Federal Funding Outlook and Strategy On Child and Youth Homelessness

Wednesday, February 22, 12:00pm-1:00pm ET
General Housekeeping

- Webinar will last 1 hour
- Audio is muted - please ask questions through Q&A
- Session is being recorded
- Follow-up email after the session will include the recording, powerpoint, and resources
About SchoolHouse Connection

SchoolHouse Connection works to overcome homelessness through education.

WEBSITE: schoolhouseconnection.org

About National Network for Youth

NN4Y is dedicated to preventing and eradicating youth homelessness in America.

WEBSITE: nn4youth.org
1. Current Federal Budget Outlook And Implications
2. How To Advocate For Child And Youth Homelessness Programs
3. How To Advocate For Specific Community Projects
4. New Advocacy Tool: Child and Youth Homelessness Data Profiles
CURRENT FEDERAL BUDGET OUTLOOK
WHAT WE KNOW

Divided Congress

House Majority Is Focused On Cutting Federal Spending

But, House Majority Also Voted To Continue Community-Directed Spending (Otherwise Known As Earmarks)

More Important Than Ever To Educate Your Members Of Congress, And The Time Is Now - Key Deadlines Approaching
How The Debt Ceiling Drama Will Impact The FY24 Budget Process

All Of The Specific Deadlines (But Likely March And April)

Stay Tuned!
HOW TO ADVOCATE FOR CHILD AND YOUTH HOMELESSNESS PROGRAMS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET
Runaway and Homeless Youth Act Programs

FACT SHEET

2023 RHYA Fact Sheet

USE OF FUNDS

Emergency shelter, services, transitional housing, street outreach, national runaway safeline

NEED

Only 25% of applicants receive funding.
Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program

FACT SHEETS
Click here for current program fact sheet, and here for how funding supports identification.

USE OF FUNDS
Dedicated staffing for outreach and identification, immediate enrollment, school stability, transportation, wrap-around services.

NEED
Only 19.5% of school districts received EHCY funding in 2020-2021; half of all children and youth attend schools without EHCY subgrants.
American Rescue Plan - Homeless Children and Youth Act Funding

ONE-TIME FUNDS

$800 million to support identification and enrollment, including through wrap-around services. Eight times the annual appropriation, but still less than 2% of all K12 federal education spending.

EARLY IMPACT

Number of school districts receiving dedicated homeless education funding has more than doubled; many receiving for first time. New services, partnerships, better identification.

PROGRESS & PROMISE Report
## Funding Levels & Advocacy Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Education for Homeless Children and Youth Program</th>
<th>Runaway and Homeless Youth Act Program</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY22 Level</strong></td>
<td>$114 million</td>
<td>$140.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY23 Level (current)</strong></td>
<td>$129 million</td>
<td>$146.3 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Our Advocacy Asks</strong></td>
<td>$800 Million (ARP-HCY level)</td>
<td>$300 million (Level in RHYA Reauthorization)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Submit public witness testimonies

House - March 3 (oral) and March 23 (written)

Ask for EHCY/RHYA funding to be included in members’ priority letters

if a “Dear Colleague Letter” is circulated, ask your members to sign on
OTHER STRATEGIES

Brief (1-2 Pages Max) Bulleted Fact Sheets That Show Both The Need And The Impact, Tailored To Your Community And/Or State, With The Ask Clearly Stated

Virtual Or In-Person Meetings With Members And/Or Staff (We Can Help!)
Join SHC’s Advocacy Network

Show Community Support, Work In Coalitions

Local Media Stories Help Get Attention
Example: “City Schools Face Fiscal Cliff For Homelessness Programs”
What are Earmarks, aka “Community Projects?”

- Federal funding that Congress gives directly to community-based organizations, schools, and etc.
- 1% of total federal budget
## Successful FY 2022 Earmarks
### Youth Service Providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>CITY, STATE</th>
<th>AMOUNT RECEIVED</th>
<th>FUNDING DESCRIPTION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Huckleberry House, Inc.</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
<td>$610,000</td>
<td>Central Ohio Youth Homelessness Support for Victims of Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heartland Alliance</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>Chicago Evidence-Based Violence Reduction Initiative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tides Family Services</td>
<td>West Warwick, RI</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>At-risk Youth Community Outreach Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant House Florida</td>
<td>Ft. Lauderdale, FL</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>For work-based learning and supportive services for homeless youth (DOL)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant House Missouri</td>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>To expand a workforce development program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YouthCare</td>
<td>Seattle, WA</td>
<td>$3,057,000</td>
<td>For workforce development activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles LGBT Center</td>
<td>Los Angeles, CA</td>
<td>$775,000</td>
<td>For facilities and equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Night Ministry</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>$275,000</td>
<td>For facilities and equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covenant House Alaska</td>
<td>Anchorage, AK</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>For training to address homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>Bridge to success homeless prevention housing units</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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# Successful FY 2023 Earmarks
## School Districts & Youth Service Providers

