions for ending youth homelessness.

As part of the event, Liberty Mutual presented stories from youth impacted by their philanthropic work. VoYC is glad to partner with a like-minded organization dedicated to authentic youth engagement and lifting youth voice.



Matt Morton, VoYC, presents at the Corporate Citizenship Conference at the Boston College Center.

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