

# MOTION

AD HOC Homeless

With the release of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) biennial Los Angeles Homeless Count, statistics indicate that 18 percent of the homeless population in Los Angeles County are individuals under the age of 25. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, "nearly 1.7 million youth under the age of 18 run away from home and/or spend time homeless each year in the United States. Approximately 400,000 of these children remain outside of their home for over a week, and 125,000 are homeless for over a month."

Research shows that the primary reasons youth become homeless are family conflict, exiting the foster care system, or release from the juvenile justice system. It is consistently reported that conflict at home with parents and caregivers is the major cause of homelessness among youth. Whether the specific cause is physical or sexual abuse, drug or alcohol use, or being kicked out/thrown out of the family home, youth find themselves on the street without stable housing alternatives. Every year, youth age 16 or older transition from foster care to legal emancipation, navigating the transition to adult hood without support. Furthermore, youth and young adults in the juvenile justice system are incarcerated during a key developmental phase of adolescence. When released they often lack the necessary skills to cope with adult responsibilities and can be exited from the system without adequate plans for how to reunite with family or other caring adults and ultimately end up on the streets.

According to the National Alliance to end Homelessness, "to a large extent, the factors that lead to homelessness for LGBTQ youth are the same as for other youth: family conflict, physical violence, sexual abuse, chronic neglect, abandonment, and poverty. However, many LGBTQ leave or are driven from home at least in part because their families are not accepting of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Once LGBTQ youth leave the home they are at risk for being sexually exploited by others." LGBTQ youth need additional support in building a support system and sense of community.

As the Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness develops a comprehensive plan on homelessness for the entire homeless population in the City of Los Angeles, it is vital that the policymakers of the City, County of Los Angeles, and LAHSA formulate and implement a targeted approach to youth homelessness, including the subpopulation of LGBTQ youth.

**WE THEREFORE MOVE** to INSTRUCT the CLA, with the assistance of LAHSA, the Housing Community & Investment Department (HCID), the Mayor's Office of External Affairs, the Los Angeles Police Department, the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services, the County of Los Angeles Probation Department, and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, to report back in 90 days with all information available with regard to policies, public funding, and services targeted toward youth homelessness, including the subpopulation of LGBTQ youth. As part of the report, the CLA shall provide recommendations on how to move forward to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce youth homelessness in the City of Los Angeles.



**WE FURTHER MOVE** to INSTRUCT the CLA to report back in 60 days with a plan to hold community/town hall meetings to discuss the above-mentioned report with the public and receive input on how to move forward to develop a comprehensive plan to reduce youth homelessness in the City of Los Angeles, including the subpopulation of LGBTQ youth. As part of the report, the CLA shall reach out to advocates, service providers, and private funders (e.g. the Los Angeles LGBT Center, California Immigrant Youth Justice Alliance, Familia, Trans Queer Liberation Movement, An Evening with Women, Los Angeles Youth Network, My Friend's Place, the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, Covenant House California, Step Up, Safe Place for Youth, Teen Project, etc.) in each region of the City to develop an outreach plan and partnership with the appropriate providers and funders for the community/town hall meetings.

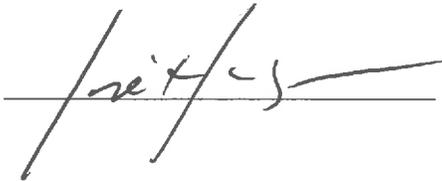
**PRESENTED  
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**ORIGINAL**