



# Building a Stronger Kentucky

2016 KENTUCKY AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONFERENCE

PRESENTED BY



# Best Practices & Lessons Learned:

## Strategies to end homelessness

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The collective for impact

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Columbus, Ohio

# Partners for Education at Berea College



Partners *for* Education  
BEREA COLLEGE



The Southeastern Kentucky  
Promise Zone





# Partnership for Opportunity Youth



Partners *for* Education  
BEREA COLLEGE



**Result 6- All Promise Zone youth are engaged in education or career**



# Partnership for Opportunity Youth

- Strategy Subgroups
  - Homeless Youth
  - Foster Care/Kinship Care
  - Youth Parents
  - Chronic Absenteeism



# First Steps

- March 18, 2016
- **Building a multisector partnership with national, state, regional and local representation from:**
  - Education
  - Justice
  - Mental Health
  - Housing
  - Workforce Development
  - Community Action Agencies



# Next Steps

- Developing a two-prong strategy focusing on both improving housing in our region and increasing our skills to support educational outcomes for youth.



# Housing

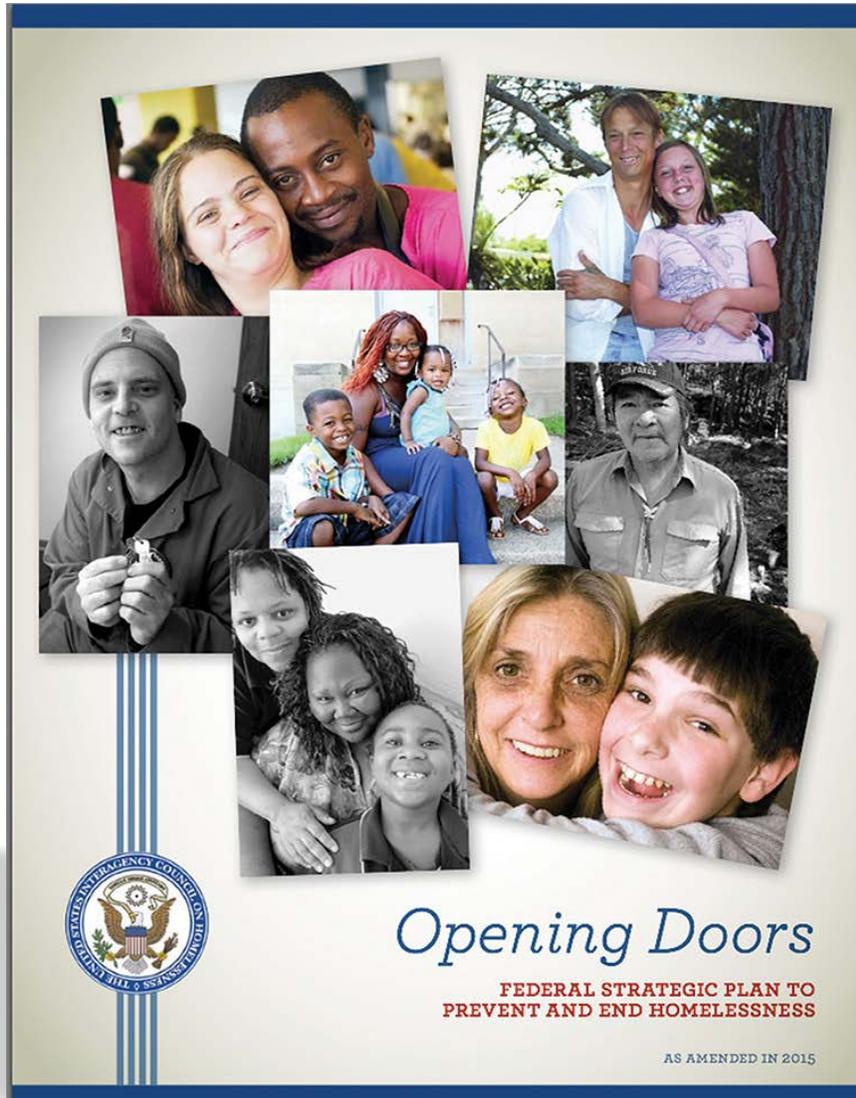
- Learning how to work with housing agencies and include them in our work.
- Planning to jointly pursue funding through a Coordinated Response to Youth Homelessness Demonstration proposal



# Education

- Partnering with Helen Jones and Jan Moore to learn and share best practices in homeless Education.
- Creating our own Homeless Education Summit in the Promise Zone so we can develop local skills and responses across sectors.





