

A photograph of the U.S. Capitol building, showing the iconic dome and the portico with its columns. An American flag flies in front of the dome. A dark blue horizontal band is superimposed over the middle of the image, containing white and yellow text. Below this band, a dark blue rectangular box contains the logo for the National Network for Youth, which includes a stylized dome icon and the text 'NATIONAL NETWORK for YOUTH'.

HILL DAY:

Meet With Lawmakers to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness

2026 National Summit on Youth Homelessness

NATIONAL

NETWORK
for **YOUTH**

Welcome!

Webinar Overview

- Introduce yourself in chat: Name, pronouns, organization, location, and an emoji of how your day is going so far. 🥰 😁 😓 😲 😡 🙌
- Ask questions in the Q&A throughout the presentation. We will have time for discussion at the end.
- The webinar slides and recording will be available on our website.

About National Network for Youth

**NN4Y is on a mission to
transform systems so that no
young person in America
experiences homelessness.**



collaborate • advocate • transform

Join our newsletter: nn4youth.org/subscribe

NN4Y works with youth who have experienced homelessness and youth service providers from across the country to prevent and end youth, young adult, and young parent family homelessness and human trafficking. Together, we envision a future in which all young people have a safe place to call home, with endless opportunities to achieve their fullest potential.

Our Programs

- ★ Federal Policy Advocacy
- ★ Youth + Youth Adult Partnerships
- ★ Community-Based Solutions

THE FIGHT TO **END YOUTH** **HOMELESSNESS** TAKES ALL OF US.

Become a member of the National Network for Youth and join the nation's foremost coalition on this issue.

Connect with peers, gain expert guidance, and stay updated on funding and policies affecting **youth homelessness**.

nn4youth.org/membership

NATIONAL
NETWORK
for **YOUTH**

In Person Summit Activities

Summit Overview



Game Night

Wednesday | 7:00 - 9:00 PM



Members Appreciation Breakfast

Thursday | 7:30 - 8:45 AM



Networking Reception Thursday

Thursday | 4:00 - 6:00 PM

Agenda

1

Hill Day Overview

2

Schedule, Prepare for, and Conduct Your Meetings

3

Collective Policy Asks

4

Questions and Discussion

What is Hill Day?

Hill Day Overview



Hill Day attendees meet with their lawmakers and staff on Capitol Hill about the issues affecting young people experiencing homelessness, community-based service providers, and schools. **Together, we advocate for our collective policy agenda to prevent and end youth homelessness.**

- ★ **When:** Thursday, March 12 from 1 - 4 PM ET.
- ★ **Where:** House and Senate office buildings on Capitol Hill.
- ★ **Who:** All Summit attendees who wish to participate—**you will have scheduled your meetings beforehand!**

What is Hill Day?

Hill Day Overview

- ★ Attendees are divided into state teams.
 - Some teams have a State Captain:
AK, CA, IL, MI, MO, NV, OK, MD, LA,
NM, MT.
- ★ State teams meet with their two Senators together.
- ★ Those in the same House district meet their House member together.
- ★ **You must schedule your meetings!**

[Find out who your lawmakers are here.](#)





Schedule, Prepare for, and Conduct Your Meetings

NATIONAL NETWORK
 for **YOUTH**

Resources

- ★ [Hill Day webpage](#): All resources, recording and slides forms this webinar.
- ★ [Capitol Hill FAQ](#): Information to prepare for and navigate Capitol Hill.
- ★ [Prepare for Your Hill Day Meeting](#): How to decide what you're meeting, lobbying vs. advocacy, and meeting agenda/talking points template.
- ★ [Schedule and Conduct Your Hill Day Meetings](#): Email template to schedule your meeting, what to expect, and follow up email template.
- ★ **Fact Sheets for our Policy Asks.** These are linked on the Hill Day page.



Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



1. Connect with your state team.
2. Decide on your meeting asks.
3. Send an email or call your lawmakers' offices to schedule.
4. Meet with your team to put together agendas and talking points.
5. Share your final itinerary with NN4Y and your team.
6. Meet!
7. Follow up with whoever you met with.

