



Forum on Youth Homelessness

#voicesofyouthcountPHL

Voices of Youth Count Study

- Most comprehensive research on youth homelessness to date; conducted by Chapin Hall at University of Chicago
- National prevalence study- released November 15th
 - Findings show **1 in 10 young adults** ages 18-25 and at least **1 in 30 adolescents** ages 13-17 experience some form of homelessness over the course of a year.

Voices of Youth Count Study- Philadelphia

- **One of 22 counties** that partnered on Voices of Youth Count, a first-of-its-kind national effort aimed at ending youth homelessness.
 - This included a point in time Youth Count, Brief Youth Surveys, and some data from providers.
- **One of 5 counties** where young people also participated in **In-Depth Interviews** about their experiences with homelessness.
 - Report includes findings from 215 interviews.

Philadelphia Youth Count Findings

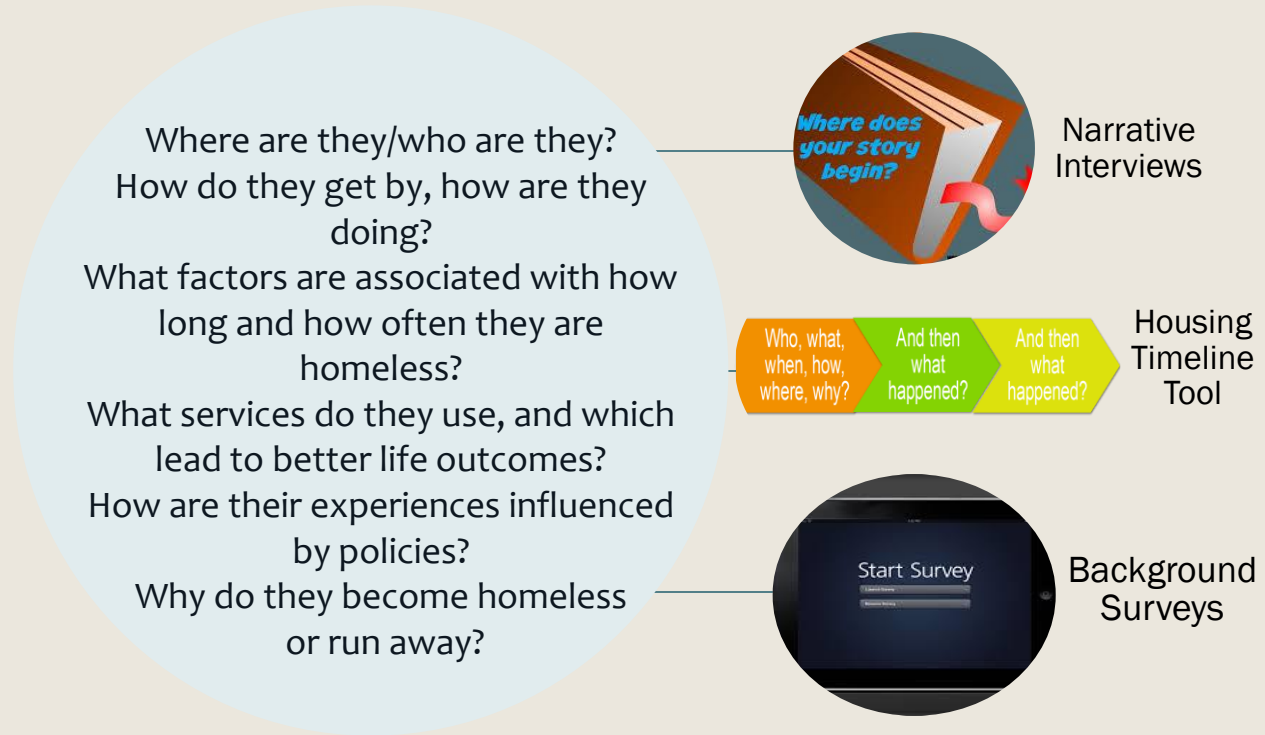
- In a 24-hour “point in time” count in August 2016, **569 unaccompanied youth ages 13 to 25 were identified as homeless or unstably housed**. 263 participated in surveys.
- **Location of surveyed youth on the night of the count:**
 - **41% sheltered-** *in shelter, transitional housing, or hotels/motels*
 - **19% unsheltered-** *outside, in abandoned building, in cars*
 - **23% unstably housed-** *couch surfing, in intermittent housing*
 - **16% in other unstable housing situations-** *the majority were staying with someone they were sexually involved with*
- Up to this point, this was the **highest number of youth who had been counted** during a point in time count due to **new methodology**.

New Methodology

- Voices of Youth Count introduced a **new methodology** to count youth and young adults experiencing homelessness (which we have continued after the study).
- **Young adults with experience with homelessness survey other young people about their experiences with homelessness**, on teams with provider agency volunteers.
- Youth also guided the **“hot spot mapping”** prior to the point in time Youth Count.

More Than A Count

- In-Depth Interviews asked young people:



- Findings give new insight **directly from youth** into solutions around youth homelessness.

Homelessness is not an event

- Many youth reported that they had **never experienced stability.**
- Complex issue requires holistic and cross-system solutions.

Panelists

- Joseph Hill-Coles
- Libby Mathewson
- Jessica Sones
- Jenny Pokempner
- Liam Spady