“Since the launch of Opening Doors, nationally there has been a 10% reduction in overall homelessness.”

# Overview

- Proof points – ending homelessness is possible
- Moving toward a systems approach
- Data and definitions
- Best and emerging practices
  - Service delivery
  - Program models
  - Community engagement
  - Community systems
- Critical success factors

A photograph of Michelle Obama speaking at a podium. She is wearing a white sleeveless top with a black and white patterned vest. The podium is made of cardboard and has a microphone and a sign on it. The sign says "RETHINK HOMELESSNESS" and "RETHINKHOMELESSNESS.ORG". The background is a blurred blue and white.

“Ending Veteran homelessness doesn’t mean we’ll never see a Veteran on the street,” Mrs. Obama said. “That’s an unfortunate reality. It means when someone does experience a housing crisis, we will be prepared to get them back into a home right away and for good.”

*First Lady Michelle Obama in New Orleans, April 20, 2015*

**RETHINK  
HOMELESSNESS**  
RETHINKHOMELESSNESS.ORG

# How Virginia Reduced Family Homelessness by 25% in 4 Years

- Encouraged buy-in and commitment from influential leadership.
- Created financial incentives for shifting to Rapid Rehousing.
- Defined and rewarded high performance.
- Communicated early and often.
- Built provider capacity to deliver Rapid Rehousing.
- Helped communities analyze their resource investments.



# Utah Ends Chronic Homelessness

- Utah Homeless Coordinating Committee
  - Established measurable plan to end chronic homelessness
  - Lead statewide implementation of Housing First practices
  - Directed state and federal funds to providers for proven practices
  - Held state agencies, communities, and providers accountable to achieve results



