

# Child Welfare Policy Roundtable Agenda

April 7, 2023 10am-11:30am

Zoom Webinar ([Registration Required](#))

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## Policy Focus for April:

### Housing California's Youth - Opportunities and Challenges

In recent years, California has taken multiple steps to address homelessness amongst our young people. However, more work remains to be done as, according to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, approximately 10,000 of California's unaccompanied youth under the age of 25 experienced homelessness on any given night in 2022 and almost 54,000 high school students experienced homelessness in the 2021-22 school year according to the California Department of Education. Many youth experiencing homelessness have prior involvement with the foster care system. Per the CalYOUTH Study, 24.6% of California's foster youth experienced homelessness and 36% experienced housing instability and couch surfed between ages 18 and 21, despite the state's legal responsibility to meet their housing needs while they are in foster care. Once youth leave foster care, at least 1 in 4 (25.4%) experience homelessness before turning 24 years old. The April Child Welfare Policy Roundtable will examine this issue, including highlighting existing youth housing programs and their positive impacts, ongoing challenges meeting the housing needs of youth exiting foster care, and opportunities to increase youth access to housing.

#### Panel:

- a. Housing Initiatives for Youth Currently or Formerly in Foster Care  
Jason Blair, Manager, Program Design and Implementation, Homelessness, [Jason.blair@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:Jason.blair@hcd.ca.gov)  
California Department of Housing and Community Development, [hcd.ca.gov](http://hcd.ca.gov)
- b. Changes to Managed Care for the Child Welfare Population  
Bambi Cisneros, Assistant Deputy Director, Managed Care, [bambi.cisneros@dhcs.ca.gov](mailto:bambi.cisneros@dhcs.ca.gov)  
California Department of Health Care Services, [dhcs.ca.gov](http://dhcs.ca.gov)
- c. Foster Youth Housing  
Angel Mackelvie, Social Services Manager, [angel@voicesyouthcenter.org](mailto:angel@voicesyouthcenter.org)  
Sophie Grech, Site Coordinator, [sophie@voicesyouthcenter.org](mailto:sophie@voicesyouthcenter.org)  
VOICES Youth Programs, [voicesyouthcenter.org](http://voicesyouthcenter.org)
- d. Effective Housing Programs and Challenges to Sustainability  
Jane Schroeder, Chief Policy and Strategy Officer, [jschroeder@firstplaceforyouth.org](mailto:jschroeder@firstplaceforyouth.org)  
First Place for Youth, [firstplaceforyouth.org](http://firstplaceforyouth.org)
- e. AB 525 (Ting): Improving Housing Affordability and Reducing Homelessness Among Foster Youth  
Simone Tureck Lee, Director of Housing and Health, [simone@jbay.org](mailto:simone@jbay.org)  
John Burton Advocates for Youth, [jbay.org](http://jbay.org)
- f. AB 963 (Schiavo): End the Foster Care to Homelessness Pipeline Act  
Daniel Heimpel, Advocate, [dheimpel@gmail.com](mailto:dheimpel@gmail.com)
- g. SB 456 (Menjivar): Housing Vulnerable Youth  
Kristin Power, Vice President of Policy and Advocacy, [kpower@alliancecr.org](mailto:kpower@alliancecr.org)  
Alliance for Children's Rights, [allianceforchildrensrights.org](http://allianceforchildrensrights.org)

#### Open Discussion

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**Next Roundtable Meeting: May 5, 2023**

**Topic: TBA**

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\*The Child Welfare Policy Roundtable is held on the first Friday of every month unless it is moved to accommodate the legislative calendar or holidays.

\*\*Meeting information and materials from past meetings can be found at: [childrennow.org/cwroundtable](http://childrennow.org/cwroundtable)

\*\*\*Please contact Susanna Kniffen at [skniffen@childrennow.org](mailto:skniffen@childrennow.org) if you have suggestions for format or topics or would like additional information or to be added to the invite list for future meetings.