virtual hill day prep
National Network for Youth is on a mission to transform systems so that no young person in America experiences homelessness.
Our Programs

**FEDERAL POLICY**

With our network of young leaders and service providers we work to expand public resources and implement common-sense policies that prevent and respond to youth and young adult homelessness.

**YOUTH + YOUNG ADULT PARTNERSHIPS**

We invest in young leaders through our NYAC to educate policymakers, service providers, and community officials throughout the country about youth and young adult homelessness and advocate for solutions so that no young person in America has to experience even one day of homelessness.

**COMMUNITY PROGRAMS**

We provide on-the-ground support in local communities to address the root causes of homelessness among young people, identify gaps in services and support, and build strong collaborative relationships amongst youth-serving agencies in communities nationwide, leading to improved youth outcomes and system functioning.
Agenda

1. Virtual Advocacy
   Benefits + pro tips

2. Scheduling + Preparing for Meetings

3. Congressional Asks for Hill Day
   Legislation updates + specific asks

4. Q & A
Virtual Advocacy
“You are powerful--your lived experiences and expertise should shape the policies that are created.”
Effective Advocacy and Engagement

Engages the heart
Share a story to appeal to their emotions.

Influences a legislators mind
Provide practical and relatable information to educate them on the issue.

Gets your legislator to consider their political health
What is the cost to society for not helping youth experiencing homelessness?
Benefits of Virtual Advocacy

- One huge advantage to remote advocacy is that so many more of us can participate.
- Legislators and their staffs remain extremely interested in connecting with constituents across available platforms, and advocates have critically important stories to tell about their work and the impact of the pandemic on communities.
- A greater acceptance of digital advocacy is an attitude shift that is likely to last well beyond the pandemic, but making that digital advocacy work well requires the training and tools that make it work for all.
Virtual Advocacy Resource

You can also watch this video which covers how to schedule and prepare for your congressional meetings.

Download.
Scheduling + Preparing for Hill Meetings
Scheduling Your Meetings

1. Identify your U.S. Senators + U.S. House Representative
2. Call or email to schedule meeting
3. Specify virtual or in person
4. Ask for the elected official to join
5. Be clear what you want to meet about
Tips!

- Research who you are meeting with
- Prepare talking points, assign roles, and have an agenda
- Plan for 15 minutes, but be prepared for a 30 minute meeting
- Make sure you have a good internet connection
- Take notes
Draft Meeting Agenda

- Thank the Member of Congress and/or staff for the meeting.
- Introductions.
- Give information about your organization and the work you do.
- Introduce the purpose of the meeting or the ask.
- Understand Your Issue(s)
- Make a clear ask.
- Thank them for the meeting and tell them you will follow-up.
- Grab a picture to share on social media.
Every meeting should have **at least one clear ask**

**The Ask**
Please submit a separate form for each meeting you attended.

Please fill out and submit the form below about your Capitol Hill meeting. If you have any questions, please contact member@nn4youth.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name *</th>
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<td>Your First Name</td>
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<th>Email *</th>
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<td>Your Email</td>
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Please enter your email so we can follow up with you.

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<th>State *</th>
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<td>Your State</td>
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Tell us about your meeting

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Member of Congress Name *</th>
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Did you meet directly with the Congress person or a member(s) of their staff? *

- [ ] Congress person
- [ ] Staff Member
- [ ] Congress person + Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name(s) &amp; title(s) of Congressional staff present: *</th>
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<th>Staff Email(s)</th>
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Which of the following priorities did you discuss (select all that apply)? *

- [ ] The Runaway and Homeless Youth + Trafficking Prevention Act
- [ ] Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act
- [ ] Homeless Children and Youth Act
- [ ] Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Student Rule Fix

nn4youth.org/policy/hill-day-meeting-report

Complete one form per meeting
Resources for Your Hill Meetings

nn4youth.org/events/2022-national-summit-hill-day/2022-hill-day/

PLANNING FOR YOUR CONGRESSIONAL MEETINGS

- Are you interested in being a State Captain? Learn More.
- Legislature lookup tool
- Draft emails templates to schedule your meeting + follow-up
- Hill Day meeting agenda template
- Hill Day Asks + Talking Points
- Post Meeting Reporting

