

Good morning!

Please see the attached opportunity for youth and young adults. They are still looking for undocumented and indigenous youth to participate, all the other workgroups are full.

If you have any questions about this information please let me know!

Thanks,

aew

Amanda Wilson, LISW-S, CDE  
*she/her/hers*  
Youth Housing Initiative Director  
614.280.1984 x115

From 03/06/2023-05/26/2023 COHHIO will be piloting a four-day workweek as an employment benefit and retention strategy aiming to improve employee morale, decrease burnout, and streamline productivity. For more information on this practice relative to the Youth Housing Initiative Program, please email Program Director Amanda Wilson at [amandawilson@cohhio.org](mailto:amandawilson@cohhio.org).

**From:** Jeremy Penn <[jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org)>  
**Date:** Friday, April 7, 2023 at 5:57 PM  
**To:** Jeremy Penn <[jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org)>  
**Cc:** Katie Meyer Scott <[kmeyerscott@homelesslaw.org](mailto:kmeyerscott@homelesslaw.org)>, Aleya Jones <[aleya@truecolorsunited.org](mailto:aleya@truecolorsunited.org)>, Erika Lopez <[elopez@homelesslaw.org](mailto:elopez@homelesslaw.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: Paid participation opportunity for youth & young adults: working groups for the State Index on Youth Homelessness

Hi all!

I did in fact forget to include: we welcome youth & young adults to participate from anywhere in the country. The times themselves that are listed are all Eastern.

Thank you again and have a good weekend.

Best wishes,

**Jeremy Penn (she/they) | Staff Attorney**  
**a:** 2000 M Street NW, Suite 750-E, Washington, DC 20036  
**e:** [jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org) | **w:** [homelesslaw.org](http://homelesslaw.org)  
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**From:** Jeremy Penn <[jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org)>

**Sent:** Friday, April 7, 2023 1:40 PM

**To:** Jeremy Penn <[jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org)>

**Cc:** Katie Meyer Scott <[kmeyerscott@homelesslaw.org](mailto:kmeyerscott@homelesslaw.org)>; Aleya Jones <[aleya@truecolorsunited.org](mailto:aleya@truecolorsunited.org)>; Erika Lopez <[elopez@homelesslaw.org](mailto:elopez@homelesslaw.org)>

**Subject:** RE: Paid participation opportunity for youth & young adults: working groups for the State Index on Youth Homelessness

Hi everyone,

I would like to first and foremost apologize for taking this week to recalibrate. I am grateful for everyone who has already responded, and grateful for everyone who suggested alterations to the structure of these working groups. I wanted to announce some changes that we've decided on to ensure that we are compensating and honoring youth & young adults properly in this work. Thank you to all of you who pushed us to make these changes.

We are eliminating the second Zoom call from the working groups, and instead asking only for participation in one 90-minute/hour-and-a-half Zoom call, paying participants the full stipend of \$100 for the one Zoom call. We have also specified designated days/time options for the working groups, listed below. We have also created a flyer (attached) and a webpage to host all of this information in a more accessible manner: <https://homelesslaw.org/working-groups/>

To avoid any technical problems with a Google form or other intake system, we still do ask interested youth & young adults to email Jeremy (she/they) at [jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org) directly by Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, with their working group and day/time preferences. Jeremy will be responding shortly to everyone who has already reached out.

Thank you for calling us in.

Best wishes,

*Working Group Day/Time Options*

Black & Brown Y&YA:

Tue. April 18<sup>th</sup> 12:30 PM – 2:00 PM or Wed. April 19<sup>th</sup> 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Indigenous Y&YA:

Fri. April 21<sup>st</sup> 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM or Fri. April 21<sup>st</sup> 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Y&YA w/ Disabilities:

Mon. April 24<sup>th</sup> 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM or Tue. April 25<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Parenting Y&YA:

Fri. April 28<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM or Fri. April 28<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

Y&YA w/ Exp. w/ Domestic Abuse:

Tue. May 2<sup>nd</sup> 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM or Tue. May 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Undocumented Y&YA:

Fri. May 5<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM or Fri. May 5<sup>th</sup> 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM

System-Impacted Y&YA:

Tue. May 9<sup>th</sup> 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM or Tue. May 9<sup>th</sup> 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Trans/NB Y&YA:

Wed. May 10<sup>th</sup> 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM or Wed. May 10<sup>th</sup> 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM

**Jeremy Penn (she/they) | Staff Attorney**

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**From:** Jeremy Penn

**Sent:** Monday, April 3, 2023 5:54 PM

**To:** Jeremy Penn <[jpenn@homeleslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homeleslaw.org)>

**Cc:** Katie Meyer Scott <[kmeyerscott@homeleslaw.org](mailto:kmeyerscott@homeleslaw.org)>; Aleya Jones <[aleya@truecolorsunited.org](mailto:aleya@truecolorsunited.org)>

**Subject:** Paid participation opportunity for youth & young adults: working groups for the State Index on Youth Homelessness

Hi!

