Researchers 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 researchers can take below.

Who would lead this work?

Academic, non-profit, and community researchers seeking to investigate and evaluate youth homelessness prevention solutions. For example, professors, youth research groups, and data people in homelessness supporting organizations that research and evaluate.

What to do!

Support and engage the community, provide expertise, develop prevention solutions, and improve data sharing to inform prevention.

Immediate actions

1. Widely share what you learned on how to prevent youth homelessness. Target sharing at various interest holders who can act in different ways.

2. Share what you learned from your work on how to engage communities, collaborate for prevention, and ethically collect data that directs prevention.

3. Continue to engage in youth homelessness prevention research and evaluation.

4. Build relationships that support and inform prevention.

5. Organize and join community collaboration tables around prevention, where various organizations meet to develop prevention solutions. Support research and evaluation around solutions.

Actions on the horizon

1. *Partner up on collaborative prevention solutions. Work to meet community needs. Engage the community on prevention solutions, including youth.*

2. *Seek to do further prevention research. Help evaluate and research new solutions. 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. *Support and share ethical youth data collection, community engagement, and best practices for data infrastructure for prevention.*

4. *Support developing community-engaged, evidence-based common questions that direct prevention. Engage on common data to meet community needs and keep data collection to a minimum.*

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.

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