FACT SHEETS

These fact sheets are for your use and for you to provide to each member of Congress (and their staff) that you meet with:

- The Runaway and Homeless Youth + Trafficking Prevention Act
- Low Income Housing Tax Credit "Student Rule Fix"
- FY 2023 Federal Appropriation Request to Prevent + End Youth Homelessness
- 117th Congress Legislative Priorities
- Homeless Children + Youth Act
Congressional Asks for Hill Day
Current Context for Federal Policy

- Democrats in control of House, Senate, and Executive Branch
- A 50-50 Senate and very narrow House majority mean a bipartisan approach is especially important
- Current focuses of Congress:
  - Appropriations + Possibly Another COVID Relief Package
  - Supreme Court Nomination
  - Reauthorizations of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) + Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)
Your asks for NN4Y Virtual Hill Day 2022

**RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH TRAFFICKING PREVENTION ACT**
co-sponsor after introduction

**FY 2023 FUNDING**
$300 million for Runaway & Homeless Youth Act
+report language
$300 million for Education for Homeless Children & Youth Act

**HOMELESS CHILDREN & YOUTH ACT**
co-sponsor

**LIHTC “STUDENT RULE” FIX**
co-sponsor Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act
RUNAWAY AND HOMELESS YOUTH TRAFFICKING PREVENTION ACT
Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA)

CURRENT STATUS
Waiting for Senate and House to introduce bill

ASK
Make it a priority of each committee:
- Senate: Judiciary Committee
- House: Ed & Labor Committee

Cosponsor after introduction
Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA)

The following vital programs are made possible by the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>01</td>
<td>STREET OUTREACH</td>
<td>education, prevention, treatment, counseling, connection, and referrals to vital services to prevent sexual abuse and human trafficking for youth at-risk of and experiencing trafficking and homelessness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02</td>
<td>BASIC CENTER</td>
<td>temporary housing with, counseling, therapeutic family intervention, connection to education, and supportive services for minors experiencing homelessness for youth under the age of 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>TRANSITIONAL LIVING</td>
<td>longer-term housing with supportive services, including Maternity Group Homes for pregnant and parenting youth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>NATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM</td>
<td>24/7 national phone, text, and online communications system which connects youth and families in crisis with prevention services and reunifies families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER</td>
<td>training and technical assistance to all RHYA grantees</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA)

- Champions:
  - Senate: Leahy (D-VT) + Collins (R-ME)
  - House: Yarmuth (D-KY) + Bacon (R-NE)

- Asked for a new optional prevention services program to be added on to those grantees receiving BCP, TLP, + MGH

- Increases age of eligibility for TLP to 25

- 5 year grants (staggered every 2-3 years)
- Geographic distribution will be considered when issuing grants
- Programs are to provide training to staff on human trafficking, trauma, sexual abuse, and assault
- Mandatory non-discriminatory practices
- Increases length of stay for BCP
Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA)

If funded at less than $200 million, grants awarded will be less than $250,000 per year.

If funded at more than $200 million, grants will be awarded less than $275,000 per year.

new Prevention Services program would be an additional $75,000 for successful BCP, TLP, + MGH applicants.

Increased Authorized Appropriations to $300 million annually:
- BCP & TLP: $225 million
- SOP: $75 million
- Prevention: $67.5 million
  = $367.5 million annually

*Periodic estimates: $2 million every three years
RHYTPA makes some key updates to the current RHYA program:

- Includes new provisions to combat trafficking and prohibit discrimination
- Increases the length of stays in Basic Centers from 21 to 30 days.
- Increases grant award amount and overall program funding
- Increase allowable age for Transitional Living Programs.
- Fixes 20-bed per building regulation.

