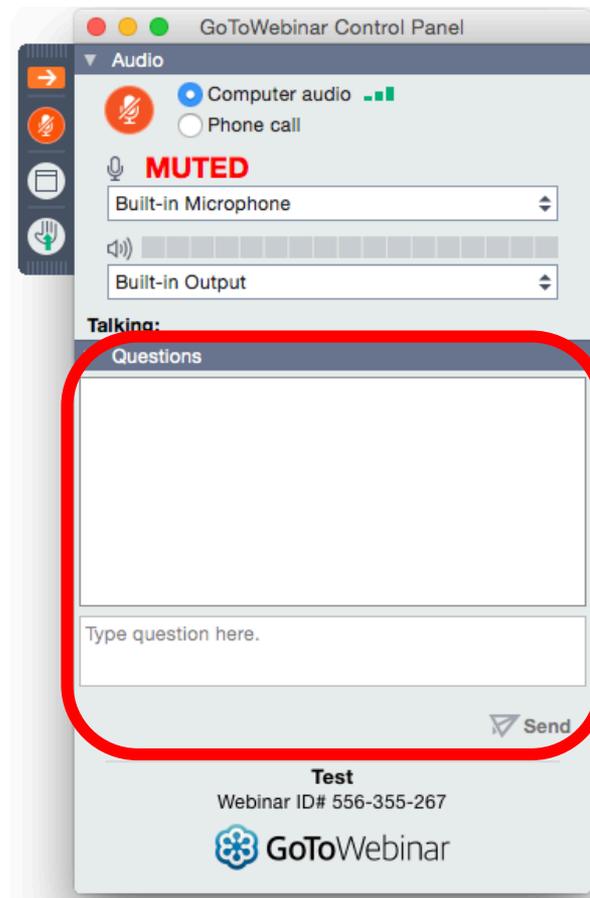




Funders Together
TO END HOMELESSNESS

Voices of Youth Count



Today's Panelists



Aimee Hendrigan
Melville Charitable Trust



Katie Hong
Raikes Foundation



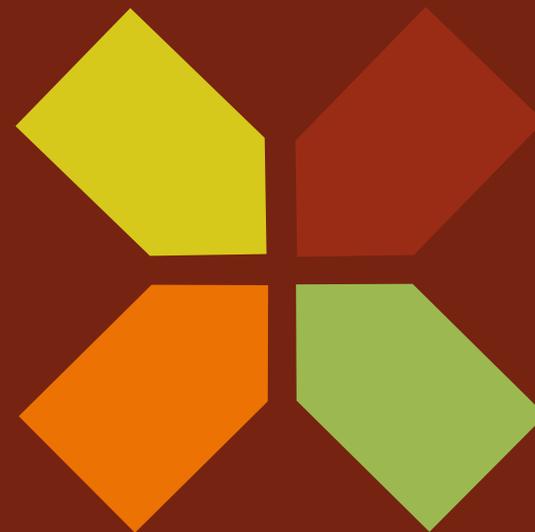
Dr. Matthew Morton
Chapin Hall

Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America

Matt Morton, Ph.D.

ChapinHall
at the University of Chicago

VOICES  OF
YOUTH COUNT





Adolescence and young adulthood represent a key developmental window. Every day of housing instability represents missed opportunity to support healthy development and transitions to productive adulthood.

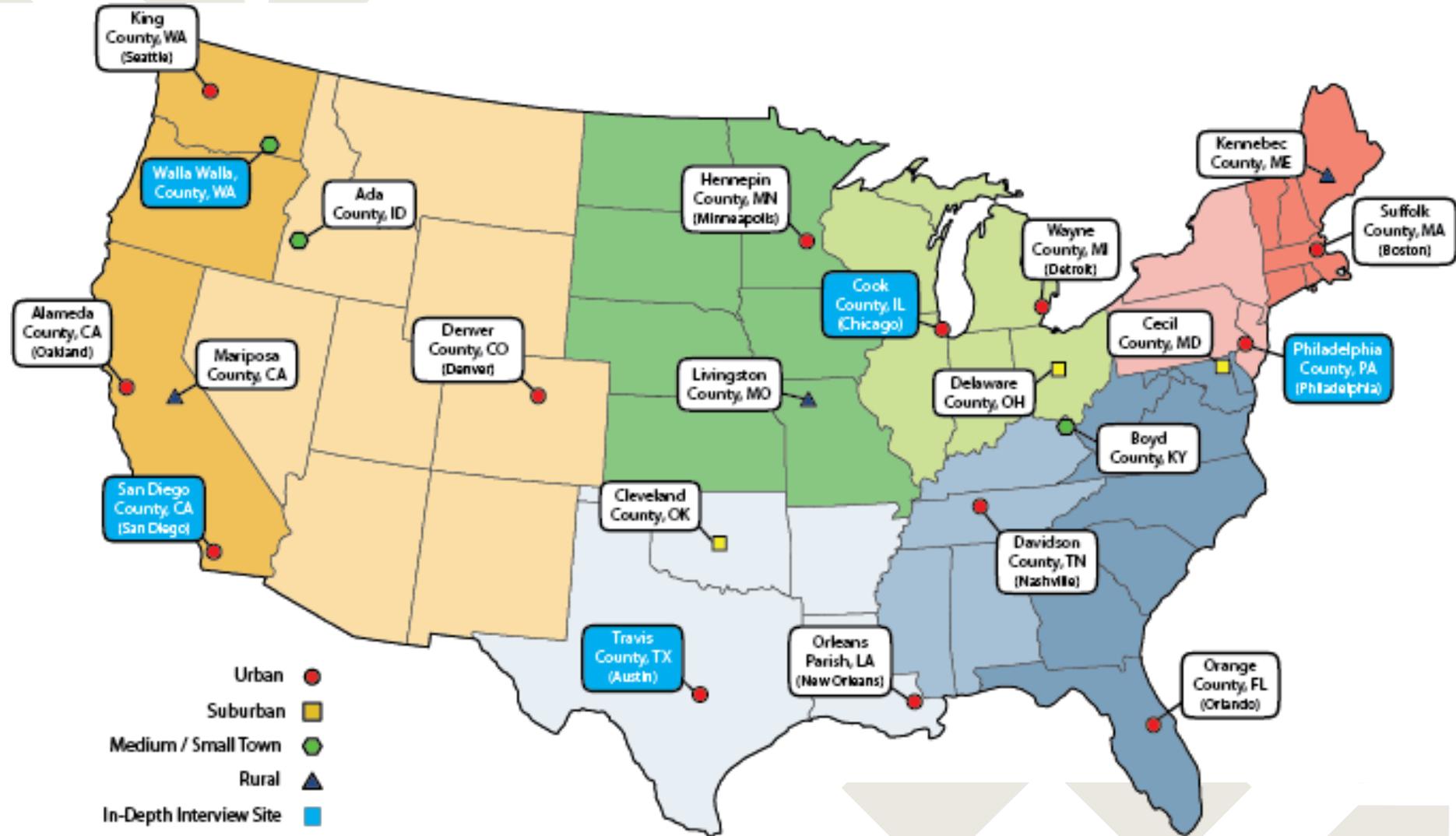
We all lose out in these missed opportunities.