**This is a paid participation opportunity for youth & young adults who are experiencing or have previously experienced homelessness.**

We are Jeremy Penn (she/they) and Katie Meyer Scott (she/her) from the National Homelessness Law Center (NHLC) and Aleya Jones (she/her) from True Colors United (TCU). We are responsible for the annual State Index on Youth Homelessness, which tracks over 60 youth & young adult homelessness metrics across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. We think that the Index's metrics are outdated, technocratic, and typically lacking in value to homeless youth & young adults and service providers. To that end, we are transforming the Index to re-center it on the needs and experiences of homeless youth & young adults and service providers.

In order to redraft the Index's metrics, we are organizing eight youth & young adult working groups, each focusing on different aspects of youth & young adult homelessness. We want each working group to have five youth & young adults with relevant lived experience, with a total of forty youth & young adults participating overall. **We are emailing you because we want your organization to recommend and/or put us in touch with youth & young adults who you know would be interested in participating with us.**

### *What is required?*

Participation means committing to two Zoom calls with an overall time commitment of 2.5 hours. **We want to host the first round of Zoom calls between April 17th and May 12th and the second round of Zoom calls in June.** The first Zoom call will last about 90 minutes/an hour and a half. It will be an open-ended call, giving youth & young adults a space to share about their experiences navigating various systems with us. We will spend May drafting new metrics for the Index based on these discussions. The second Zoom call will last about 60 minutes/an hour. It will be focused on feedback, input, and criticism of the draft Index metrics. With permission, we would like to take notes for the purposes of our work, but these Zoom calls *will not* be recorded.

**We are offering a stipend of up to \$100 for each youth & young adult.** Payments *will not* be withheld until after both Zoom calls. Youth & young adults that participate *will* be compensated after *each* Zoom call (\$60 after the first Zoom call and \$40 after the second Zoom call.) We plan to have multiple methods and forms of payment available (including PayPal, check, and cash gift cards) for participants to choose from based on their preferences/needs. Please note that receipt of the stipend does not create an employment relationship with the NHLC or TCU. Please also note that we are required by law to request a [W-9 form](#) for each youth or young adult claiming a stipend. We know that these kinds of legalities typically act as a barrier, and we are committed to overcoming them. Please reach out to us with questions and/or to problem-solve for a youth or young adult who wants to participate.

We are limiting each youth & young adult who participates to only one working group in order to maximize the number of youth & young adults who can participate. And we have themed the working groups because we want the Index to track metrics that are relevant to all of these lived experiences, but we reject putting youth & young adults into boxes. We do not expect these discussions to rigidly conform to the working group's theme. We invite - in fact, we encourage - youth & young adults to participate with us as their full selves, even and especially when they fit into more than one of the working groups. For ease of organizing the working groups, we invite youth & young adults who want to participate to list and/or rank the working groups that they are interested in.

### *Who are we looking for?*

To youth & young adults who want to work with us: Are you worried that you don't qualify to participate? **These working groups are open to all youth & young adults under the age of 30 who are experiencing or have previously experienced homelessness.** If you are not certain whether you qualify for a particular group, we welcome you to ask us. **Content warning:** the following descriptions name and briefly discuss criminal, immigration, child welfare/protection, and foster care systems, and domestic violence/abuse.

Here are our inclusion guidelines for the working groups:

- System-impacted youth & young adults: inclusive of experiences with criminal, immigration, child welfare/protective services, and foster care systems; inclusive of those who are impacted by these systems impacting a family member (for example, a youth or young adult whose parent was/is incarcerated)

- Black and brown youth & young adults: for youth & young adults of color who identify as black and/or brown
- Indigenous youth & young adults: includes those who do not live on a reservation; includes those who are not members of a recognized tribe
- Undocumented youth & young adults: for youth & young adults without legal status
- Trans, nonbinary, & intersex youth & young adults: inclusive of all non-cisgender identities and expressions; includes those who are intersex and/or have differences in sex development
- Youth & young adults with disabilities: inclusive of all disabilities, including but not limited to physical, mental, and psychological disabilities
- Parenting youth & young adults: for youth & young adults who are themselves parents; inclusive of those who do not have physical and/or legal custody of their children
- Youth who experience/have experienced domestic violence/abuse: inclusive of all forms of domestic violence, including but not limited to physical, verbal, emotional, and sexual violence/abuse; inclusive of violence/abuse committed by any/all member(s) of the household, regardless of their familial relationship to the youth/young adult

**We would like to be in touch with interested youth & young adults by Monday, April 17th so that we can begin scheduling Zoom calls.** We welcome you to ask us any questions that you may have. You can reach us by emailing Jeremy: [jpenn@homelesslaw.org](mailto:jpenn@homelesslaw.org)

Thank you for your time and best wishes,

**Jeremy Penn (she/they) | Staff Attorney**

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