



FOSTER YOUTH
TO
INDEPENDENCE

Notice PIH 2019-20 (HA)

Welcoming Remarks from Leadership

The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services



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Poll: Which sector(s) are you associated with?

- PHA
- Child Welfare
- Homeless System
- Other



Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Eligibility & Program Requirements
3. Administration
4. Partnership Strategies
5. Targeting Strategies



Introduction

Foster Youth to Independence:
A new federal housing assistance opportunity to
prevent and end youth homelessness



Purpose

1. Provide Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPVs) for youth under the Family Unification Program (FUP); referred to as Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) TPVs.
2. Address gaps in the availability of FUP for youth across the country.
3. Increase housing option for youth with a current or prior history of child welfare involvement that are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
4. Contribute to the federal goal of preventing and ending youth homelessness.





Funding

- Utilizes funds appropriated for TPVs
- Requests for TPV assistance under the notice will be accepted on a rolling basis subject to the following conditions:
 - Funding remains available
 - Notice remains in effect
 - HUD continues to have authority to make TPVs available for this purpose

(See Section 3 of notice for additional information.)





Eligibility & Program Requirements

Understanding who qualifies and what the requirements are to administer FYI



Youth Eligibility

A young person eligible to receive a FYI TPV under the notice must meet **ALL** of the following requirements:

1. Has attained at least 18 years and not more than 24 years of age;
2. Left foster care, or will leave foster care within 90 days, in accordance with a transition plan described in section 475(5)(H) of the Social Security Act at age 16 or older; and
3. Is homeless or is at risk of becoming homeless.

A young person who meets the above requirements and is pregnant and parenting is also eligible as long as the children they are parenting do not have an open child welfare case.

*The above requirements are in addition to meeting all other HCV program requirements.

(See Section 7 of notice for additional information.)





PHA Eligibility & Requirements

- Currently administering the HCV program.
- Does **NOT** currently administer the FUP (family or youth vouchers) awarded under any fiscal year.
- Partnership with a public child welfare agency (PCWA) outlined in an MOU or Letter of Intent.
- Accept FUP-eligible youth referral.
- Determine HCV eligibility.
- Update administrative plan.

(See Section 4 of notice for additional information.)





Partnership Agreement

- PHA applying for assistance must enter into a partnership agreement with a PCWA.
- HUD strongly encourages involvement of the continuum of care (CoC), or designated CoC recipient.
- Partnership agreement in the form of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or letters of intent between the parties.
- Full list of required elements are outlined in the notice and include:
 - Definition of FYI eligible youth
 - Outline of support services requirements
 - Description of required PHA, PCWA, & CoC responsibilities

(See Section 8 of notice for additional information.)





PCWA Roles and Responsibilities

- Identify FYI-eligible youth.
- Develop a system of prioritization based on the level of need of the youth and the appropriateness of the intervention.
- Provide a written certification to the PHA.
- Provide or secure supportive services for 36 months.

(See Section 5 of notice for additional information.)





Prioritization

- PCWA is encouraged to have a prioritization strategy where demand may exceed supply.
- Prioritization should ensure that youth are prioritized for housing resources and related services based on need **AND** appropriateness of intervention.
- Youth still in care should consider permanency goals when exploring a referral.

(See Section 13 of notice for additional information.)



Support Services

Requirements for administering support services

- PCWA is required to provide or secure supportive services for participating youth.
- Services must be provided for a period of 36 months.
- Notice describes the required services; additional services may be provided.
- Participation in services on behalf of the youth is optional.

(See Section 6 of notice for additional information.)

Required types of support services

- Basic life skills training
- Housing counseling
- Landlord support services
- Employment and training
- Education and career advancement services





Role of the CoC

- Participation of CoC, or designated CoC recipient, is strongly encouraged.
- CoCs can play a critical role in identifying FYI-eligible youth in the community that are no longer part of the child welfare system through coordinated entry.
- CoCs can connect youth who are eligible for CoC assistance to CoC funded resources in the community that can work in partnership with FYI.