A public-private partnership

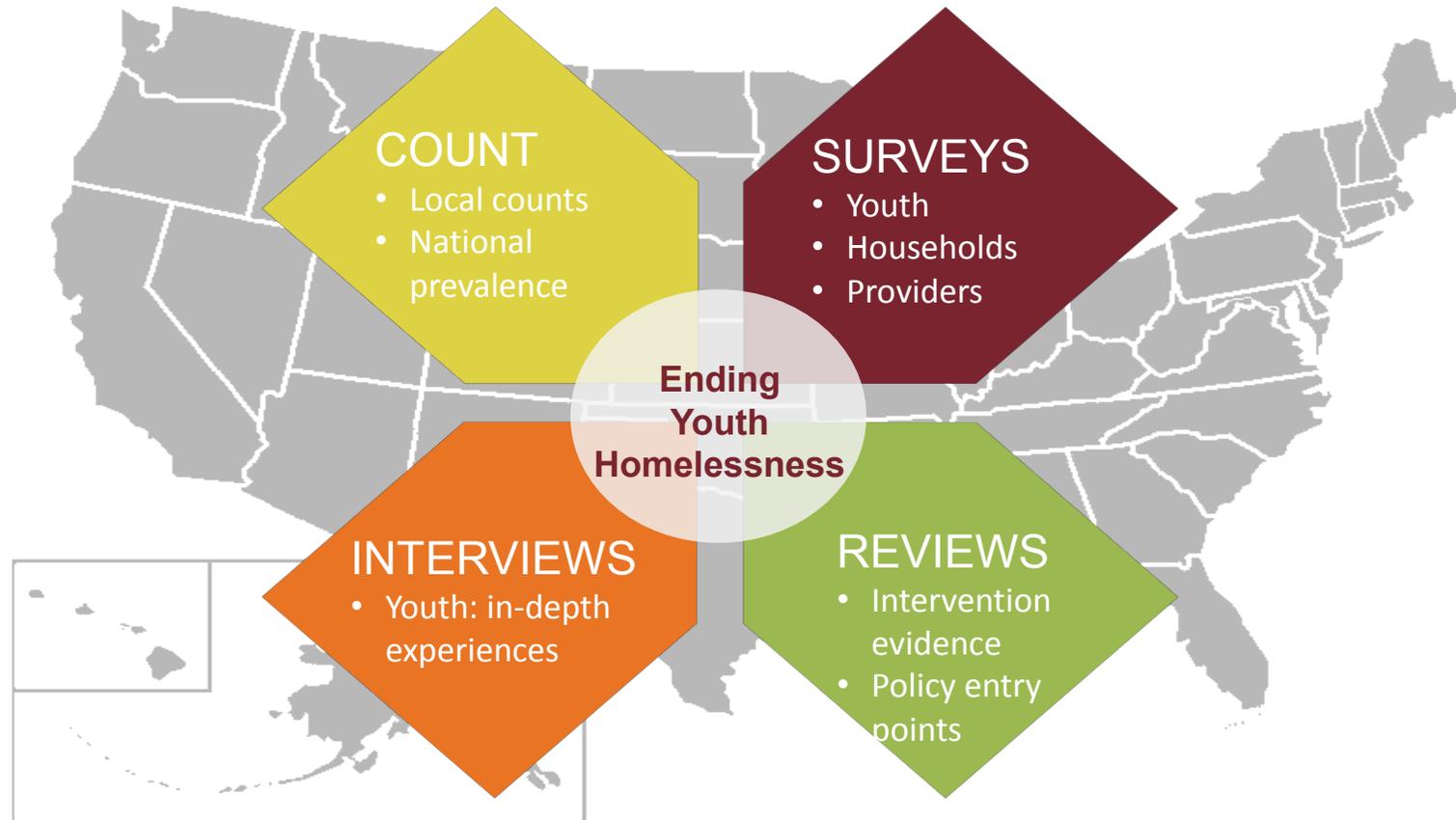
Voices of Youth Count is an innovative, national policy research initiative designed to link evidence to action to end youth homelessness.



