



Homelessness among Youth & Young Adults in King County

Point in Time (PIT) Count of Youth and Young Adults (YYA)

National estimates are that Youth & Young Adults make up between 4-8% of homeless individuals. Actual number of homeless YYA is unknown. Estimates vary depending on definition of homelessness and age range.

- National 2009 PIT of Unaccompanied Youth (age 13-17) = 22,700 or 2.2% of sheltered population. It is widely agreed this is a serious undercount.
- King County January 28, 2010 PIT of Unaccompanied Youth and Young Adults = 586, or 6.5% of overall count
 - > 46 Unaccompanied Youth under age 18 (Unsheltered + Sheltered).
 - > 540 Young Adults age 18-25:
 - Unsheltered count (street count) among those over age 18 is not broken out by age, and so no estimate of the numbers of unsheltered young adults aged 18-25 is available.
 - 192 enrolled in programs dedicated to YA/Young Parents.
 - 348 enrolled in programs for individuals over age 18.

Inventory Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing for YYA:

- 62 Emergency Shelter Beds, or 3% of all Emergency Shelter Beds in the County.
- 165 Transitional Housing Beds, or 8% of all Transitional Housing units / 4% of all Transitional Housing Beds in the County.
- 121 permanent housing units dedicated to YYA, or 40% of the Ten-Year Plan goal for YYA.

Funding allocated to YYA since 2007:

- \$1.5 million out of \$27.8 million in major fund sources managed by Funders Group (5.41% of annual contract amounts on the books among City of Seattle, King County, Washington Families Fund, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, United Way of King County.)
- \$668K out of \$8.6 million of County fund sources prioritized towards homeless housing and services (7.73% of annual contract amounts collectively from Veterans & Human Services Levy, and Homeless Housing Services Funds - Document Recording Fees 2163, 1359, 1331.)

Homeless Young Adult Plan:

CEHCK funded a consultant (Building Changes) to develop a Strategic Plan for Homeless Young Adults. Plan published in May 2008. Building Changes convened stakeholder's group and conducted national and local research over a ten-month period, culminating in a report of local programs and recommendations for moving forward to coordinate and fund homeless programs for youth and young adults in King County. In addition, the Committee to End Homelessness has been participating in talks with the National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH) and the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) on what additional research is needed to better define best practices for Youth and Young Adults.

