



Decision Makers from the Government & Funders 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 decision makers from the government and funders can take below.

Who would lead this work?

Groups funding and directing youth homelessness supports on a larger scale. For example, community homelessness funders, municipalities, provincial governments, and the Government of Canada.

What to do!

Fund research and evaluation, promote data improvement, fund prevention efforts, and work with the community.

Immediate actions

- 1. Support sharing youth homelessness prevention solutions.*
- 2. Listen to evidence-based research on prevention. Seek to fund and support promising prevention initiatives. Fund the expansion of effective prevention efforts.*
- 3. Ask for improvements in youth data collection around prevention. Support ethical data collection, community engagement on data, and collaborative data that supports prevention.*

Actions on the horizon

1. *Fund more prevention research. Make calls, focus on promising prevention, and help fund a future centre for youth homelessness prevention research.*
2. *Help fund initiatives that support prevention and learning with 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. *Work with the community to support improvements in youth data collection. Provide guidance for funding calls. Work to:*
 - *Improve the ethics of youth data collection*
 - *Ask for community engagement*
 - *Collect minimal data while building youth's trust*
 - *Streamline data collection*
4. *Engage with common data that meets community needs and keep data collection to a minimum. Support developing community-engaged, evidence-based common questions that direct prevention.*

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.

PolicyWise for Children & Families is a non-profit organization and registered charity that supports the development of policies, programs, and services through research and evaluation to benefit the well-being of children, youth, and families.