22 partner communities

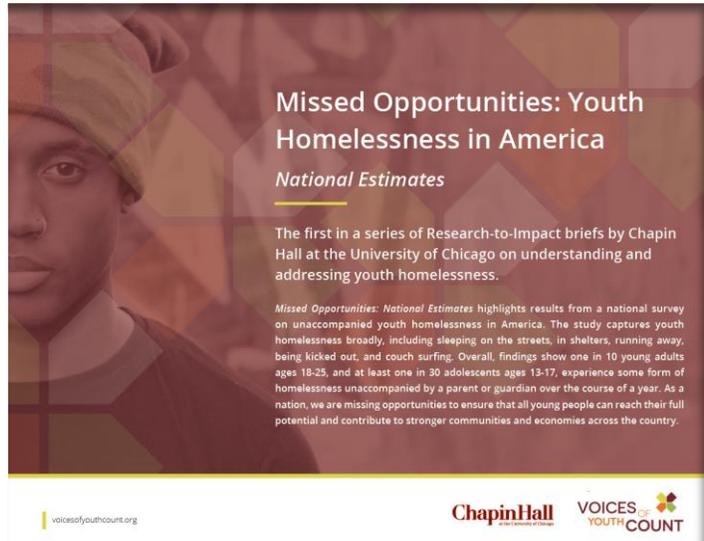


Comprehensive data for comprehensive solutions



Just released

Research-to-Impact brief



Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America
National Estimates

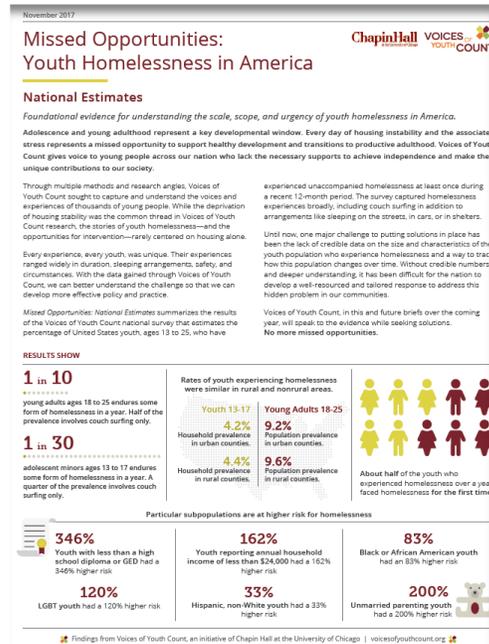
The first in a series of Research-to-Impact briefs by Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago on understanding and addressing youth homelessness.

Missed Opportunities: National Estimates highlights results from a national survey on unaccompanied youth homelessness in America. The study captures youth homelessness broadly, including sleeping on the streets, in shelters, running away, being kicked out, and couch surfing. Overall, findings show one in 10 young adults ages 18-25, and at least one in 30 adolescents ages 13-17, experience some form of homelessness unaccompanied by a parent or guardian over the course of a year. As a nation, we are missing opportunities to ensure that all young people can reach their full potential and contribute to stronger communities and economies across the country.

voicesofyouthcount.org

ChapinHall
UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
VOICES OF YOUTH COUNT

One-pager



November 2017

Missed Opportunities: Youth Homelessness in America ChapinHall VOICES OF YOUTH COUNT

National Estimates

Foundational evidence for understanding the scale, scope, and urgency of youth homelessness in America.

Adolescence and young adulthood represent a key developmental window. Every day of housing instability and the associated stress represents a missed opportunity to support healthy development and transitions to productive adulthood. Voices of Youth Count gives voice to young people across our nation who lack the necessary supports to achieve independence and make their unique contributions to our society.

Through multiple methods and research angles, Voices of Youth Count sought to capture and understand the voices and experiences of thousands of young people. While the deprivation of housing stability was the common thread in Voices of Youth Count research, the stories of youth homelessness—and the opportunities for intervention—rarely centered on housing alone.

Every experience, every youth, was unique. Their experiences ranged widely in duration, sleeping arrangements, safety, and circumstances. With the data gained through Voices of Youth Count, we can better understand the challenge so that we can develop more effective policy and practice.

Missed Opportunities: National Estimates summarizes the results of the Voices of Youth Count national survey that estimates the percentage of United States youth, ages 13 to 25, who have experienced unaccompanied homelessness at least once during a recent 12-month period. The survey captured homelessness experiences broadly, including couch surfing in addition to arrangements like sleeping on the streets, in cars, or in shelters.

Until now, one major challenge to putting solutions in place has been the lack of credible data on the size and characteristics of the youth population who experience homelessness and a way to track how this population changes over time. Without credible numbers and deeper understanding, it has been difficult for the nation to develop a well-resourced and tailored response to address this hidden problem in our communities.

Voices of Youth Count, in this and future briefs over the coming year, will speak to the evidence while seeking solutions. No more missed opportunities.

RESULTS SHOW

1 in 10 young adults ages 18 to 25 endure some form of homelessness in a year. Half of the prevalence involves couch surfing only.

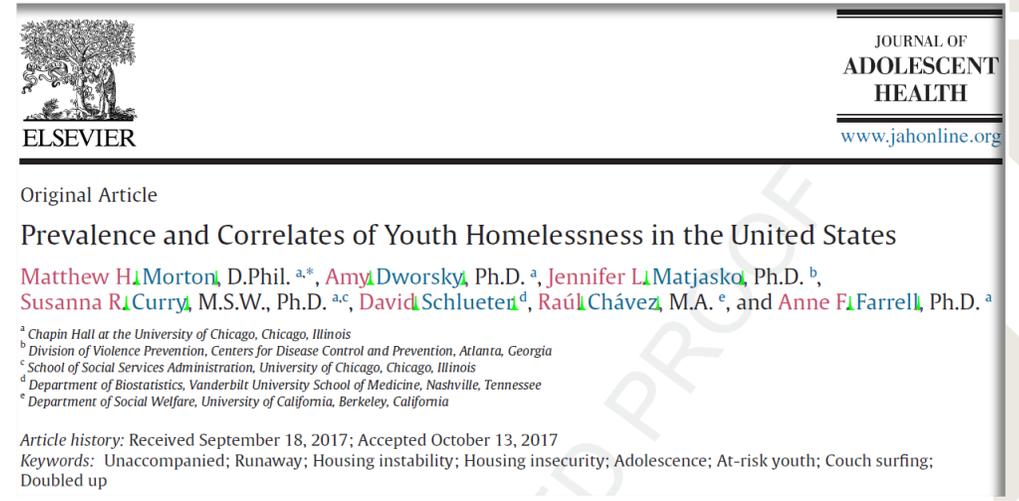
1 in 30 adolescent minors ages 13 to 17 endure some form of homelessness in a year. A quarter of the prevalence involves couch surfing only.