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<th>NAME OF ORGANIZATION</th>
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<th>FUNDING DESCRIPTION</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Wellroot Family Services</td>
<td>Tucker, GA</td>
<td>$286,000</td>
<td>GA for housing and services and supplies, including the purchase of food, to improve economic outcomes of young adults transitioning out of foster care or experiencing homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett Community College</td>
<td>Everett, WA</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>For programs for youth experience homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big Brothers Big Sisters</td>
<td>Lone Star, Irving TX</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>For a youth mentoring program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board of Education in the City of Chicago</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>$750,000</td>
<td>For promoting student health activities and improving access to student health services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities 1n Schools of Virginia</td>
<td>Virginia, VA</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
<td>A statewide initiative on student re-engagement and to address chronic absenteeism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hartford Public Library</td>
<td>Hartford, CT</td>
<td>$305,000</td>
<td>For educational programs for immigrant, refugee, and English learner students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School District of Osceola County</td>
<td>Osceola County, FL</td>
<td>$953,000</td>
<td>For a youth entrepreneurship program, including support for student internships, a vehicle an capital for student businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washoe County School District</td>
<td>Washoe, NV</td>
<td>$1,024,000</td>
<td>To prevent school drop out and reduce chronic absenteeism</td>
</tr>
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The Community Project Funding (CPF) Process

You → Member of Congress → House or Senate Appropriations Subcommittee
# House of Representative: Community Project Funding (CPF)

- **REQUEST LIMIT**
  - HOUSE: 15 limit- not all are guaranteed - must prioritized.
  - SENATE: was not limit last year

# Senate: Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS)

- **NO MULTI-YEAR FUNDING**
  - Most funding is for one fiscal year (FY) only - FY 2024

## EXPLANATION OF REQUEST

- What is your request + why is this a good use of taxpayer dollars?

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

- Typically requiring a very short description- as short at 1,000 characters.

## BUDGET BREAKDOWN

- Budget + budget explanation

## DEMONSTRATE COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- How are you demonstrating community support?
  - project partners
  - letter of support
What can CPF Fund?

It is limited.

The House + Senate has specific rules you can view by subcommittee.

Click Here to learn more.
FY24 Senate Guidance
Accounts to Consider

HUD - EDI
Education - Innovation and Improvement
ACF - Social Service & Research Demonstration
SAMHSA - Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration
DOL - Employment and Training Administration
DOJ - Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)
ACL - Aging and Disability Services
ACF - Child Abuse Prevention
Members of Congress exploring earmarking will be eager to back projects with strong local support and well-documented potential benefits that are as close to “ready to start” as possible. The perfect project, however, is an illusion.
Tips for Preparing Strong Projects

Practicalities to consider:

- What is the project’s timeline?
- Is the project ready to begin, and if not what further steps are needed?
- What are the documented public safety, health, or educational benefits of the project?
- Are there any trade-offs in investing in this project versus others in the region?

Economics to consider:

- How many and what kinds of jobs does the project create, and for how long?
- What is the regional economic benefit of the project?
- What is the estimated impact on the local tax base?
- Is the project located in a disadvantaged or underserved area, or will it support an underserved population?
Tips for Preparing Strong Projects

Politics to consider:
● How much are non-federal entities (such as the state and local governments, private donors, or other funders) contributing to the project?
● Do regional local governments, businesses, and residents support the project?
● Do other members of Congress support the project?

Identify and develop champion:
● Beyond preparing a strong proposal, applicants will boost their bids for an earmark by securing bipartisan and bicameral congressional champions willing to put their name to these proposals.
● For larger regional projects, your pool of potential champions only grows.
1. Look at your US rep’s and senators’ websites
2. Determine if project is eligible
3. Reach out to your US rep and US senators now
4. Get clear on next steps + requirements + deadlines
5. Advocate to ensure your request is top 10
Tips for Preparing Strong Projects

Prepare for the long haul:
The earmark and appropriations process is a year-long cycle, requiring months of advocating and pushing to maximize your chances for success. Having a strong local group of supporters of your project willing to advocate will help.
New Tool!

Child and Youth Homelessness in the United States: Data Profiles

https://bit.ly/3RR48Ca
Using the Data Profiles for Advocacy

- 2020-21 preK-12 data on children and youth experiencing homelessness
- Includes unaccompanied homeless youth status, race/ethnicity, English learner status, disability status, and much more
- Search by state, county, school district, or congressional district
- Print the profile to help educate policymakers
IN PERSON + VIRTUAL

NN4Y 2023 Summit is HUD-approved

Project administrative funds awarded under HUD’s Continuum of Care (CoC), Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP), and Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) programs may be used to cover the costs of attending.

REGISTER TODAY
Questions & Discussion
Additional Resources

1. “Seen and Served: How Dedicated Federal Funding Supports the Identification of Students Experiencing Homelessness”
2. Editable FY2024 Education for Homeless Children and Youth Fact Sheet
3. 2023 RHYA Fact Sheet
4. FY24 Youth Homelessness Appropriations Fact Sheet

JOIN SHC’S ADVOCACY NETWORK
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