

CALL FOR GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS

for the October 2019 edition of Parity Magazine

Government officials and policymakers from all orders of government are invited to contribute written submissions to the October 2019 edition of *Parity* on the subject of preventing and sustaining exits from youth homelessness.

BACKGROUND

A Way Home Canada, the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, Raising the Roof and others are sponsoring the October 2019 edition of *Parity*. *Parity* is the national homelessness publication in Australia published by the Council to Homeless Persons. This edition of *Parity* seeks to answer the fundamental question: ***What does it look like to prevent and sustain exits from youth homelessness in planning, policy, and practice, and how do we as individuals, organizations, communities, and countries collectively move in that direction?***

The edition aims to:

- Showcase the perspectives of researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and lived experience experts that are directly or indirectly involved in youth homelessness prevention
- Highlight work that addresses prevention research, interventions, and policies for Indigenous, LGBTQ2S+, racialized, parenting, newcomer, and rural youth, as well as young women, and youth with mental health needs.
- Provide an opportunity to showcase a wide range of perspectives on the growing body of work in youth homelessness prevention and sustained exits in Canada and abroad
- To raise awareness of youth homelessness planning, policy, and practice to bring communities, provinces/territories, and the country closer to creating a system of care that prevents homelessness, and promotes rapid, sustainable exits from homelessness.

WHY CONTRIBUTE?

Parity offers a national and international platform to highlight effective programming, policy, and/or practices for youth homelessness prevention in Canada. This is an opportunity to showcase policy initiatives that can facilitate the shift toward preventing youth homelessness, and/or demonstrates government commitment to the goal of youth homelessness prevention.

parity

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

Contributions may explore existing or upcoming policy initiatives, as well as policy tools not yet in use that could contribute to youth homelessness prevention and sustained exits. Also consider work done internally to:

- Align mandates across government to promote increased focus and a more integrated response to youth homelessness;
- Align outcomes, performance measures and data demographics;
- Strengthen the ability of existing systems to intervene in a rapid, coordinated manner before youth become entrenched in a homeless lifestyle; and
- Bring government and community stakeholders together to support and enable community-driven responses and client-centered approaches to addressing homelessness.

Submissions can be made in various formats including: opinion pieces, policy review, case study of existing programs & services. A style guide will be provided which outlines length and formatting requirements. The primary requirement is that your piece connects to the theme of the edition: preventing and sustaining exits from youth homelessness.

[*The Roadmap for the Prevention of Youth Homelessness*](#) offers a framework for contributors to reference as they craft their piece(s). Developed by the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness and A Way Home Canada, *The Roadmap* defines youth homelessness prevention as the policies, practices and interventions that either:

- a. Reduce the likelihood that a young person will experience homelessness, or
- b. Provide youth experiencing homelessness with the necessary supports to stabilize their housing, improve their wellbeing, reintegrate into community, and avoid re-entry into homelessness

Youth homelessness prevention efforts span across a prevention typology with five categories:

- 1. Structural Prevention** - Working upstream to address underlying causes of youth homelessness.
- 2. Systems Prevention** - Reforming public systems to support youth homelessness prevention.
- 3. Early Intervention** - Targeted supports for young people at risk of homelessness.
- 4. Evictions Prevention** - Addressing challenges youth face within the housing market.
- 5. Housing Stabilization** - Keeping young people housed, with all the supports they need.

A “**Duty to Assist**” is also explored as a legislative tool for youth homelessness prevention, to uphold the human rights of young people, as well as provide redress when their rights are violated.

Please refer to [*The Roadmap for the Prevention of Youth Homelessness*](#) for more detailed descriptions and further information.

parity

KEY DATES

- Draft submissions accepted until June 28th, 2019.
- July and August 2019 (or earlier if submitted ahead of June 28th), final edits and revisions will be made with the authors to prepare their contributions for publication.
- September 2019 all final drafts are submitted to Parity for publication.

CONTACT

For more information about this edition of Parity magazine, please contact Amanda Buchnea at: abuchnea@awayhome.ca