- 4.2 million young people experience homelessness on their own every year
- These program are vital to scaling up youth-centric community response to serve these 4.2 million youth
# RHYTPA - Committees of Jurisdiction

## Senate: Judiciary Committee

### Democrats
- Durbin, IL - Chair
  - Leahy, VT
  - Feinstein, CA
  - Whitehouse, RI
  - Klobuchar, MN
  - Coons, DE
  - Blumenthal, CT
  - Hirono, HI
  - Booker, NJ
  - Padilla, CA
  - Ossoff, GA

### Republicans
- Grassley, IA - Ranking
  - Graham, SC
  - Cornyn, TX
  - Lee, UT
  - Cruz, TX
  - Sasse, NE
  - Hawley, MO
  - Cotton, AR
  - Kennedy, LA
  - Tillis, NC
  - Blackburn, TN
RHYTPA - Committees of Jurisdiction

HOUSE: EDUCATION & LABOR COMMITTEE

DEMOGRATS

Scott VA - Chair
Grijalva, AZ
Courtney, CT
Sablan, Northern Mariana Islands
Wilson, FL
Bonamici, OR
Takano, CA
Adams, NC
DeSaulnier, CA

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Adams, NC
DeSaulnier, CA

REPUBLICANS

Foxx, NC - Ranking
Wilson, SC
Thompson, PA
Walberg, MI
Grothman, WI
Stefanik, NY
Allen, GA
Banks, IN
Comer, KY

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Comer, KY

Manning, NC
Mrvan, IA
Bowman, NY
Pocan, WI
Castro, TX
Sherril, NJ
Espaillat, NY
Mfume, MD
Cherfilus-McCormick, FL
Norcross, NJ
Jayapal, WA
Morelle, NY
Wild, PA
McBath, GA
Hayes, CT
Levin, MI
Omar, MN
Stevens, MI
Fernandez, NM
Jones, NY

Manning, NC
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Bowman, NY
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FY 2023 Funding

- President’s budget is delayed
- Dear Colleague Letters are in the works in the House and Senate
- We have 4 funding asks and report language request
- Focus talking points on COVID impacts and increase in number of youth in need
FISCAL YEAR 2023 APPROPRIATIONS REQUESTS
Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations Requests

CURRENT STATUS
Waiting for President’s budget
Still finalizing FY22 budget (are asks are the same for FY22 as for FY23)

ASK
- $300 Million for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) Program
- $800 Million for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program
- $100 Million for HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP)
- $300 Million for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations Requests:

**$300 Million**
for the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) Program

Continue previous report language plus include additional report language to:
- Allow RHYA providers to serve system involved youth
- Allow RHYA providers to serve youth funded by other sources within the program

Talking Points:
- To support approximately 1,400 RHYA projects in communities across the US that meet our young people where they are.
- To allow approximately 49,034 young people access housing and connect with 70,000 youth via street outreach and drop-in centers.

**$800 Million**
for the Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) Program

Talking points:
- This continues the American Rescue Plan $800 that was both more flexible than the McKinney-Vento EHCY program and also allowed community-based programs to receive funding and formally partner with public schools to improve outcomes for children and youth.
- Public school identified nearly 1.3 million homeless children and youth in the 2019-2020 school year. Yet, less than 1 in 4 school districts receive direct support through EHCY.
Fiscal Year 2023 Appropriations Requests Continued:

$100 Million for HUD Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP)

Plus additional report language to:

- Require YHDP YABs and RHYA providers approve of plan
- Put 3% of YHDP budget to paying for YAB creation and maintenance
- Require all categories of homeless youth to be served

$300 Million for Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

Talking points- ESG provides funding to:

- Engage homeless individuals and families living on the street
- Improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families
- Provide essential services to shelter residents
- Rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families
- Prevent families and individuals from becoming homeless
## RHYA + EHCY - Appropriations Subcommittees

### SENATE: LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

**DEMOCRATS**

- Murray, WA - Chair
- Durbin, IL
- Reed, RI
- Shaheen, NH
- Merkley, OR
- Schatz, HI
- Baldwin, WI
- Murphy, CT
- Manchin, WV

**REPUBLICANS**

- Blunt, MO - Ranking
- Shelby, AL
- Graham, SC
- Moran, KS
- Moore Capito, WV
- Kennedy, LA
- Hyde-Smith, MS
- Braun, IN
- Rubio, FL
RHYA + EHCY - Appropriations Subcommittees

