

## Youth Action Board (YAB)

### Most Significant Service Gaps and Potential Solutions for Homeless Youth

D = Day Shelter/Drop in Center with all amenities

SH = shelter with all amenities and services

FS = Family and maternity shelter with all amenities, services, and access to child care

T = training for community and service providers

DS = Direct services to youth

Other

	Service Gaps	Potential Solutions
<b>Ages 17 and under</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited shelter for youth under 18.</li> <li>Underage youth cannot sign contracts.</li> <li>Lack of licensing information for providers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need more licensed shelters for youth under 18.</li> <li>Need help with emancipating youth and/or co-signing and/or legal assistance.</li> <li>Need licensing information, specifically for underage shelters.</li> </ul>
<b>Trafficked Youth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of knowledge on how to identify victims.</li> <li>Lack of regulations for hotels and truck stops.</li> <li>Lack of parenting and resources/help which increase the risk of youth trafficked by a dating partner or “trusted” adult.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase CSEC Teams for nighttime outreach.</li> <li>Need training/education on how to identify and report trafficked victims that is more accessible/required.</li> <li>Need peer mentor program and have an onsite Rape Crisis or YWCA representative available at shelters/drop-in centers.</li> </ul>
<b>Pregnant/Parenting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Insufficient family housing.</li> <li>Poor access to childcare.</li> <li>Lack of maternity group home.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family housing is needed so the family is not separated. Family should include married and non-married couples.</li> <li>Need a maternity group home for pregnant youth.</li> <li>Need better access to childcare for families who are homeless</li> </ul>
<b>Justice Involved</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unable to pay for tickets.</li> <li>Unjust citations and compounds penalties.</li> <li>Gang influences not addressed enough as a reason for homelessness.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need youth court with legal advocates and alternatives to tickets (ex: work program) Public Defenders’ office is in favor of a homeless youth court.</li> <li>Need to collaborate with gang interventions and provide safe housing relocation.</li> </ul>
<b>Foster Emancipated</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lack of housing for ages 18 and older.</li> <li>Lack of mental health services for foster youth.</li> <li>Beginning at age 16 need more preparation for adulthood.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need longer support for foster care after 18 years old.</li> <li>Need support groups: mental health services for youth in and out of foster care homes (foster homes may have a devastating impact).</li> <li>Increase the preparation for youth emancipation.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>LGBTQ+</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No transitional housing specifically for LGBTQ+.</li> <li>• Lack of LGBTQ+ knowledge among providers of all kinds who need to know how to best serve this population and be inclusive.</li> <li>• Limited support services.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need dedicated homeless youth housing navigators to link youth to housing options.</li> <li>• Provide trainings for providers on how to best serve the LGBTQ+ community.</li> <li>• Need more LGBTQ+ services.</li> <li>• Need more support services</li> </ul>
<p><b>All Populations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need more comprehensive homeless youth drop-in/resource centers and shelters.</li> <li>• Lack of coordinated system of care is needed to provide youth with specific strategies and approaches. No formal connections between providers to communicate and collaborate; only personal relationships exist.</li> <li>• Lack of transitional age living assistance (life skills) for homeless youth, for example, job readiness, maintain occupation, budgeting (paying bills/rent), school courses, and trainings.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need a drop-in center/shelter in Salinas, with laundry, showers, food service, etc.</li> <li>• Need showers, laundry, improved food service in Monterey drop-in center. Ideally a larger space.</li> <li>• Need a fully-functional, coordinated system of care for youth who are experiencing homelessness.</li> <li>• Need Peer Navigators / Community Liaisons / Outreach Workers with lived experience for homeless youth, who have knowledge of homelessness and advocates, for housing, education, work.</li> <li>• Should be all-inclusive for counseling, employment opportunities and training, housing, showers, restrooms, lockers, laundry, case management, and should accommodate pets.</li> </ul>

**Special populations:**

- Victims of sexual trafficking
- Youth under age 18
- Foster care involved
- LGTBQ+
- Pregnant or Parenting youth
- Justice system involved