Particular subpopulations are at higher risk for homelessness

346% Youth with less than a high school diploma or GED had a 346% higher risk.	162% Youth reporting annual household income of less than \$24,000 had a 162% higher risk.	83% Black or African American youth had an 83% higher risk.
120% LGBT youth had a 120% higher risk.	33% Hispanic, non-White youth had a 33% higher risk.	200% Unmarried parenting youth had a 200% higher risk.

Findings from Voices of Youth Count, an initiative of Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago | voicesofyouthcount.org

Journal of Adolescent Health article



JOURNAL OF ADOLESCENT HEALTH
www.jahonline.org

ELSEVIER

Original Article

Prevalence and Correlates of Youth Homelessness in the United States

Matthew H Morton, D.Phil. ^{a,*}, Amy Dworsky, Ph.D. ^a, Jennifer L Matjasko, Ph.D. ^b,
Susanna R Curry, M.S.W., Ph.D. ^{a,c}, David Schlueter ^d, Raúl Chávez, M.A. ^e, and Anne F Farrell, Ph.D. ^a

^a Chapin Hall at the University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
^b Division of Violence Prevention, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia
^c School of Social Services Administration, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois
^d Department of Biostatistics, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee
^e Department of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley, California

Article history: Received September 18, 2017; Accepted October 13, 2017
Keywords: Unaccompanied; Runaway; Housing instability; Housing insecurity; Adolescence; At-risk youth; Couch surfing; Doubled up

1 in 10 young adults has been homeless over the past year, survey



US study finds 1 in 10 youth experience some form of homelessness



Mother Jones



POLITICS ENVIRONMENT FOOD

A national moment

Young, gay and living on the street: LGBT youth face increased odds of homelessness

Four Million Young People Were Homeless Last Year. Four Million.

Black youth are 83 percent more likely to be without housing than other young people.



YOUTH today

Los Angeles Daily News



Millions of Youth



LGBT YOUTH ARE 120% MORE LIKELY TO BE HOMELESS THAN STRAIGHT PEOPLE, STUDY SHOWS



Thousands of Md. youth are homeless; African-American, LGBT youth represented disproportionately



NEWS
Young and homeless in America: Survey says the problem is worsening

Nationally representative survey

	Daily Tracking Survey sample (N=68,539), weighted	US Census (aged 18+)
Female	51.0%	51.3%
White	68.1%	67.2%
Black or African American	12.8%	12.8%
Asian	2.1%	6.2%
Hispanic or Latino	15.4%	15.0%
Reside in rural counties	13.5%	14.4%
Median household annual income	\$60,000 to \$89,999	\$53,889
Unemployment rate	5.0%	4.9%

For more detail see Morton et al. (2017)
in the *Journal of Adolescent Health*



Finding 1.
Youth
homelessness
is a broad and
hidden
challenge

1 in 10

.....

young adults ages 18 to 25 endures some form of homelessness in a year. Half of the prevalence involves couch surfing only.

1 in 30

.....

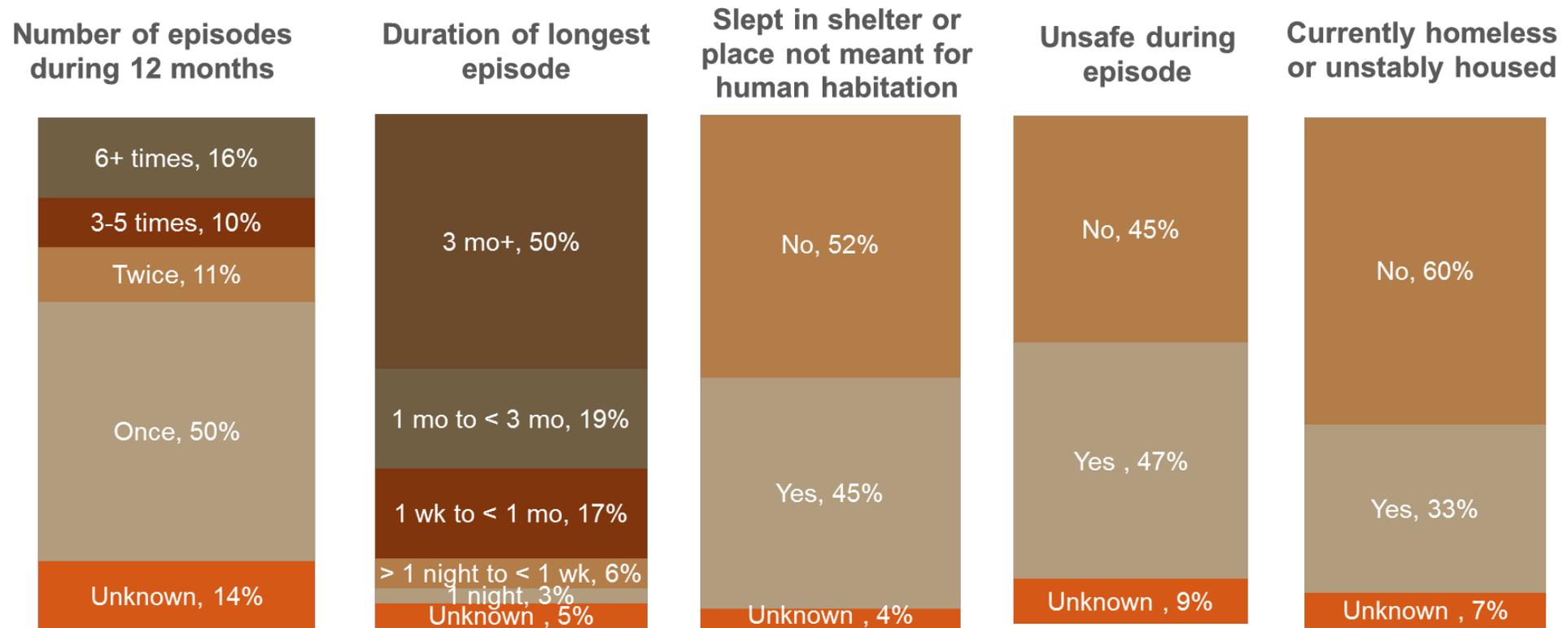
adolescent minors ages 13 to 17 endures some form of homelessness in a year. A quarter of the prevalence involves couch surfing only.