## Connecticut – 1<sup>st</sup> state to end homelessness among Veterans

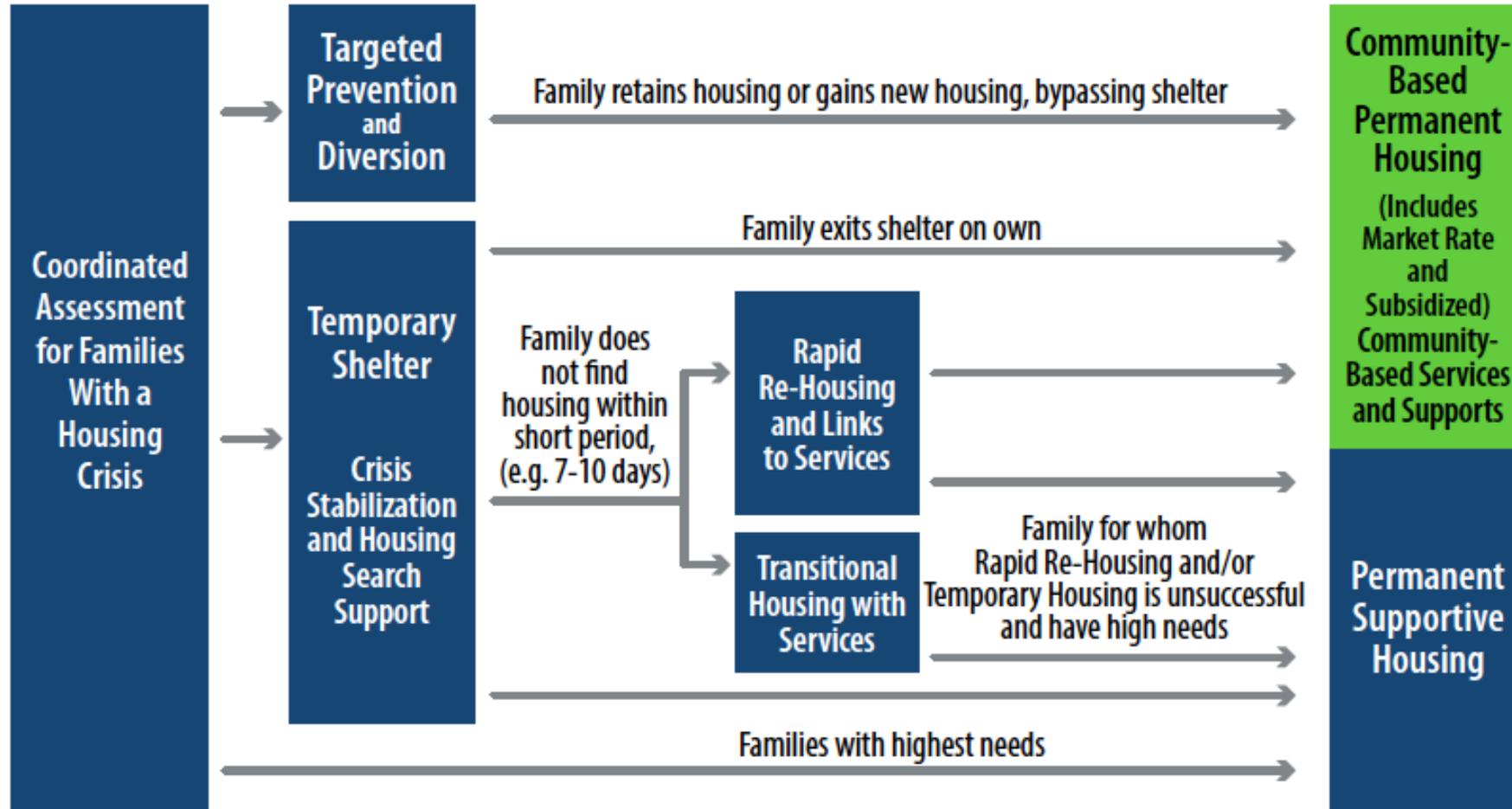
- Key initiatives:
  - Mayor's Challenge
  - 100-Day challenge
  - Zero 2016
- State built the infrastructure, through a network of partnerships and investments.
- Reaching Home Campaign's Veterans Workgroup:
  - VA Connecticut Healthcare System (VACT)
  - Connecticut Department of Housing (DOH)
  - Connecticut Veterans Project (CTVP)
  - U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Hartford Field Office (HUD)
  - Connecticut's Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) grantees,
  - Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness (CCEH),
  - Connecticut Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA),
  - Partnership for Strong Communities (PSC),
  - Connecticut Department of Correction (DOC), and
  - Connecticut Department of Labor (DOL)

# Moving toward a System to End Homelessness

Ending homelessness means building systems:

- ✓ Focus should be in diverting people from entering homelessness
- ✓ Must quickly engage when a person becomes homeless
- ✓ Response to be suitable and customized
- ✓ Homeless experiences should be short in length
- ✓ Focus has to shift to achieving high rates of permanent housing exits
- ✓ Data is critical to continuous improvement and understanding what works

