

# Ohio McKinney-Vento Community of Practice

Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Special Population  
Students Experiencing Homelessness: A Focus on  
Students in Foster Care and Justice-Involved Youth  
*Session 4*

11/02/2022

# Welcome!

Please say hello in the chat box and share

- Your name & pronouns
- Name of your District
- Your role



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# Zoom Logistics



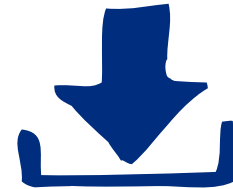
**All participants  
can unmute**



**You can share  
your camera**



**Questions can be  
asked  
throughout the  
training**



**The powerPoint  
will be sent out  
after each  
training**



**Breakout rooms**



**Polls/  
quizzes**



**Handouts/  
Materials**



**Audio/video  
issues**

# Agenda

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview of Justice-Involved Youth
- Supporting Justice Involved Youth
- Overview of Students in Foster Care
- Supporting Students in Foster Care
- Reminders & Resources
- Closing



# Objectives

Attendees will:

- Understand the intersection of homelessness and foster care
- Understand the intersection of homelessness and juvenile-justice
- Learn best practices for meeting the needs of vulnerable students
- Learn resources to support students in foster care and justice-involved youth experiencing homelessness in Ohio

# COHHIO Course to HOME Team



**Ami Diallo she/her  
Youth Housing  
Initiative Specialist**



**Evelyn Garon she/her  
Youth Housing  
Initiative Specialist**

# Guest Presenter



**Kirby Gaherty**  
**She/her**  
**Program Manager, Justice**  
**Initiatives**

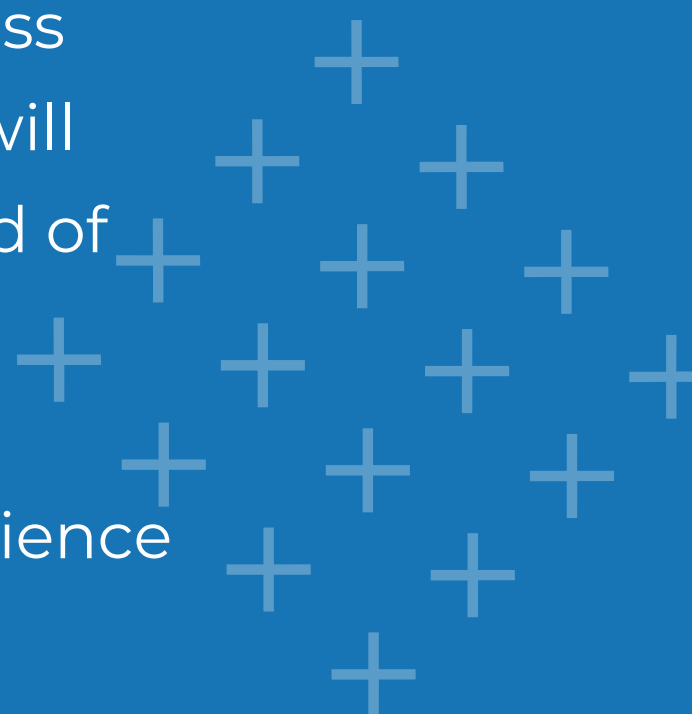


## YOUTH HOMELESSNESS & JUVENILE JUSTICE

The National Alliance to End Homelessness estimates that 4.2 million young people will experience homelessness for some period of time.

1 in 30 youth between 13 and 17 will experience homelessness in a year.

Each year almost 700,000 children will have contact with the juvenile justice system.







What percentage of youth who are homeless report that they have come into contact with law enforcement?

- A. 17 percent
- B. 35 percent
- C. 78 percent
- D. 92 percent



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# Juvenile Justice-Involved Youth And Homelessness

Not all youth experiencing homelessness are justice system-involved, but there is overlap between the populations.

654  
youth

Interviews of 654 runaway and homeless youth in 11 U.S. cities conducted for the U.S. Administration for Children Youth and Families found that, at some point in their lives:



11

U.S. cities

NEARLY

44 %

had stayed in a jail, prison or juvenile detention center



ALMOST

78 %

had at least one interaction with the police




NEARLY

62 %

had been arrested





# COMMONALITIES AMONG SYSTEMS

Young people who are experiencing homelessness are disproportionately more likely to be youth of color as a result of over policing and other forms of racial bias.

