



# Community Service Providers Action Brief

To better support youth in preventing homelessness, we designed a plan, a “roadmap,” to build and use information across Canada. Our goal is to connect governments, communities, and researchers to information to support prevention. See more on the roadmap on our [website](#).

Find immediate actions community service providers can take below.

## ***Who would lead this work?***

Community service providers who address part of the youth experience related to youth homelessness prevention solutions. For example, emergency shelters, including youth shelters, K-12 education, and child welfare programs.

## ***What to do!***

Engage youth, work with funders on data and prevention, collaborate with researchers, and develop and enact prevention solutions.

## ***Immediate actions***

- 1. Share what you are doing to prevent youth homelessness.*
- 2. Seek to apply more prevention solutions. Reach out to Making the Shift and researchers to learn more.*
- 3. Build relationships that support prevention efforts. Connect others seeking prevention.*
- 4. Organize and join community collaboration tables around prevention, where various organizations meet to develop solutions. Invite researchers to the tables to support research and evaluation, while asking for reciprocity in these relationships.*

**Actions on the horizon**

1. *Get youth's perspective on prevention solutions. Pay appropriately for youth voices.*
2. *Seek to further develop prevention solutions using data. Priorities are:*
  - *Prevention before homelessness happens*
  - *Collaborative solutions for prevention*
  - *Youth shelter and housing later for prevention*
  - *Using existing administrative data to inform systems solutions*
3. *Build additional partnerships around early prevention, such as with schools, school districts, the child welfare system, among others.*
4. *Support ethical data collection, community engagement, best practices using data infrastructure, and seek streamlined data around prevention.*
5. *Provide thoughts on useful common data that directs prevention. Engage with youth to understand when these questions may not be appropriate.*

The project was funded by Making the Shift: Youth Homelessness Social Innovation Lab. Making the Shift is funded by the Government of Canada through the Networks of Centres of Excellence program. The opinions and interpretations in this publication are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Government of Canada.

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