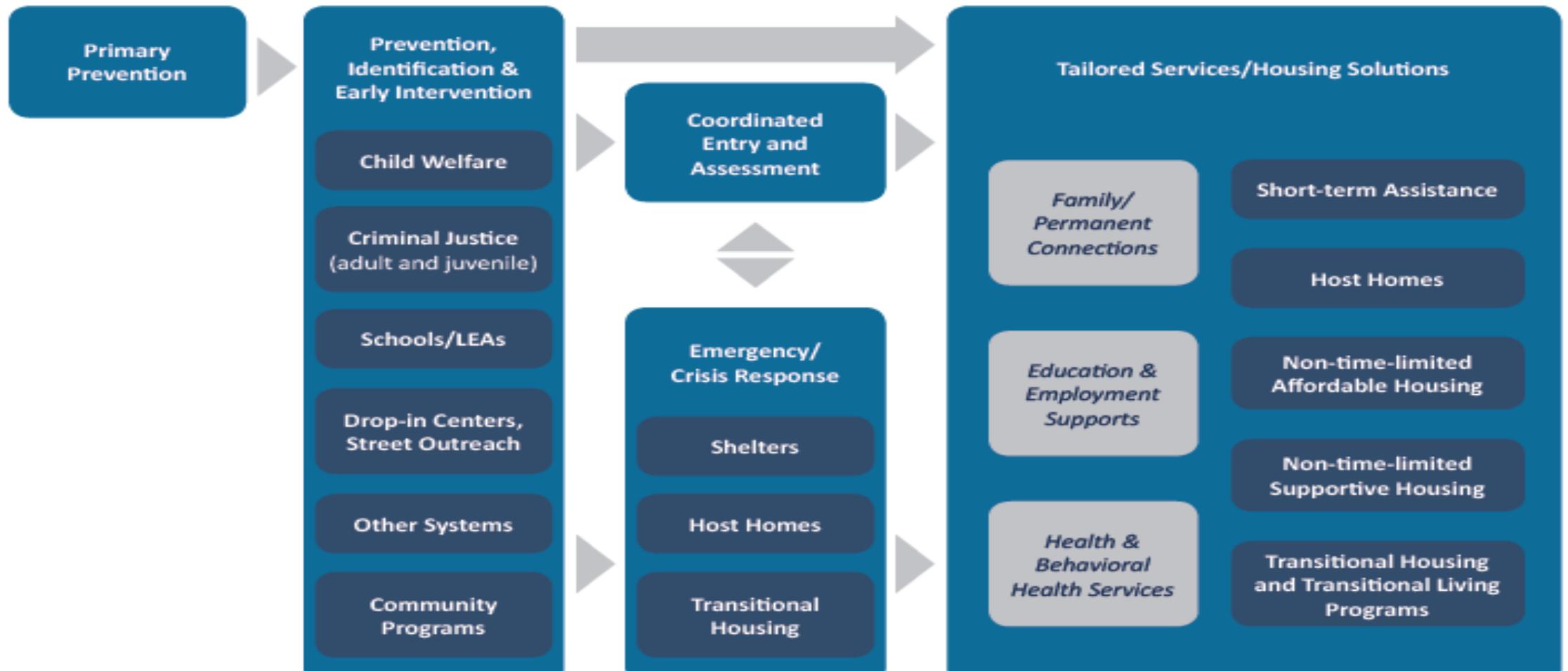
# USICH Family Connection Framework



## Core Outcomes for Youth

- ▶ **Stable housing** includes a safe and reliable place to call home.
- ▶ **Permanent connections** include ongoing attachments to families, communities, schools, and other positive social networks.
- ▶ **Education/employment** includes high performance in and completion of educational and training activities, especially for younger youth, and starting and maintaining adequate and stable employment, particularly for older youth.
- ▶ **Social-emotional well-being** includes the development of key competencies, attitudes, and behaviors that equip a young person to succeed across multiple domains of daily life, including school, work, relationships, and community.

# Youth Framework



# Thoughts on creating rural “systems” response

Organized network → right size intervention = rural system

- 1) Ensure good data for planning and making the case for resources
- 2) Engage with federal, state, and local government, anti-poverty organizations, and schools to identify and exploit mainstream resources
- 3) Partner with public housing agencies and other subsidized housing
- 4) Keep coordinated entry systems simple and geographically focused
- 5) Invest in rapid rehousing and targeted prevention/family mediation

**Good social work + landlord engagement = success**

# By the numbers: child and family homelessness

## Annual Estimate of Family Homelessness

Children < 6.....	10,822
Children 6-17.....	15,760
Total children.....	26,582
Adults in families.....	17,618
Family households.....	13,394
Family members.....	44,200
Rate of Family Homelessness.....	1 in 50 households
Rate of Child Homelessness.....	1 in 17 children



**“One in 50 families in Central Florida,  
and one in 17 children, will experience  
homelessness during the course of a year.”**

## Prioritize investment to the most vulnerable families.

Literally homeless – shelter and rapid rehousing

- unsheltered,
- showing up at emergency shelters with no other housing options,
- living in hotels and motels.

Homelessness prevention assistance for families who are living **in shared housing that is unsafe** because of domestic violence, severe overcrowding, and/or extremely poor quality housing.

