

**Chicago Taskforce on Homeless Youth**  
July 7, 2016 Meeting Highlights

- **Youth Count Update**
  - Chapin Hall is doing a National Homeless Youth Count and Cook County and Chicago are one of the selected participants.
  - 2 Focus groups on Southside on 7/8/2016 (Service providers and youth)
  - The Youth Homeless Count is August 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>
  - Focus group on the Westside in the evening of 7/7/2016
  
- **State Budget Update and Ongoing Advocacy Agenda – Niya Kelly**
  - A bill passed that allows most service providers 65% on the dollar awards for the period of July 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016
    - Homeless Youth received 75% on the dollar
    - Homeless Prevention received 100% on the dollar
    - Supportive Housing received 65% on the dollar
    - Emergency and Transitional Housing received 100% on the dollar
  - Much uncertainty on how the agencies will get paid and exactly where the funds will come from
  - The Lawsuit against the state is still preceding with a court date
  - The City is processing the IDHS Homeless Contracts for the period of July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.
  
- **Updates from the Working Groups**
  - Education – Beth Malik
    - A representative from City Colleges is on the working group
    - City Colleges are identifying and tracking homeless students
    - They want to improve the services to the homeless students via sharing of information and cross training between the colleges wellness centers and the Youth service providers
    - Colleges want to contact the homeless student within 6 to 8 weeks of accepting into college
    - There will be another Education Working Group call within the next 2 weeks. Please let Beth know if you want to participate

- CPS is having clerks and liaisons trainings. A schedule of the trainings was distributed.
  - There is a new collaboration with Youth service providers. Currently CPS is working with The Night Ministries and Teen Living within 4 High Schools to share resources and information.
  
- Mental Health – David Sinski
  - Looking at mental health needs of homeless youth – will be having meetings with service providers and funders
  - Next step is to talk with Youth directly
  - Heartland Health Outreach is expanding services in the Englewood Community – will open next week
  - Next meeting is August 10<sup>th</sup> at 155 W 75<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
  - Need for training and services
  - Next step after listing make recommendations on Mental Health Services
  
- Prevention Committee Report – DCFS Representative
  - CHA seeking a HUD waiver for the length of time DCFS (21 years or 8 months) extend it to 5 years
  - Working on partial emancipation along with the Chicago collation to End Homelessness. A draft copy is available to review. Chicago Coalition made several clarifications to the document
  - Look at strategies to prevent homelessness from DCFS
  
- PSH/CHA Vouchers – Flora Koppel
  - There were a total of 34 CHA Sponsored-based vouchers (UCAN and La Casa Norte) that will go to Youth. CHA had reserved 50 units. Providers will not have to pull off the CHA waiting list for these units
  - No units are on line yet
  - There is a question about the remaining 16 units for Youth

- **Leaders Up** – Lisa Hampton
  - Lisa presented information on Leaders Up organization
  - This organization aligns talent with employers and they are working with homeless Youth (18 to 24 years old)
  
- **Federal Plan to End Youth Hopelessness by 2020** – Jeri Linas
  - Tedd/Jeri met with DFSS Commissioner regarding Ending Veteran Homeless Initiative. They discussed the One List, vouchers and data.
  - We don't have vouchers, data, and "One List"
  - HMIS – what data can we extract from HMIS as it relates to Youth
  - Need to start thinking of a plan; be proactive not reactive.
  - Next Steps – Jeri will follow up with Maura and then will have a think tank workshop facilitated by possibility by Corporation for Supportive Housing.