



50 State Survey of Youth Shelter Program Practices

Summer Associate Project Exchange

Project Title

50 State Survey of Youth Shelter Program Practices

Scope of Work

Timing

This project is due by July 31, 2024.

Jurisdiction

National

Contact Information

Please contact Paul Lee (plee@Steptoe.com) and Guerby Noel (guerby@lawfirmantiracismalliance.org) to claim this project as part of the 2024 Summer Associate Project Exchange.


Description

The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act has language in the federal regulations indicating each youth must have a “safe and appropriate” exit from youth shelters and housing programs. The official data (self-reported by providers) is that 90% of youth are safely exited to other programs or permanent housing. However, advocates on the ground (and data on youth homelessness in general) indicate that this is not the case and that it is often BIPOC youth and young adults who are exited to the streets or to juvenile or criminal legal systems. The Family and Youth Services Bureau, which oversees RHYA programs, has provided no guidance as to what happens or what recourse is available for youth who do not have a “safe and appropriate” exit.

We are trying to gather data on shelter/housing program practices in jurisdictions where BIPOC youth homelessness is particular acute. As such, we are looking for assistance in surveying the Directors of Housing or Executive Directors regarding their internal policies and practices around program exits and in compiling research on state laws, regulations, and/or policies related to exits from youth shelter and housing programs, with an eye toward potential policy change or litigation.

Subtasks (0)

Reminders(1)

 1 day(s) before