Making sense of big numbers

-  Capturing hidden experiences
-  Capturing fluidity
-  Population-based surveys reliably show bigger estimates than system counts, irrespective of the measure or definition
-  Previous studies show higher prevalence among younger vs. older adults (but less chronic homelessness)
-  Young adults are getting hammered by this economy & housing market on top of a transitional stage of life – especially those without stable family safety nets

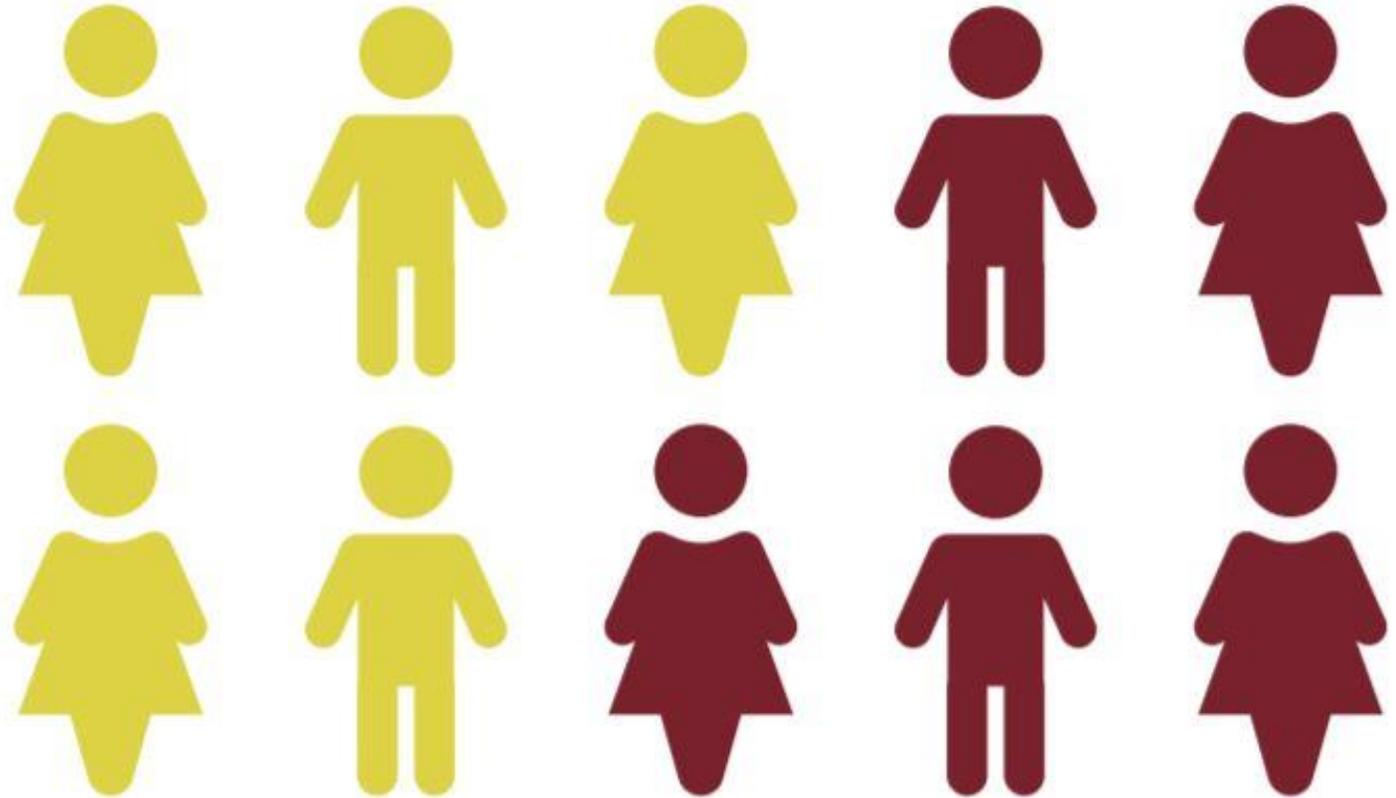
Finding 2. Youth homelessness involves diverse experiences & circumstances



Breakdowns of youth who experienced any homelessness (i.e., no inclusion errors detected)

Follow-up interview sample (n=103)

Finding 3.
Prevention and
early
intervention
are essential



About half of the youth who experienced homelessness over a year faced homelessness **for the first time.**