# Best Practices

## Service delivery

- Individualized approaches that are asset-based
- Trauma informed care and approaches
- Housing First (all levels)
  - Low barrier admission
  - Assertive engagement
  - Quick rehousing as primary focus
- Motivational interviewing
- Assertive Community Treatment
- Critical Time Intervention

## Program Models

- Diversion
- Rapid Rehousing with progressive engagement
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Alternatives to criminalization
- SOAR

# Best Practices

## Community Engagement Strategies

- 100,000 Homes Campaign
- Rethink Homelessness (Orlando Florida)
- Zero 2016
- Mayor's Challenge to End Veterans Homelessness
- Collective Impact

## System & Community

- Using data for system planning and resource allocation
- Coordinated Entry
- Coordinated outreach
- Housing First – as system and across all programs
- By Name lists and housing prioritization
- Landlord engagement
- Criminal justice triage tools and frequent user programs
- Public Housing Agencies and Multi-Family Housing partnerships

# Emerging Practices & Innovations

- Health & Housing including Medicaid strategies
- Pay for Success
- Youth - cross sector collaboration; USICH Youth Framework; Voices of Youth Count; AWHHA 100-Day Challenge
- Partnerships with Child Welfare and Housing organizations
- Employment and training – Partnerships Summit to end homeless through integration of employment and training
- Children: Access to early childhood education and school partnerships
- Equal access regardless of sexual orientation or gender identify

# Critical Success Factors To Achieve A Functional End to Homelessness

- Fully operational **local system** that:
  - has a goal to make homelessness rare, brief, and one time;
  - focuses on **housing solutions** like rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing and Housing First practices;
  - **uses data** to track progress and monitor performance;
  - **invests only in proven solutions** to homelessness; and
  - **directs sufficient resources** from the public and private sector to right-size the system and programs to be sufficient to match the community's unique needs.

# Critical Success Factors in High Performing Rural Continuums of Care

- 1) An identified “Glue Person” that maintains both a high level understanding and detailed perspective of the continuum and its activities
- 2) A “Champion” for ending homelessness that has the trust and respect of community members, and the skills to build relationships both inside and outside of the homeless system
- 3) A high level of stakeholder involvement and leadership in the Continuum of Care planning process
- 4) Implementation strategies that reinforce inclusion, coordination, and collaboration across homeless system agencies and programs, both public and private
- 5) A willingness to think “outside of the box” to achieve key goals within the homeless system

“ending homelessness not only is the right thing to do, it makes economic sense.”





# Building a Stronger Kentucky

2016 KENTUCKY AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONFERENCE

Homelessness Education,  
Kentucky Promise Zones

#KAHC

# What is meant by the term “homeless children and youths”?

Section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Act<sup>10</sup> defines “homeless children and youths” as individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes—

Children and youths who are:

- sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as “doubled-up”);
- living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- living in emergency or transitional shelters; or
- abandoned in hospitals;

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## What is meant by the term “homeless children and youths”? cont...

Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;

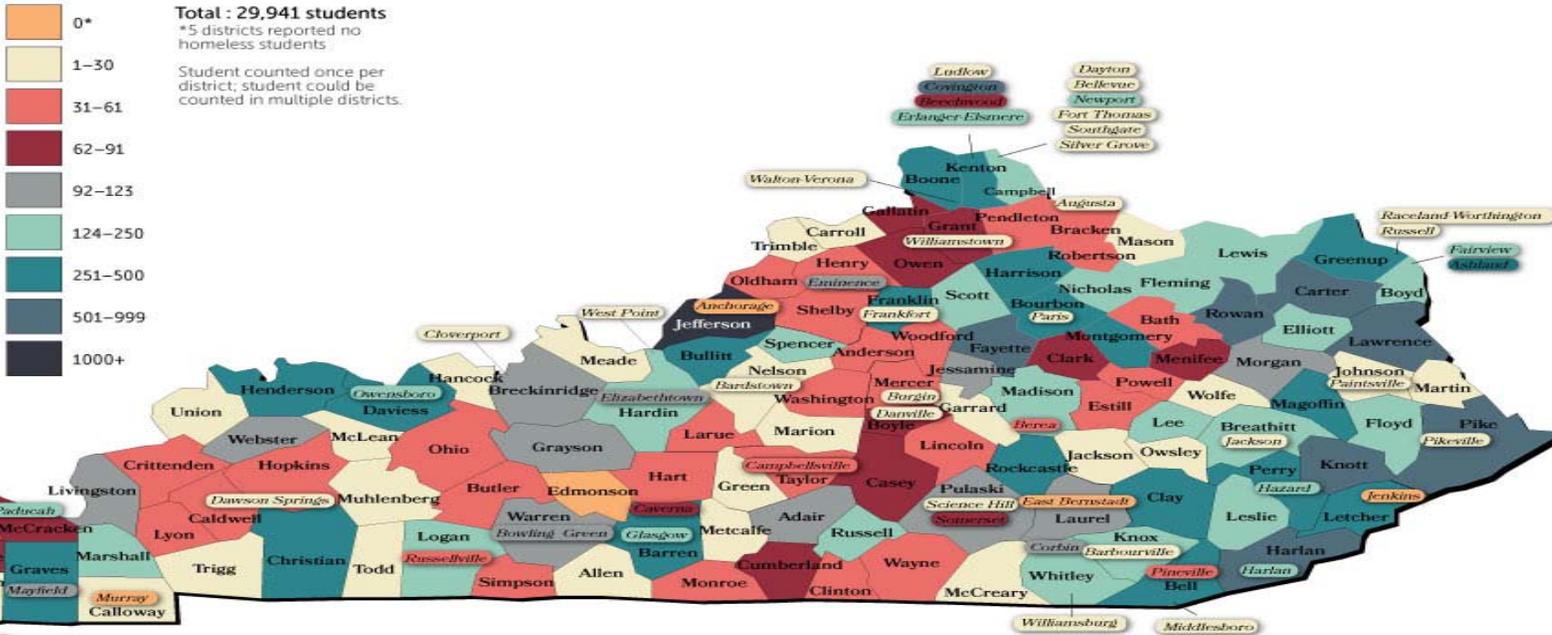
Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