HOUSE: LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEMOCRATS

DeLauro, CT - Chair
Roybal-Allard, CA
Lee, CA
Pocan, WI
Clark, MA
Frankel, FL
Bustos, IL
Coleman, NJ
Lawrence, MI
Harder, CA

REPUBLICANS

Cole, OK - Ranking
Harris, MD
Fleischmann, TN
Beutler, WA
Moolenaar, MI
Cline, VA
HUD YHDP + ESG - Appropriations Subcommittees

SENATE: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEMOCRATS

Schatz, HI - Chair
Reed, RI
Murray, WA
Durbin, IL
Feinstein, CA
Coons, DE
Murphy, CT
Manchin, WV
Van Hollen, MD

REPUBLICANS

Collins, ME - Ranking
Shelby, AL
Blunt, MO
Boozman, AR
Moore Capito, WV
Graham, SC
Hoeven, ND
Kennedy, LA
Braun, IN
HUD YHDP + ESG - Appropriations Subcommittees

HOUSE: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES

DEMOCRATS

Price, NC - Chair
Quigley, IL
Clark, MA
Watson Coleman, NJ
Torres, CA
Aguilar, CA
Espaillat, NY
Wexton, VA
Trone, MD

REPUBLICANS

Diaz-Balart, FL - Ranking
Womack, AR
Rutherford, FL
Garcia, TX
Hinson, IN
Gonzales, OH
LIHTC “STUDENT RULE” FIX
Pass the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Student Rule Fix

- **Current problem:** Youth can’t live in Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) funded housing and be a full time student. This means that young people either have to attend college part-time or not at all - both of which results in youth not attending or completing higher education institutions.

- **Solution:** There is simple no-cost legislation that would fix this issue so that youth can live in LIHTC funded housing and still attend college full time.
Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) Student Rule Fix

**CURRENT STATUS**

Language to fix this issue could be included in the FY22 omnibus

**ASK**

- Include the bipartisan legislative text from the Housing for Homeless Students Act in the FY22 omnibus legislation - it doesn’t carry a costs

- Pass the “student rule” fix included in the Affordable Housing and Credit Improvement Act of 2021 (S. 1136/H.R. 2573)
HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACT
Homeless Children and Youth Act (HCYA)
S.1469/H.R.6287  Bipartisan legislation to align the different federal definitions of homelessness across agencies and programs

Problem:
HUD’s narrow and arbitrary definition of homelessness excludes some of the most vulnerable children, youth, and families from assistance.

Solution:
HCYA aligns HUD’s definition of homelessness with the definitions used by other federal programs.
Homeless Children and Youth Act (HCYA)
S.1469/H.R.6287

Problem:
Federal mandates and incentives force communities to prioritize programs for certain populations and program models, regardless of local needs and program effectiveness.

Solution:
HCYA requires HUD to score local applications primarily on whether they are cost-effective in meeting the priorities and goals that communities identify in their local plans.
Homeless Children and Youth Act (HCYA)  
S.1469/H.R.6287

Problem: HUD’s data keeps many children, youth, and families invisible, and limits public and private action to help them.

Solution: Improves HUD homeless data by requiring that communities include children, youth, and families who meet any part of the newly amended definition of homelessness in local counts.
HOMELESS CHILDREN & YOUTH ACT

CURRENT STATUS

Bipartisan legislation has been introduced in the House and Senate

ASK

● HOUSE: cosponsor H.R.6287
● SENATE: cosponsor S.1469
“You live and vote in your elected official’s district, you can tell your lawmakers about the issue directly impacting youth in your community.”

Breakout Rooms by State

Plan Meeting Agendas
NN4Y Policy Priorities

Young Leaders + Provider Network of Members

You can also watch this video which provides the high level content.
One in 10 young adults ages 18-25 experienced a form of homelessness over a 12-month period.

BECOME A
NN4Y MEMBER

Join us to create systemic change to prevent and end youth homelessness.

LEARN MORE ONLINE
www.NN4YOUTH.org
Questions?