Key systems to engage upstream

29%

Ever in Foster Care
vs. 2% of general youth
population

46%

Ever in Detention or
Incarceration
vs. 15% of general (older)
youth population

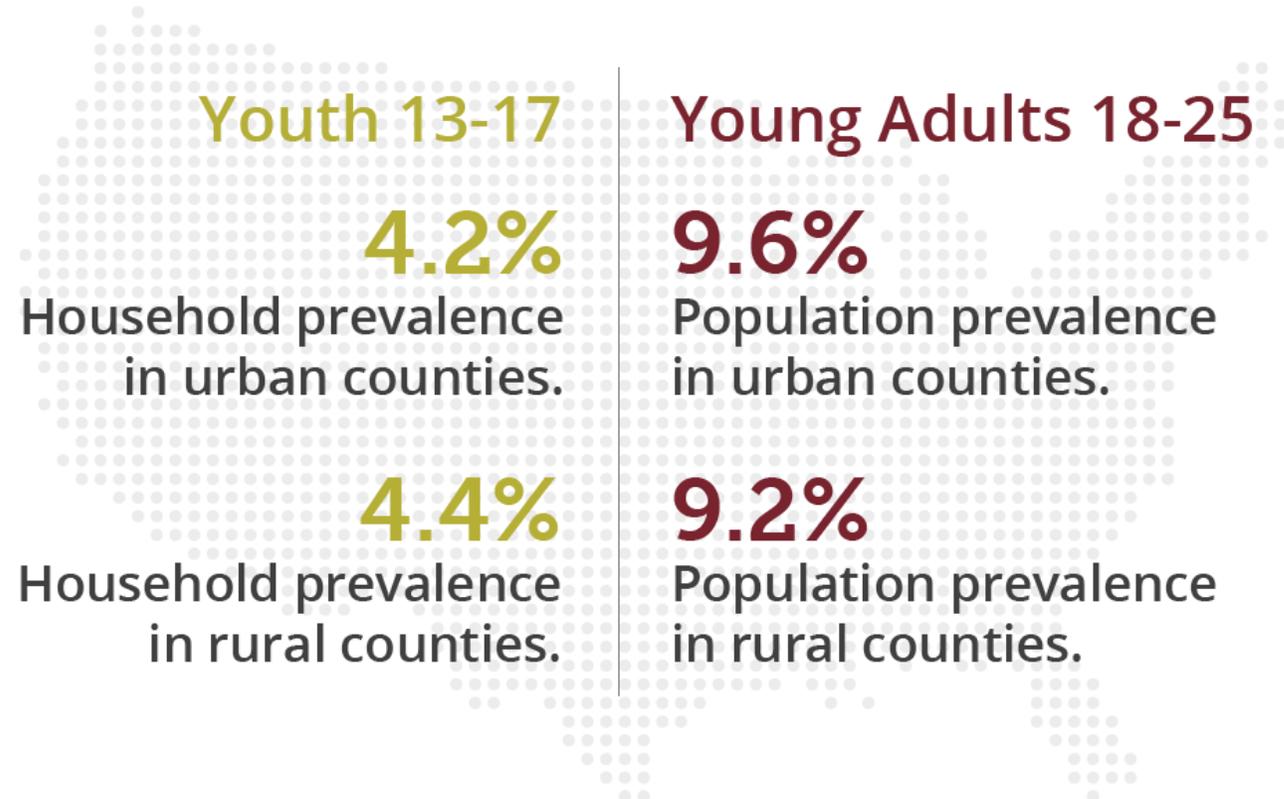
34%

Had < high school
diploma/GED (ages 18-25)
vs. 11% of general youth
population

Source: Youth Counts (n=4,139)

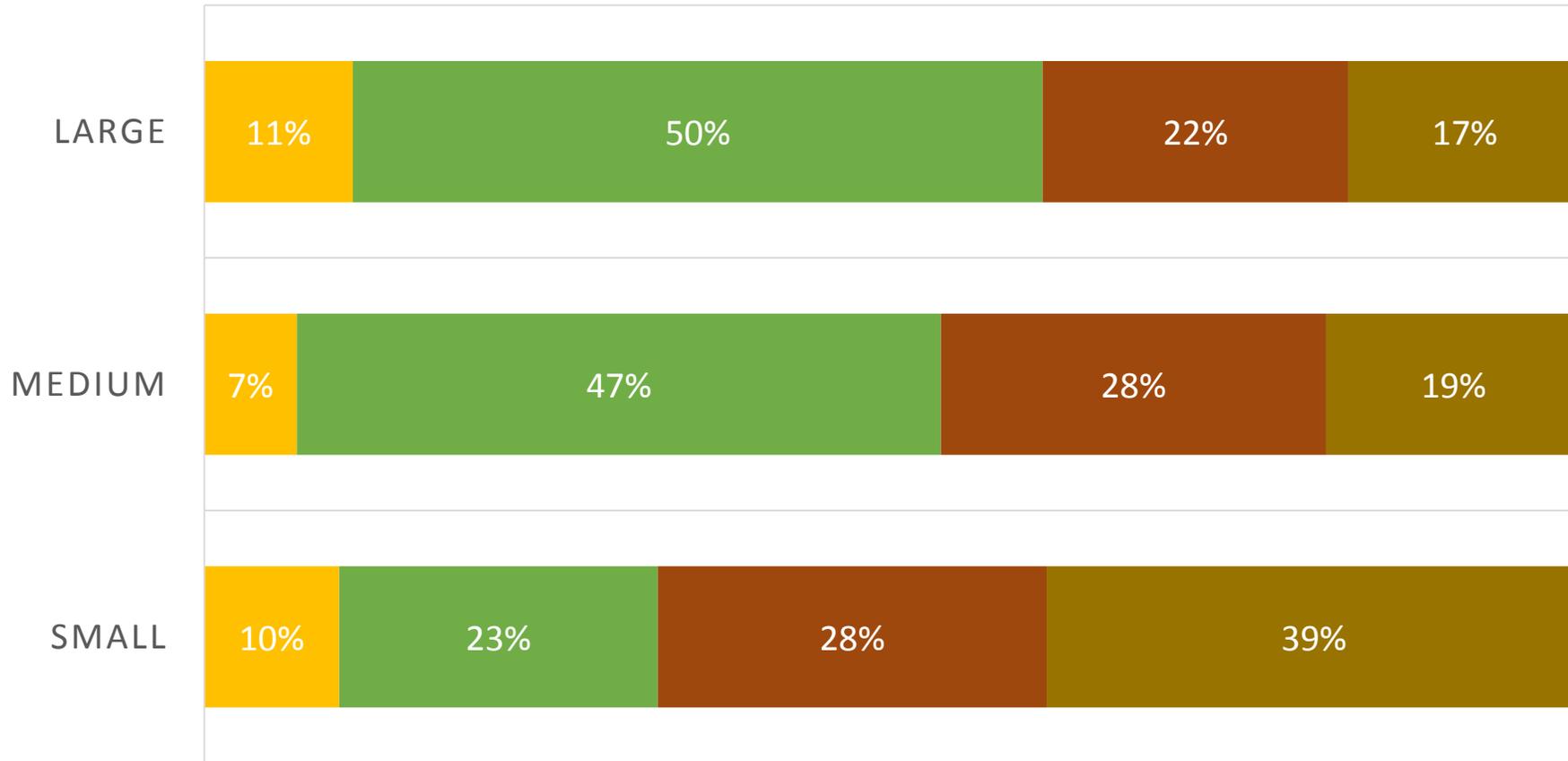
Finding 4. Youth homelessness affects rural youth at similar levels