Migratory children

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# Number of Homeless Children in Kentucky by County 2014-2015



County & Independent School Districts

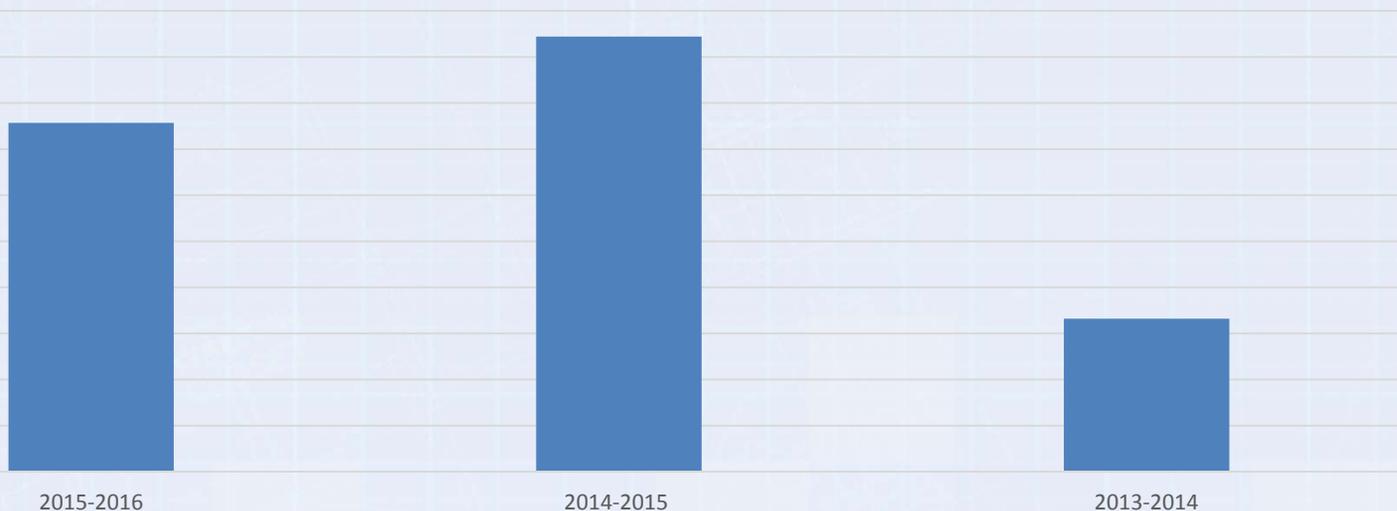
Independent districts indicated with dashed line  
120 County School Districts  
53 Independent School Districts