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



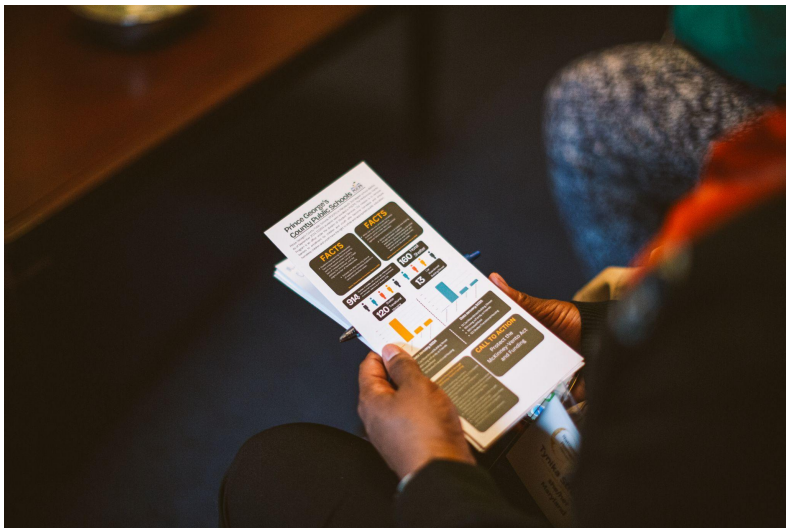
1. Connect with your state team.

You should have received an email from Trinady or your State Captain connecting you with your state team via email.

You will have time to sit with your team at lunch before Hill Day.

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



2. Decide on your meeting asks.

NN4Y has four primary policy asks we will uplift on Hill Day.

Consider: What committee is your lawmaker on? What is happening right now in your community? What unique perspective or expertise can your team highlight? What does your lawmaker care about?

For more info, see [Prepare for Your Hill Day Meetings](#).

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



3. Send an email or call your lawmakers' offices to schedule.

State Captains schedule Senate meetings.

Otherwise, designate someone to be the point of contact for each office.

Trinady can give you contact information or send the first email and let you schedule from there. [Template email here.](#)

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



4. Meet with your team to put together agendas and talking points.

Host a virtual call about two weeks before Hill Day to create a meeting agenda and talking points.

Trinady can join if you need help. [Template agenda can be found here.](#)

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



5. Share your final itinerary with NN4Y and your team.

Itinerary should include meeting time, location, who you are meeting with, and who is attending the meeting.

Please share your scheduled meetings with Trinady!

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings



6. Meet!

- The meeting begins when all are present (and on time!).
- The lead speaker from your team begins the meeting with brief introductions.
- Additional speakers follow the meeting agenda to share their talking points that support your asks.
- The lawmaker/staff may have questions.
- The lead speaker wraps up, thanks the lawmaker and staff, and restates any follow-up you'll share.

Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

Meetings

7. Follow up with whoever you met with.

Designate one person for each office to send a follow up email. Usually it's the person who scheduled the meeting. [Template follow up email here.](#)

Complete one [Google form](#) per meeting to let NN4Y know how it went.



Virtual Meetings: Prepare, Schedule, and Conduct

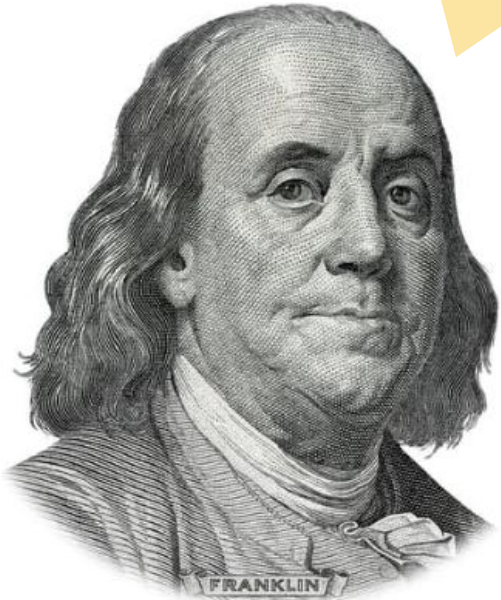
Meetings

If you are a virtual Summit attendee and want to meet with your lawmakers, use the same preparation, scheduling, and follow up materials.