Rates of youth experiencing homelessness were similar in rural and nonrural areas.



Rural youth are twice as likely to be staying with others

Other Sheltered Unsheltered Unstably Housed



...and about **half** as likely to be “sheltered” as those in higher population counties.

Source: Youth Counts (n=4,139)

Finding 5. Some youth are at greater risk of homelessness



346%

Youth with less than a high school diploma or GED had a 346% higher risk

120%

LGBT youth had a 120% higher risk

162%

Youth reporting annual household income of less than \$24,000 had a 162% higher risk

33%

Hispanic, non-White youth had a 33% higher risk

83%

Black or African American youth had an 83% higher risk

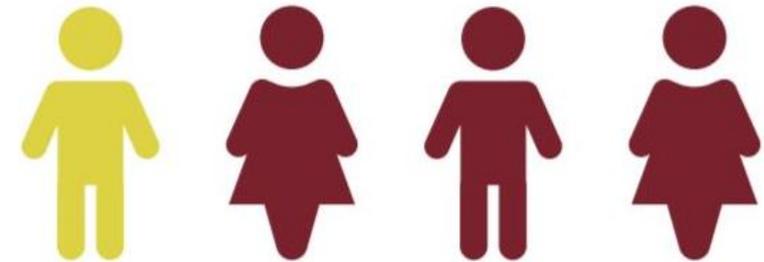
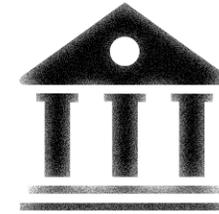
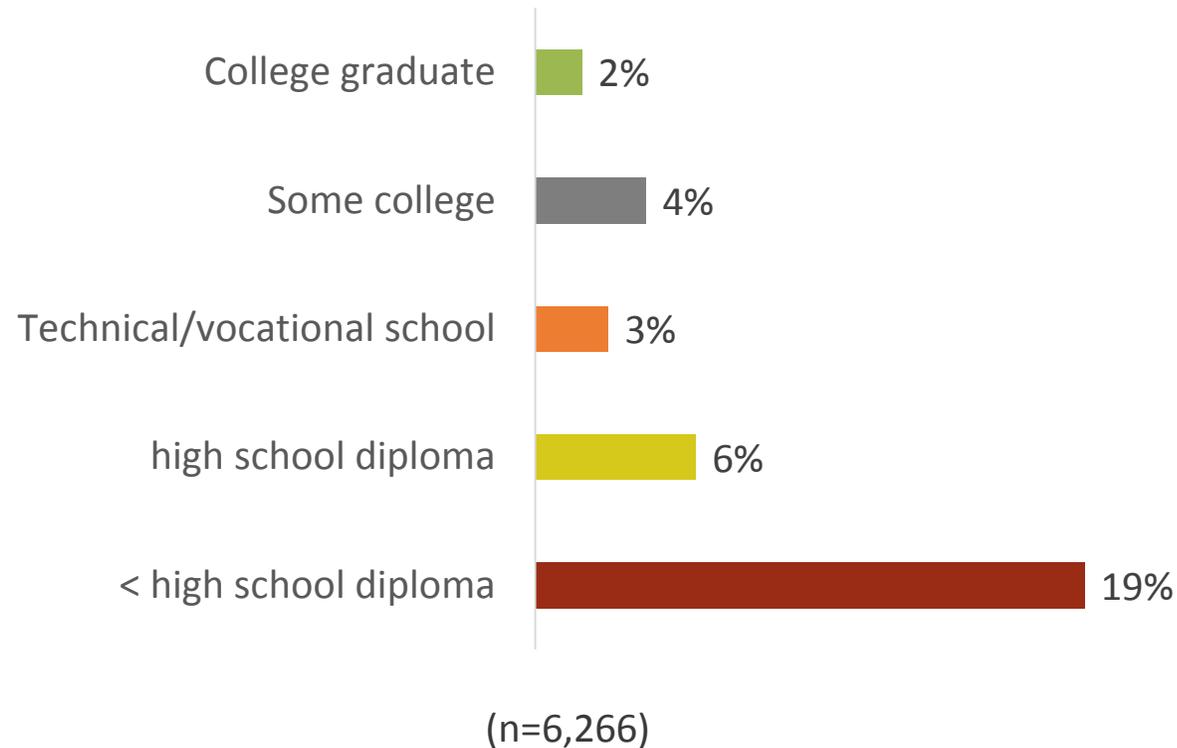
200%