9/17/2015



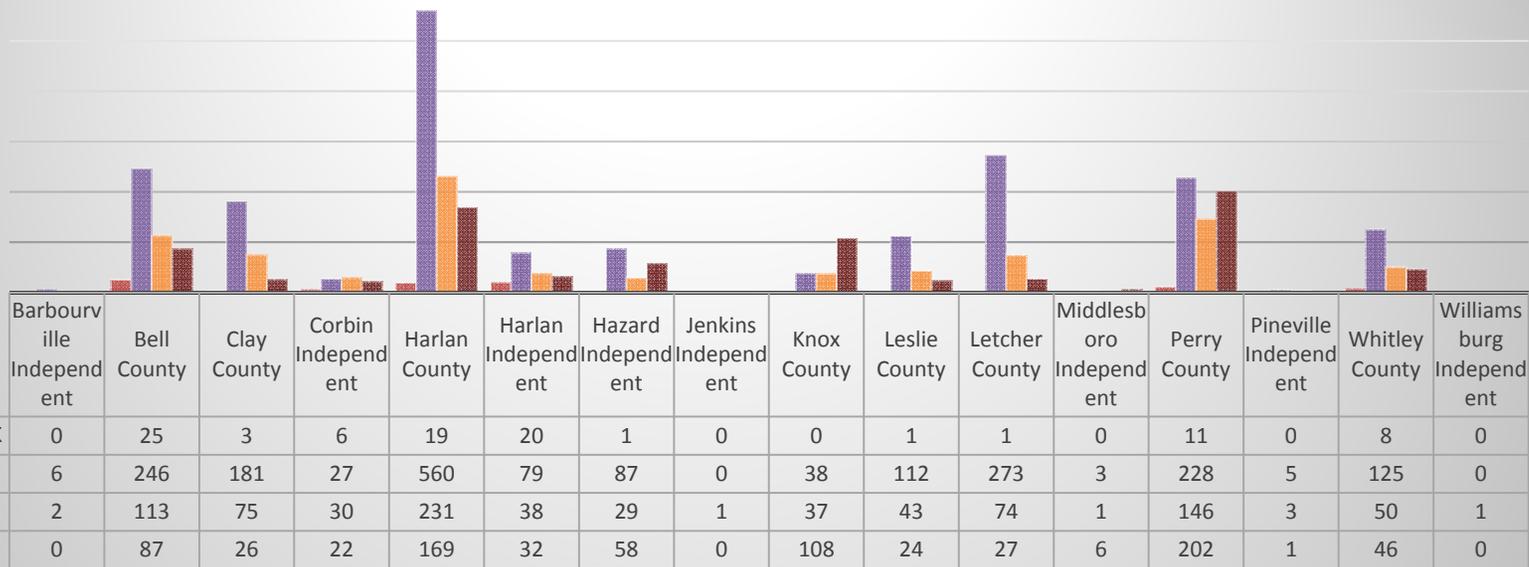
# State of Kentucky Homeless student count

Count



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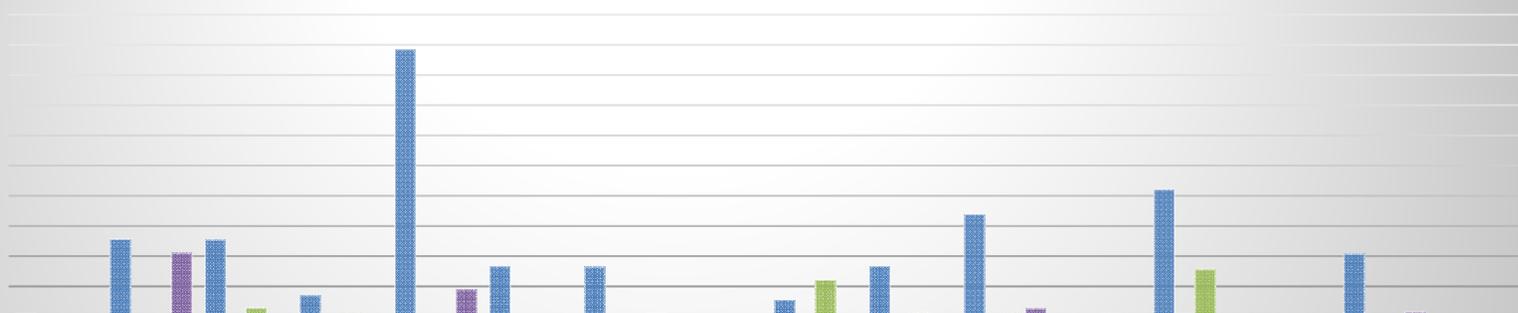
# 2015-16 Promise Zone Homeless Count