(See Section 9 of notice for additional information.)





Administration

Understanding how FYI will be administered



Triggering Event

- Eligibility is triggered by the PHA receiving a referral from the PCWA.
 - A CoC or a PHA may first identify a young person they believe has a child welfare history and is in need of housing to the PCWA to verify the youth has eligible child welfare history for FYI, but the PCWA will have to verify and refer the youth by name to the PHA to trigger a referral from the PHA to HUD.
- Referral from the PCWA to the PHA and then from the PHA to HUD is specific to the youth (by name); multiple youth (by name) can be included in one referral.
- Request for assistance to HUD must not be submitted prior to the triggering event.

(See Section 10 of notice for additional information.)





Application Process

- After a triggering event, requests are submitted via email to FYITPV@hud.gov.
- Content of request is explained in the notice.
- Upon receipt, HUD will conduct an eligibility determination.
- Eligible applications will result in issuance of amended ACC to the PHA to administer the TPV(s) within 60 business days.

(See Section 15 of notice for additional information.)





Minimum and Maximum Request & Value of the Voucher

Minimum & Maximum Vouchers

- Request can be on behalf of one individual (no minimum threshold).
- Maximum award of 25 TPVs per a PHA under this notice in a fiscal year.
- Applications under the cap submitted on a rolling basis.

(See Section 11 of notice for additional information.)

Value of Vouchers

- Dependent on the per unit cost (PUC) identified by HUD for the PHA.

(See Section 12 of notice for additional information.)





Additional Program Administration Requirements

- Notice outlines program requirements specific to the notice, including:
 - Voucher sunseting when youth leaves program.
 - Prohibition to project-base the TPV.
 - Reporting requirements.
 - Selection outside of waiting list.
 - Limitation on length of assistance.

(See Section 16 of notice for additional information.)





Partnership Strategies

Building strong partnership to successfully administer FYI



Partnering with Child Welfare

Take the time to understand the operating lens of your child welfare partner and trust their best intentions:

- The child welfare system is tasked with ensuring the immediate safety, permanency, and well-being of children and youth who have experienced abuse or neglect by their primary care giver. This is a high-stress mission performed by workers who have the best interest of children and youth, especially their safety, at the forefronts of their minds.
- The child welfare system faces similar resource constraints as the public housing system and is also looking for opportunities to partner with and leverage other systems to improve services for the children, youth and families they serve.
- The child welfare system recognizes the challenges facing youth who age out of foster care and the poor outcomes associated with this vulnerable population, including housing instability and homelessness. The federal government has dedicated resources to extended foster care and after care services in attempt to improve these outcomes.





Partnering with Child Welfare

Build off the relationships that exists in your community to create FYI partnerships:

- Frontline workers – PHA workers and child welfare case managers may have existing relationship serving common families;
- Local, regional, and state working groups– PHAs often participate in local, regional, and state working groups on vulnerable individuals and families that may include local and state level child welfare leaders;
- CoC boards – PHAs and child welfare agencies are often invited to participate on CoC boards.



Partnering with Child Welfare

Use the best data you have to help build the case across partners:

- Contact your local CoC to look at your Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) data to see how many 18-24 year olds are experiencing homelessness.
- Contact your local child welfare agency to look at the National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD) to better understand how many youth leaving care experience homelessness in the following years.
- Contact your local court system to look at eviction data to see how many young people are losing their housing, which may be a result of a lack of supports to remain housed.





Partnering with Child Welfare

Take the time to understand the mission and goals of the partnering systems.

Which may include:

- *Housing system goal* – to increase services to residents that lead to housing stability and self-sufficiency.
- *Homelessness response system goal* – to decrease the number of youth who are experiencing homelessness and quickly house those youth who are currently experiencing homelessness .
- *Child welfare system goal* – to ensure youth, including pregnant and parenting youth, aging out of the system reach permanency with stable housing and permanent connection and to reduce the number of children of youth in care that come into the child welfare system.



