What do we hope to achieve?
A future where every transition age youth up to age 25 has a stable home, permanent connections to family, friends and community, meaningful opportunities for education and employment, and social and emotional well-being to enable successful transitions to adulthood.

What do we know so far?
Promising Trends:

- Growing interest and collaboration among federal agencies to prevent and end youth homelessness.
- Implementation of federal policies and demonstration programs focused on providing resources for youth to succeed in school and employment; interest in supporting youth has grown across non-housing sectors, including healthcare agencies and grant makers.
- Growing awareness and evidence that supportive housing that is non-time-limited can help foster successful transitions to adulthood, education, employment, and connection with mainstream services and supports without creating artificial eligibility periods that can lead to service and housing gaps.

Problematic Trends:

- Young adults ages 18 to 24 are the largest growing homeless population in the country; homeless children and youth accounted for a third of the homeless population in 2017.
- Nearly half (46%) of homeless youth escaped a home where they suffered physical abuse; 17% left because of sexual abuse; 43% of homeless young men and 39% of homeless young women say they were assaulted with a weapon while living on the streets.
- Between 11% and 37% of youth aging out of public child welfare experience homelessness after they transition and an additional 25% to 50% are unstably housed.

How is CSH making a difference?

Capacity Building: Provide training, technical assistance and resources to housing and service providers on creating high-quality supportive housing for Transition Age Youth (TAY) aged 18-24 involved with homeless, juvenile justice and public child welfare systems; train on the use of the CSH-TAY Triage Tool.

Promoting Community Level System Change: Engage public child welfare, juvenile justice, and healthcare on the benefits of supportive housing; embed it as a cross-system approach to meeting the needs of TAY.

Increasing Supportive Housing for Youth: Invest in the development of supportive housing that is non-time-limited; advocate for more resources to serve TAY in homeless, juvenile justice and public child welfare systems.

Promoting Evidence-Based Practice: Develop, test and evaluate innovative models of supportive housing for high risk TAY; measure impact of supportive housing on youth well-being, document cost-savings and identify/disseminate best practices.
**ESSENTIAL PARTNERS**

Federal, State and Local Housing Agencies: Increase rental subsidies and affordable housing options in communities that prioritize high-risk TAY population.

Behavioral and Mental Health State Agencies: Increase access to integrated health and behavioral health services that are community-based and culturally appropriate for homeless youth with complex needs.

Education and Workforce Development Supports: Increase special programs, resources and policies aimed at improving educational outcomes and workforce development opportunities for youth experiencing homelessness.

Family and Children Services: Inform policy and service delivery strategies to improve the efficacy of supportive housing options for high-risk youth aging out of public child welfare and parenting TAY households.

Criminal Justice: Invest in housing and community-based service solutions that improve outcomes and decrease recidivism among TAY exiting from juvenile justice systems.

**CALCULATION OF SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NEED**

CSH estimates that 42,944 TAY in the United States have needs consistent with supportive housing. CSH reviewed three primary data sources for the TAY care needs assessment:

- CSH estimates that 80% (28,698) of the 36,010 homeless and unaccompanied youth, identified by the U.S. Housing and Urban Development annual report to Congress, have needs consistent with non-time-limited supportive housing. The percent need was driven by prevalence of mental health, trauma, addiction, and criminal justice involvement.
- CSH estimates that 25% (5,133) of the 20,501 youth, identified by the Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, as aging out of public child welfare annually have needs consistent with non-time-limited supportive housing. The percent need is driven by rates of homelessness after exiting public child welfare, incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, trauma, and mental health symptoms. Although this was annualized data, CSH used a proxy for point in time system capacity due to an average length of stay in the child welfare of over a year.
- CSH estimates that 20% (9,113) of the 45,573 transition aged youth, identified by the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention residential census have needs consistent with non-time-limited supportive housing. The percent need was driven by rates of homelessness prior to arrest, mental health symptoms, substance use, and traumatic brain injury.

This is part of a national supportive housing needs assessment prepared by CSH. The goal of this assessment is to use the best data available to make clear and transparent projections of supportive housing need, foster development of national level data, and promote discussion and refinement of this assessment over time. CSH uses a point in time, or average daily census, approach to assemble data across different systems of care. The intention is to show current snapshot of need in each system and does not represent need over time or annualized need for any single system of care. For further information on the national needs assessment, data and sources, please visit [www.csh.org/data](http://www.csh.org/data).