LGBTQ and gender expansive youth are over represented in the youth legal system and among youth experiencing homelessness.



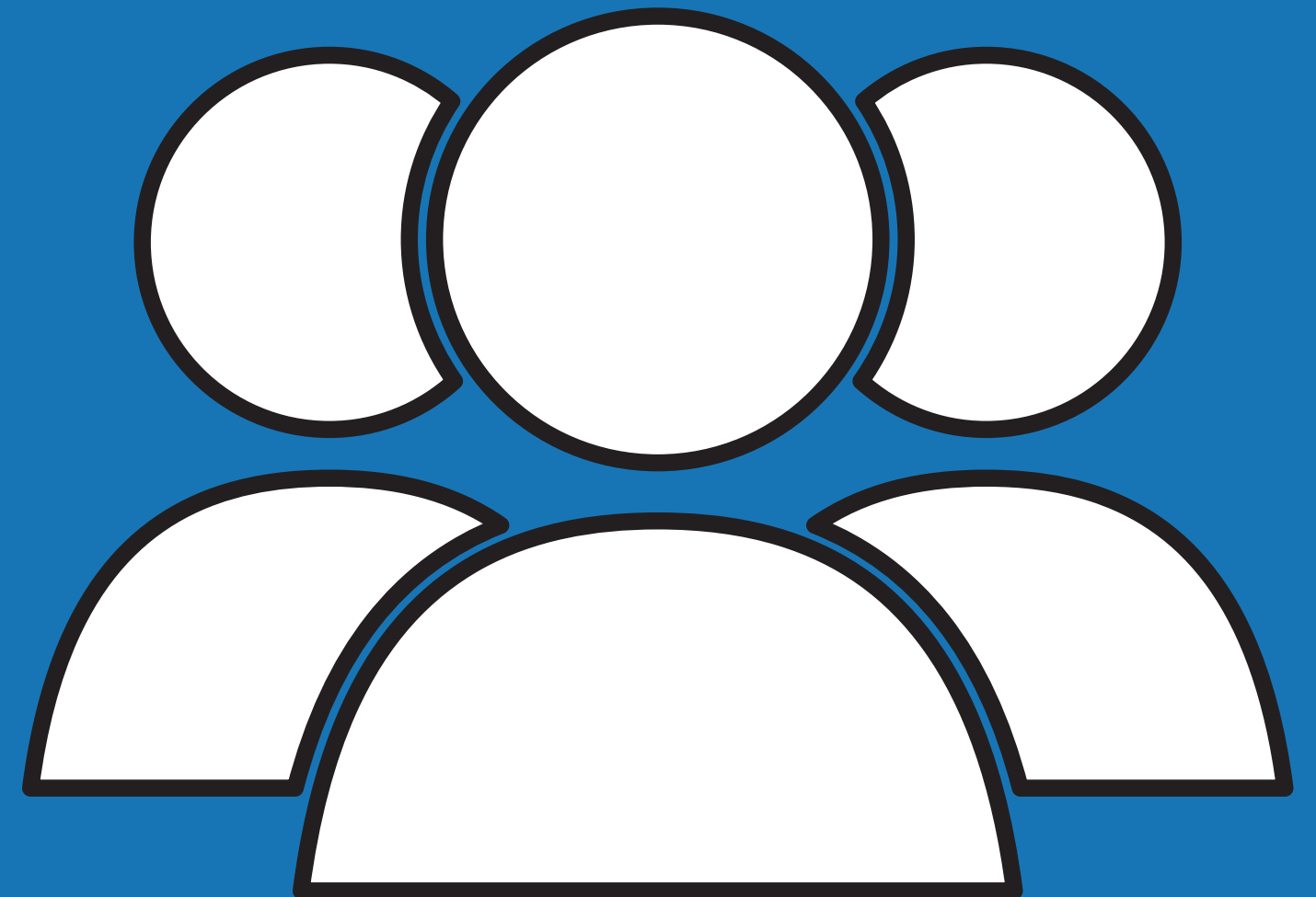


# Risk factors for juvenile justice involvement

Drug abuse, mental health issues, and lack of access to services

Length of time homeless/disconnected equals greater frequency/likelihood of legal involvement

Most effective services include housing, employment, and behavioral health supports



# Dangers for youth experiencing homelessness

Youth who experience homelessness are at risk for sexual and physical abuse.