Partnering with Child Welfare

Create a common goal that can help further the mission of the partnering systems. For example:

- *Joint system goal* – To decrease the number of youth with a child welfare history that experience homelessness and increase the number that retain their housing while on a voucher, reach self-sufficiency within 36 months, and if parenting, retain custody of their children.



Including the CoC in the Partnership

- Utilizes the CoC coordinated entry process to strengthen your community's ability to identify eligible youth that are no longer connected to the child welfare system.
- Increases service connections for youth & capacity of CoC programs by connecting youth being served under FYI to CoC funded projects. For example:
 - Youth who are eligible for RRH or PSH and for FYI may receive the FYI-TPV as the housing assistance and the supportive services under the RRH or PSH project. This allows for strong supportive service connection and for the CoC project to serve more young people by utilizing the housing assistance from another eligible source





Including the CoC in the Partnership

- Connects FYI to your community wide efforts to prevent and end youth homelessness as a prevention and intervention strategy:
 - *Prevention strategy* – can be used to prevent at-risk young people from experiencing homelessness in the future through stable housing and services.
 - *Intervention strategy* – can be used as a housing solution for young people identified as currently experiencing homelessness.



Leveraging the Partnerships

This opportunity can increase working relationships across systems and increase your community's capacity to administer targeted housing interventions across the child welfare system, PHA, and CoC.

Helping to:

- Increase the local capacity and desire to apply for future rounds of FUP allocations authorized by congress.
- Build a strong cross-system partnership that may improve your community's ability to apply for future rounds of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) authorized by congress.
- Open doors for state and locally funded partnerships that can serve youth and contribute to your community's strategies to prevent and end youth homelessness.