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# 2015-16 Promise Zone Homeless Count by Living Status

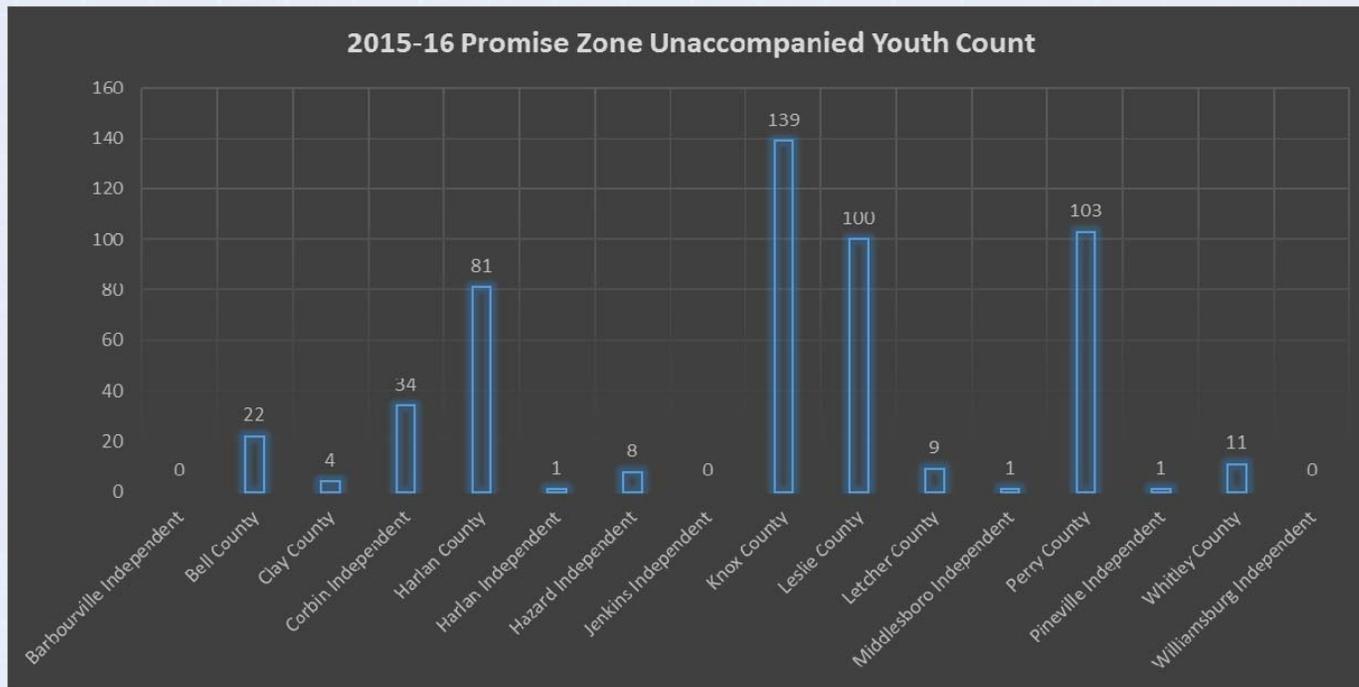


	Barbourville Independent	Bell County	Clay County	Corbin Independent	Harlan County	Harlan Independent	Hazard Independent	Jenkins Independent	Knox County	Leslie County	Letcher County	Middlesboro Independent	Perry County	Pineville Independent	Whitley County	Williamsburg Independent
Doubled Up	8	256	254	70	884	166	164	0	55	167	338	3	420	5	207	1
Hotels/Motels	0	1	1	1	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	7	0	4	0
Shelters	0	4	28	10	5	0	2	1	121	12	11	7	156	4	4	0
Unsheltered	0	210	2	4	90	3	7	0	4	1	26	0	4	0	14	0

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# 2015-16 Promise Zone Unaccompanied Youth Counts



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