Unmarried parenting youth had a 200% higher risk



Education & Youth Homelessness

Explicit homelessness prevalence by level of education, ages 18-25



Still, about **one in four** 18-22-year-olds reporting explicit homelessness were enrolled in college or university

Recommendations



Conduct national estimates biennially.



Adapt services to unique developmental and housing needs of a young population.



Fund housing interventions, services, outreach, and prevention to meet the need.



Tailor supports for rural youth experiencing homelessness to account for more limited service infrastructure over larger terrain.



Encourage assessment and service delivery decisions that are responsive to the diversity and fluidity of youth homelessness.



Develop strategies to address disproportionate risks for homelessness among specific subpopulations, including pregnant and parenting, LGBT, black, and Hispanic youth, and young people without high school diplomas.

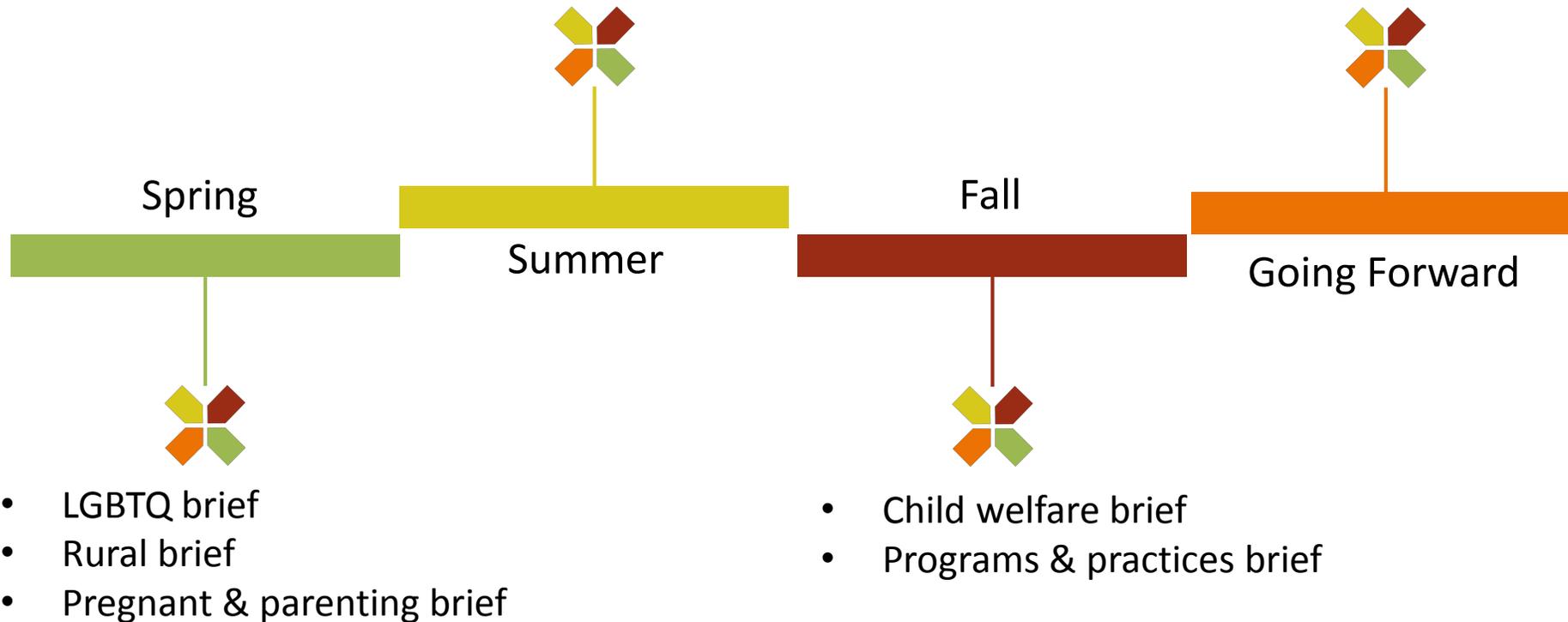


Build prevention efforts in key systems: child welfare, justice systems, and education.

Looking ahead

- Youth Counts brief
- Youth trajectories brief

- Youth outcomes measurement
- What works for high-risk subpopulations
- Prevention & early intervention



Help spread the word!

www.voicesofyouthcount.org

Email: mmorton@chapinhall.org

 [@mhmorton](https://twitter.com/mhmorton) #MissedOpportunities



Today's Panelists



Aimee Hendrigan
Melville Charitable Trust



Katie Hong
Raikes Foundation



Dr. Matthew Morton
Chapin Hall

Q&A

Upcoming Opportunities to Learn & Engage

2018 Funders Forum

Wednesday, February 28
Los Angeles, CA

Lessons Learned from Communities Ending Veteran and Chronic Homelessness

February 13
1pm EST/ 10am PST

Prevention: A Case Study in Montgomery County, PA

March 22
1pm EST/ 10am PST

For more information: Jennifer Olney – jennifer@funderstogether.org

Q&A

Thank You!



 www.facebook.com/funderstogether

 [@funderstogether](https://twitter.com/funderstogether)