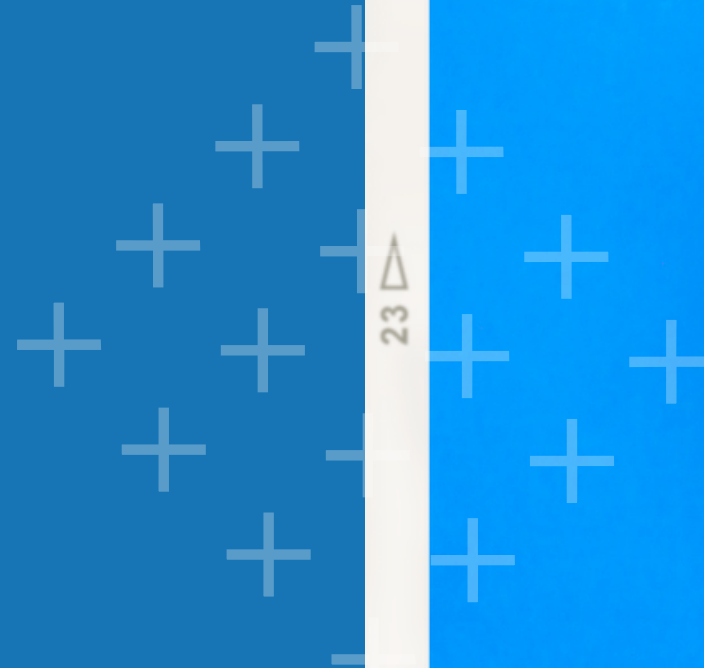
Youth experiencing homelessness are vulnerable to engaging in criminal activity that stem from necessity.

Young people without stable housing are also at increased risk of illness and suicide.



# TRUE OR FALSE?

Research shows that in some states children become homeless because no one picks them up from a detention facility when they are released.





# JUVENILE JUSTICE AND HOMELESSNESS

Some young people are homeless before they enter the system. This can include children who ran away from home or were forced out by their parents.

Some youth are forced out by parents as a result of system involvement.

Some are not picked up when they are released from incarceration.

Some young people experience homelessness upon aging out of the child welfare system.





# Transition planning

“Targeting release from the juvenile justice system as a point to combat youth homelessness can both benefit youth who are at risk of displacement and reduce rates of youth recidivism.”

Alone Without a Home, September 2012, National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, and National Network for Youth



# QUIZ

Depending on the state, a young person can face charges for:

A. Running away from home.

B. Skipping School.

C. Being out after curfew.

D. All of the above.





# Status offenses

Status offenses are behaviors that violate the law, but would not be an offense if committed by an adult.

Common examples include truancy, running away, curfew and liquor law violations and being beyond their parents' control.

Can be called PINS, FINS, CHINS, etc., but implications are still the same.

Mostly state law issue; Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act serves as primary federal law in this area.







The National Census of Youth in Residential Placement found that in 2017 alone, more than 1,690 children were estimated to be incarcerated each day for behaviors such as running away from home, skipping school, or coming home after curfew.

This accounts for 3% of all youth in detention.







## OTHER LINKS

There are other ways that juvenile justice and homelessness intersect:

- “Quality of Life” Ordinances: prohibition on being in public parks, etc. after dark.
- Survival Crimes: shoplifting, trespassing
- Human Trafficking
- Family Violence
- Behavioral Health
- Collateral Consequences: limitation of housing options



# How can we address these challenges?



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- Closing

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# Supporting Justice-Involved Youth

## Trauma-Informed Care

- Recognize that certain behaviors may be a result of trauma
- Avoid harsh discipline policies for behaviors triggered by past traumatic experiences, instead offer support services
- Protect and respect student privacy
- Identify students' strengths and help them build upon their skills

## Collaboration

- Partner with community-based providers for support services that can address behaviors that may lead to juvenile-justice involvement
- Coordinate with juvenile-justice agencies to develop and implement transition policies for youth exiting a justice placement

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# The Foster Care System

Foster care is designed to provide temporary housing and care for children and adolescents until they can be either reunited with their family, taken in by relatives, adopted, or emancipated as an adult.