Targeting & Prioritization Strategies

Ways to target FYI resources in your community

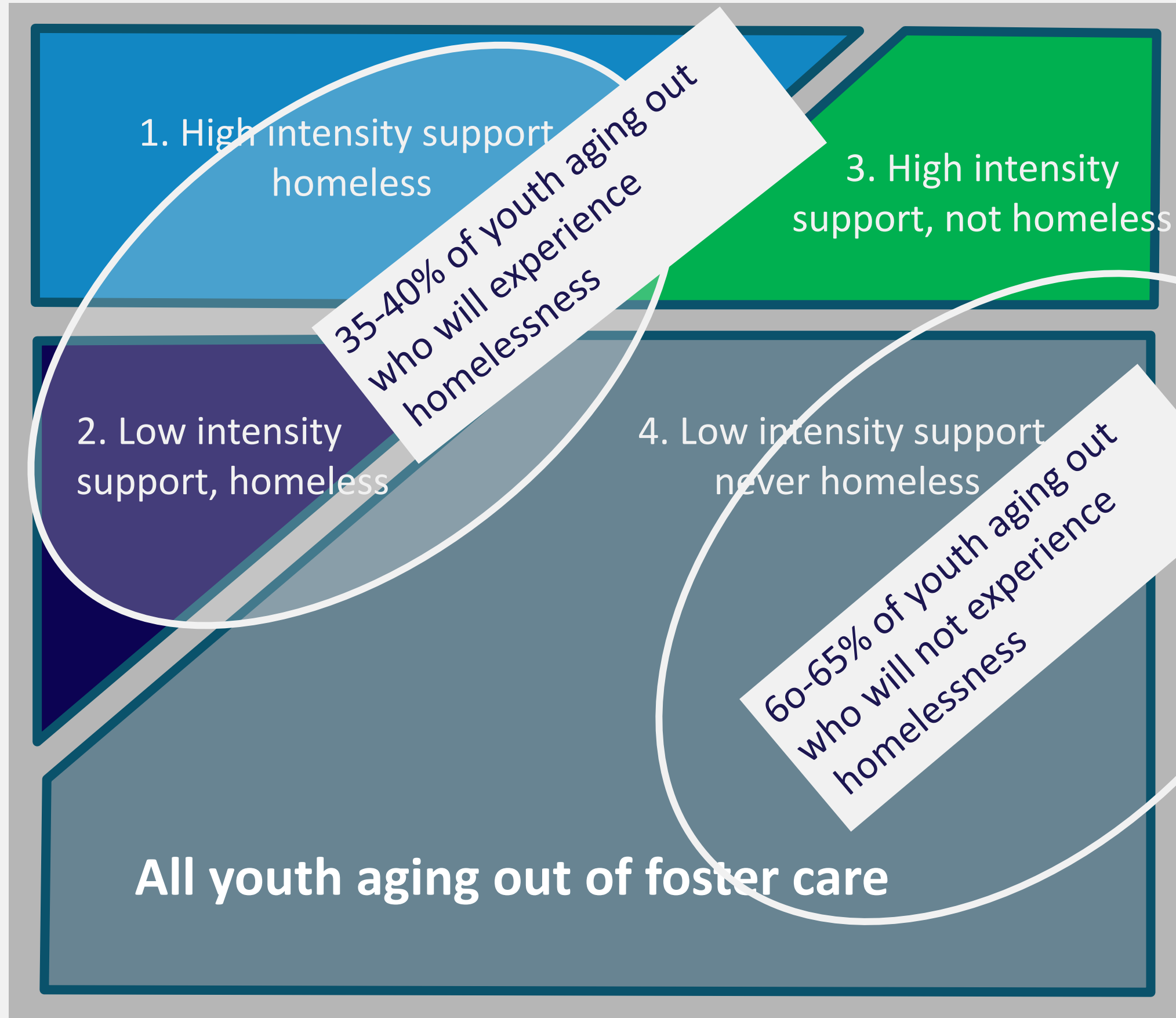


Why targeting is important: the connection between child welfare experience and youth homelessness

- The Midwest Study followed more than 700 study participants from 2002-2003 (when they were age 17 or 18) through 2010-2011 (when they were age 26) as they transitioned out of foster care in three Midwestern states: Illinois, Iowa, and Wisconsin. 36% of those whose whereabouts were known had experienced at least one episode of homelessness by age 26.
- The National Youth in Transition Database surveys youth in foster care at age 17 and every 2 years post-exit from foster care until age 23; 43% of the 5,583 youth who completed all three waves of the National Youth in Transition Database survey reported having had a homeless experience by age 21 (at either age 17, 19, or 21).
- The Voice of Youth Count, a national survey of unaccompanied youth ages 13 to 25 who have experienced some form of homelessness or housing instability found that nearly one third of the youth had experienced some form of involvement with the child welfare system in their lives. This held true in both urban and rural areas.



Targeting Strategies for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care



4 Potential Target Groups

1. Youth experiencing homelessness with high intensity supportive service needs
2. Youth experiencing homelessness with low intensity supportive service needs
3. Youth who are not experiencing homelessness, with high intensity supportive service needs (may be at high risk)
4. Youth who are not experiencing homelessness with low intensity supportive service needs

Profiles of Youth in the 4 Target Groups

	Is currently living:	Has the following support needs:	Connection to PCWA:
Target Group 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on the streets or shelter, is fleeing an unsafe situation, is at imminent danger of losing their housing, or is couch surfing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> may have a physical or mental health disability; can benefit from <i>frequent and or/intensive supportive services</i> across domains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more likely to be disconnected from the child welfare system and struggling to obtain and retain housing
Target Group 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on the streets or shelter, is fleeing an unsafe situation, is at imminent danger of losing their housing, or is couch surfing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can benefit from <i>occasional or light-touch</i> supportive services in one or a couple of domains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more likely to be disconnected from the child welfare system and still struggling to obtain and retain housing

4 Potential Target Groups

- Youth experiencing homelessness with high intensity supportive service needs**
- Youth experiencing homelessness with low intensity supportive service needs**
- Youth who are not experiencing homelessness, with high intensity supportive service needs (may be at high risk)**
- Youth who are not experiencing homelessness with low intensity supportive service needs**