You can schedule these meetings at any time close to or on Hill Day.



**By failing to
prepare, you are
preparing to fail.**



Preparation is KEY!

- Detailed agenda that outlines when each person will speak and for how long.
- Talking points for each speaker.
- Handouts for the lawmaker/staff that highlight the key points of your issue. Don't bring long reports or briefs—one-pagers are best.



Our Collective Policy Asks

NATIONAL NETWORK
 for **YOUTH**

Our Collective Policy Asks

Policy Asks



What is an “ask?”

The purpose of our meetings is to get our lawmakers to **do something** about youth homelessness. The “ask” is **what we want them to do**.

The “ask” also guides our talking points. **All talking points** should be in support of the “ask.”

Our Collective Policy Asks

Cosponsor the Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act ([RHYTPA](#)) ([S.2012/H.R.3856](#))

- ★ Reauthorizes and updates the current Runaway and Homeless Youth Act program.
- ★ Allows RHYA grantees the option of applying for an additional \$75,000 to provide services to prevent young people and families in their community from experiencing homelessness.
- ★ Extends the allowable length of stay in BCPs from 21 to 30 days (or longer as state law allows).
- ★ Increases the eligible age for TLPs/MGHs from 22 to 25 years old, while still prioritizing youth under 22 years old.
- ★ Senate Judiciary Committee + House Education and Workforce Committee

Our Collective Policy Asks

Cosponsor the Homeless Children and Youth Act ([HCYA](#)) ([S.1667](#)/[H.R.6403](#))

- ★ Aligns federal definitions of homelessness so that those experiencing hidden homelessness can be assessed for HUD homeless assistance.
- ★ Requires annual data to be collected and published on children, youth, and families experiencing homelessness, including those experiencing hidden homelessness.
- ★ Ensures that communities are able to spend their federal funding in a way that is cost-effective and aligns with their community plan to prevent and end homelessness.
- ★ Senate Banking Committee + House Finance Committee + House Education and Workforce Committee

Our Collective Policy Asks

Policy Asks

Cosponsor the Housing for Homeless Students Act ([HHSA](#))

- ★ Allows college students and student veterans who have experienced homelessness before the age of 26 to live in LIHTC housing while remaining in school full-time.
- ★ Senate Finance Committee + House Ways and Means Committee

Our Collective Policy Asks

Increase Investments for Youth Homelessness Programs in Fiscal Year 2027 ([Appropriations](#))

- ★ \$304 million for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act program administered by HHS.
- ★ \$200 million for the Education for the Homeless Children and Youth program administered by ED.
- ★ \$100 million for the Youth Homeless Demonstration Program administered by HUD.
- ★ \$25 million for Youth Homelessness System Improvement grants administered by HUD.
- ★ Senate Appropriations Committee
 - LHHS Subcommittee
 - THUD Subcommittee
- ★ House Appropriations Committee
 - LHHS Subcommittee
 - THUD Subcommittee

Put Your Questions in the Q&A



Strengthening Organizations, Systems, and Communities: NN4Y's Consulting and Training Services

Thursday, February 26, 2026

2:00 - 3:00 PM Eastern

1:00 PM Central • 12:00 PM Mountain • 11:00 AM Pacific

*Featuring Youth Action
Leadership Certificate FAQs!*

Register Now!

I AM HERE: Vital Document Legal Hotline for Youth

A free, dedicated state-specific legal assistance hotline for **youth experiencing homelessness** to help obtain:

State ID cards and licenses

Social Security Cards

Birth certificates

Documents needed to obtain an ID and license

**Text or
Call!**

1-888-870-DOCS

*Voicemails and texts are welcome and will be returned.

Every Wednesday

12 to 8 PM Eastern | 11 AM to 7 PM Central

10 AM to 6 PM Mountain | 9 AM to 5 PM Pacific

**Baker
McKenzie.**

NATIONAL

NETWORK
for **YOUTH**



**Together, we
can end youth
homelessness.**

Contact Us:

darla.bardine@nn4youth.org
trinady.maddock@nn4youth.org

Visit Our Website:

nn4youth.org

Join Our Listserv:



Follow Us:

[Bluesky](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Instagram](#)
[LinkedIn](#)