However, youth that pass through the foster care system too often fail to find permanent homes, transitioning from one living situation to another.



# Facts & Figures

- An estimated **20%** of young adults in foster care experience homelessness **immediately** after emancipation
- **25%** of youth in foster care experience homelessness **within 4 years** of aging out of the system
- Between **31% and 46%** of youth exiting foster care experience homelessness **by age 26**
- **About 1/3 of youth experiencing homelessness have had experiences with foster care**





# Pathways from Foster Care to Homelessness

- Aging Out
  - Young people age out of (or emancipate from) foster care when they become too old to remain in state care according to state law
  - In Ohio, this process occurs at age 19
- Reunification
  - Youth may return to parents/guardians engaged in the same problematic behaviors that led to their removal
- Adoption
  - Youth may experience family dysfunction or abuse from their adoptive parent or other family members



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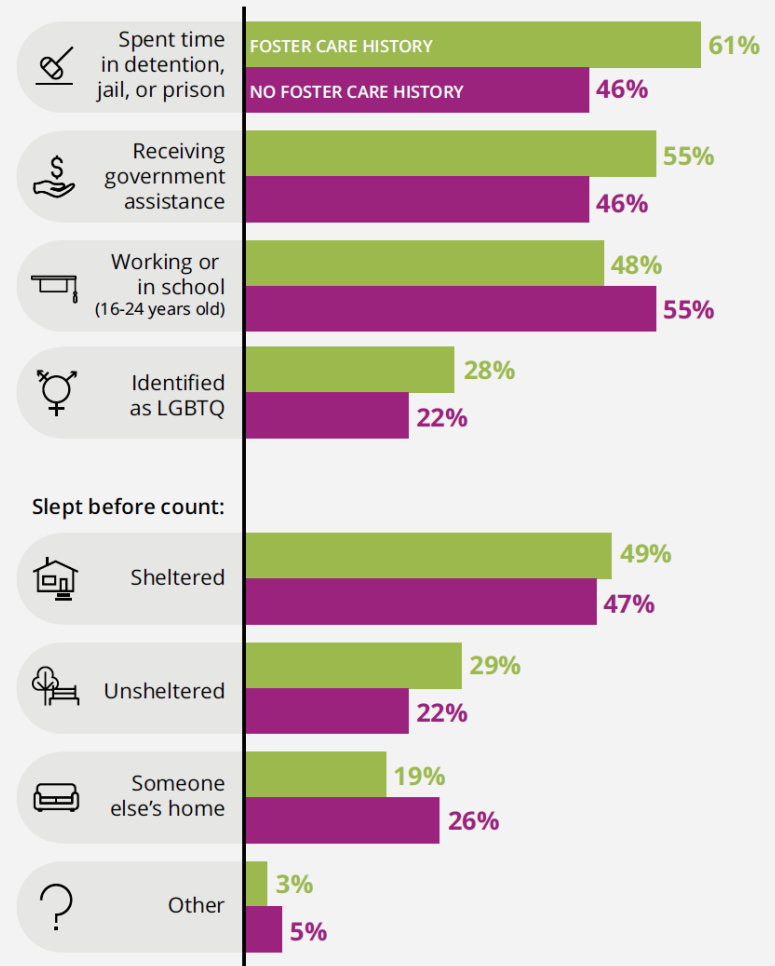
# Unique Experiences

Youth who have been in foster care experience significantly more adverse events than their peers with no foster care history.