Profiles of Youth in the 4 Target Groups

	Is currently living:	Has the following support needs:	Connection to PCWA:
Target Group 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> in a safe and stable housing, but will likely face housing instability that correlates with their intensive support needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> may have a physical or mental health disability; can benefit from <i>frequent and or/intensive</i> supportive services across domains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> may still be in foster care and exiting within 90 days, connected through aftercare services, or disconnected from the child welfare system
Target Group 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> in a safe and stable housing, not likely to face uncommon instability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> can benefit from <u><i>occasional or light-touch</i></u> supportive services in one or a couple of domains 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> may still be in foster care and exiting within 90 days, connected through aftercare services, or disconnected from the child welfare system

4 Potential Target Groups

- Youth experiencing homelessness with high intensity supportive service needs**
- Youth experiencing homelessness with low intensity supportive service needs**
- Youth who are not experiencing homelessness, with high intensity supportive service needs (may be high risk)**
- Youth who are not experiencing homelessness with low intensity supportive service needs**



What do we mean by high and low intensity supportive service needs?

- High Intensity Supportive Service Needs:
 - The need for more expensive or intensive types of interventions such a clinical or evidence based mental health or substance abuse interventions
 - May be needed for a longer duration
 - Would be provided in addition to the required services in the notice
- Low Intensity Supportive Service Needs:
 - The need for non-clinical service interventions that include many of the required services in the notice, such as, life skills supports, education and employment support
 - May only be needed *occasionally or light-touch*





What should your community consider when targeting?

- The types and intensity of services that your community can provide to FYI eligible youth.
- How the types and intensity of available services matches the 4 target groups described in the previous slides.





Services type and intensity examples

Target Groups	Service Types	Service Frequency and Intensity
1 & 3	<p><u>Required services as stated in the notice:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic life skills training • Housing counseling • Landlord support services • Employment and training • Education and career advancement services <p><u>Additional service options for these groups:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing based case management • Mental health services • Outpatient physical health services • Substance abuse treatment services • Legal services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of once a month case management • The ability to offer both the required service options and additional service options at the frequency and intensity needed and desired by youth. • Youth in these target groups may needs more frequent and robust services across many of the required and additional service options
2 & 4	<p><u>Required services as stated in the notice:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basic life skills training • Housing counseling • Landlord support services • Employment and training • Education and career advancement services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to offer the required service options at the frequency and intensity needed and desired by youth. • Youth in these target groups may only need assistance across a few of the required service options and at a lower frequency



How might your community use these target groups in developing prioritization strategies?

Remember prioritization should be based off both the need and the appropriateness of the intervention.

So, if a community can offer...

- all of the required supportive services listed in the notice along with the additional service options outlined in the previous slide, at as much frequency and intensity as a youth may need,

then it might consider.....

- Serving target groups 1 and 3 – both of which have a high service and housing needs that can be matched with the appropriate voucher and the available high intensity supportive services
AND
- Prioritizing group 1 - because youth in this group have high intensity services needs that can be matched appropriately and a more immediate housing need based on their current homelessness





How can your community use these target groups in developing prioritization strategies?

Remember prioritization should be based off both the need and the appropriateness of the intervention.

And if a community can offer...

- all of the required supportive services listed in the notice but cannot offer a deeper array of services at this time,

then it might consider targeting...

- Serving target group 2 and 4 – both of which have low intensity service needs with varying levels of housing needs that could be matched with the appropriate voucher and the available low intensity supportive services
- **AND**
- Prioritizing target group 2 – because youth in this group have low intensity services needs that can be matched appropriately and a more immediate housing need based on their current homelessness

***Keep in mind that with the limited amount of resources available to each community in FYI the demand may be greater than the need and therefor your community will need to decide if serving target group 4 is the most strategic and appropriate use of the resource.





Questions?

- If you have questions regarding the notice, first check HUD's responses to frequently asked questions here: https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/FYI_TP_V_FAQs_Version_7-26-19.pdf
- If your question has not been answered in the FAQ, you may email your question to FYITPV@hud.gov.