

## Pipeline Up to Stable Housing (PUSH)

Commissioned by: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Funded by: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families

Lead Department: Philadelphia Department of Human Services

### Overview

Though estimates on the number of youth experiencing homelessness vary greatly based on age and definition, one national estimate suggests that as many as 7% of youth ages 11-18 experience homelessness. Similarly, a recent local Philadelphia estimate found nearly 8% of youth within the same age range who were enrolled in public high schools had experienced homelessness. The Department of Human Services (DHS) received a two-year planning grant for its proposed Pipeline Up to Stable Housing (PUSH), a strategic intervention to reduce homelessness for youth aging out of the foster care system. DHS will work with city departments and non-profit agencies to develop a protocol for assessing risk and protective factors that impact youth and young adults at risk for homelessness and to assess our readiness as a system to move toward a streamlined service array that is outcome-focused and evidence-based. To support this effort, the Data Management Office (DMO) has created a longitudinal data set, integrating data across eleven data sources for 18 to 24 years olds aging out of DHS and has transformed the data to provide a profile of each individual's service touch points from the date of birth through the twenty-fourth birthday.

### Project Goals

1. Develop a protocol for assessing risk and protective factors that impact youth and young adults at-risk for homelessness;
2. Establish a mechanism to identify youth aged 14 through 21 currently in the DHS system and at risk for homelessness based on their risk and protective factor profile;
3. Establish a mechanism to identify young adults aged 22 through 24 who have exited DHS care but enter the homeless system;

4. Develop the processes that will improve outcomes for youth and young adults aging out of DHS.

## Description of the Data Set for Analysis

In order to examine risk and protective factors for homelessness among young adults aging out of foster care, data was requested from the CARES integrated data system in two phases. Phase one included service utilization history across service systems (behavioral health, child welfare, juvenile justice, and supportive housing) aggregated within three-year age increments, for persons who aged out of DHS placement services without family reunification or permanency. DHS provided substantiated reports of abuse and neglect to DMO to be matched and integrated with the service data. Data for this cohort was included from birth through the 24th birthday. Phase two provided a more detailed data set focused on specific patterns of city service utilization.

## Output

DMO has provided DHS staff with integrated, de-identified, client-level data sets to conduct the summary analysis for phase one and phase two of the project.



# Multi-System Service Utilization among Philadelphia Residents

Established Priority Area: Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health & Opportunity

Dashboard created by: Data Management Office

## Overview

The Data Management Office is developing a dashboard to assist city departments to determine the prevalence and combinations of city resources being utilized by multi-system users. This information is currently used in defining target groups and cohorts for further analysis. In 2015, DMO is gathering requirements to improve the utility of the dashboard for use by department leadership and staff. DMO expects that the additional functionality will be added to the dashboard during 2015.

## Project Goals

1. Provide a dashboard that defines the prevalence of single and multi-system use
2. Add functionality to improve data available for grant writing, defining target populations, and program planning

## Description of Dashboard

The current version of the dashboard aggregates annual data from the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services, the Department of Human Services, the Philadelphia Prison System, and the Office of Supportive Housing. The dashboard provides a count of system users by Department, an indicator identifying individuals using one or more services, and a table that indicates the intersection of departments providing service to the same individuals during the year (aggregate counts of individuals reported).

## Output

DMO routinely updates a dashboard for department use.