Youth in foster care have higher rates of:

- Justice system involvement
- Identifying as LGBTQ+
- Unemployment
- Pregnancy & parenthood

**Figure 2.** Differences between youth experiencing homelessness with and without a foster care history



(Source: VoYC Brief Youth Surveys)

# Stability

48% of youth who are in child welfare custody for less than 12 months will change residences **at least twice**

- One study found that more than **30% of youth** in foster care had **8 or more residential placements**
- Some youth have been in **20 to 30 different homes**

**65% of youth** in foster care experienced **7 or more school changes** from elementary through high school

- School changes result in further loss of adult support and peer relationships
- School transfers have particularly adverse educational effects on students in foster care

**Although many factors contribute to poor educational outcomes for children and youth in foster care, educational success often hinges on school stability**

# Educational Impact

Youth in foster care are particularly vulnerable to adverse educational effects:

- Twice as likely as their peers to be absent from school
- Twice as likely to experience out-of-school suspensions
- 2.5 to 3.5 times more likely to receive special education services
- Higher rates of absenteeism, tardiness, and truancy

An estimated 50-70% of youth in foster care drop out of high school at an early age. Youth without a high school diploma or GED have 4.5 times the risk of experiencing homelessness.

*“Perhaps the single most important thing that each of us can do to improve the educational outcomes for foster children is to ensure that their school placement remains stable.”*

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# Supporting Students in Foster Care

## Trauma-Informed Care

- Exposure to trauma is even more common among youth experiencing homelessness that have been in foster care
- Recognize the unique challenges and instability that youth in foster care face
- Avoid harsh, punitive, and re-traumatizing practices

## Transition Planning

- Have conversations with youth about their transition plans
- Connect youth with appropriate services and supports
- Make youth aware of higher education and vocational options

# Supporting Students in Foster Care Cont.

## Collaboration

- Create and sustain relationships with child welfare agencies, juvenile/family courts, foster parents, CASAs, and other advocates
- Involve the student in these collaborations and conversations

## Creating Stability

- Build trusting relationships with youth
- Help youth secure the resources necessary to support their academic success
- Encourage youth to stay in school

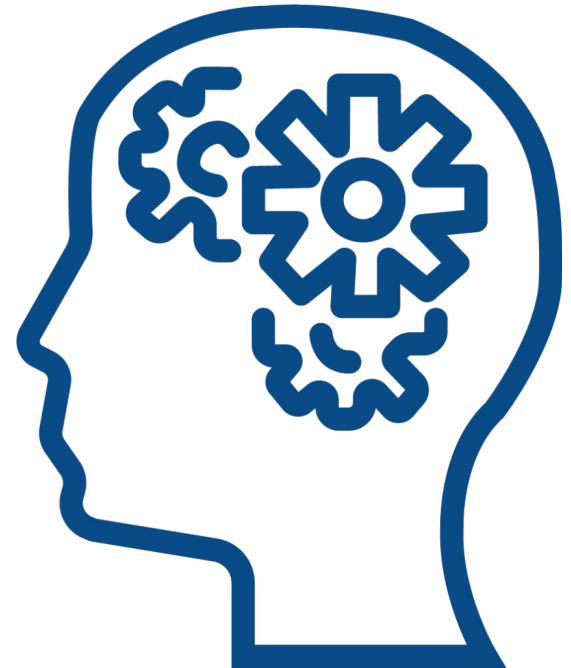


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# Professional Development

Educators and other school personnel could benefit from trainings on:

- The unique experiences and vulnerabilities of students in foster care
- How their involvement affects a child's development
- How to support students involved with child welfare
- The importance of keeping up-to-date, accurate, and complete educational records
- The need for timely enrollment and potential special education evaluations





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# COHHIO Course to HOME

Important Reminders!



# Plan for Upcoming Sessions

## Quarter One 3/15/2023

**Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; *A Focus On: Pregnant, Parenting, or Caregiving Students***

## Quarter Three 8/9/2023

**Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; *A Focus On: BIPOC and LGBTQ+ youth***

## Quarter Two 5/17/2023

**Identifying and Meeting the Needs of Students Experiencing Homelessness; *A Focus On: Children and Youth with Disabilities***

## Quarter Four 11/15/2023

***Supporting the Health and Well-being of Students At-Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness***

# Download 2022-2024 Calendars

## COHHIO COURSE TO HOME | COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE | CALENDAR

	McKinney Vento Community of Practice 	<a href="#">Click Here &amp; Learn More</a>
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MARCH '22						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**30** McKinney-Vento  
Community of Practice  
Session 1 (1p) - *Introduction of  
Homelessness*

**14** McKinney-Vento  
Community of Practice  
Session 3 (1p) - *Newcomers  
and Unaccompanied Youth*

SEPTEMBER '22						
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29	30	31				

**18** McKinney-Vento  
Community of Practice  
Session 2 (1p) - *Rural  
Homelessness*

**2** McKinney-Vento  
Community of Practice  
Session 4 (1p) - *Foster Youth  
and Juvenile Justice Involved  
Youth*

NOVEMBER '22						
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Preview the schedule [here](#)

# Request Technical Assistance

## Defining Technical Assistance

- The process of providing guidance, tools, resources, and consultation to assist districts achieve goals

## Accessing Technical Assistance

- Email us at [homelesseducation@cohhio.org](mailto:homelesseducation@cohhio.org)
- Call us at 614-280-1984 ext.143
- Access resources at [www.cohhio.org/youth](http://www.cohhio.org/youth)

## More Information

- Review the [Guide to Technical Assistance](#)



# Join the Mailing List

## Sign up to Stay in Touch!

Sign up for the COHIO Course to HOME mailing list and stay up to speed.

\* Email

Your **email** here 😊

\* First Name

\* Last Name

Sign Up



[Sign Up](#)

# Feedback

We invite you to provide feedback about todays here:  
<https://forms.gle/cdaEBnQPPeNW9UzaA>



# Foster Care Resources

- [Chapin Hall: Interrupting the Pathways from Foster Care to Homelessness](#)
- [Children at Risk in the Child Welfare System: Collaborations to Promote School Readiness](#)
- [Ensuring the Educational Stability of Students in Foster Care](#)
- [Foster Care Enrollment Checklist](#)
- [Foster Care Educational Stability Provisions Flowchart](#)
- [National Foster Youth Institute](#)
- [NCHE: A Look at Child Welfare from an Education Perspective](#)
- [Preventing Homelessness for Youth and Young Families in Foster Care: FY2021 Updates](#)
- [Supporting School Stability for Students in Foster Care During COVID–19 and Beyond](#)
- [The Ann E. Casey Foundation: From Foster Home to Homeless](#)



# Juvenile Justice Resources

- [Addressing the Intersections of Juvenile Justice Involvement and Youth Homelessness: Principles for Change](#)
- [Homeless and Runaway Youth in the Justice System](#)
- [Homelessness and Juvenile Justice: Policy Reform and Practice Collaboration to Reduce Homelessness and System Involvement](#)
- [Implementing Change: School Personnel's Role in Addressing the Intersection of Homelessness and Juvenile Justice](#)
- [National Standards for the Care of Youth Charged with Status Offenses](#)
- [School-Justice Partnership National Resource Center](#)
- [Youth Homelessness and the Juvenile Justice System: A Roadmap of What to Ask, What to Offer, and Expect from Referral to Reentry](#)
- [Youth Homelessness and Juvenile Justice: Opportunities for Collaboration and Impact](#)
- [Youth.gov: Juvenile Justice](#)

# General Resources

[Ohio Department of Education Students Experiencing Homelessness](#)

[Ohio Department of Education American Rescue Plan Homeless II Funds](#)

[Ohio Department of Education Supporting Students Experiencing Homelessness with ESSER and ARP Funds](#)

[Ohio Department of Education Local School District Liaison Duties, Roles and Responsibilities](#)

[COHHIO Emergency Rental Assistance](#)

[COHHIO Course to HOME](#)

[COHHIO Youth Housing Initiative](#)

[COHHIO On-Demand Recorded Trainings](#)

[COHHIO Housing Now for Homeless Families](#)

[COHHIO Homeless System Resource Map](#)

# General Resources

[Ohio Resource Guide](#)

[COHHIO Guide to the Resource Guide](#)

[School House Connection](#)

[National Center for Homeless Education](#)

[Ohio Bridges Program](#)

[Child and Family Health Collaborative of Ohio](#)

[Ohio Reach](#)

[Ohio Domestic Violence Network](#)

[The Center for Family Safety and Healing](#)

[HUD Exchange Connecting Housing and Education](#)

[Health and Human Services Runaway and Homeless Youth](#)

# Contact Information



COHHIO Course to HOME

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