



Family & Youth
Services Bureau

Runaway and Homeless Youth
Training & Technical Assistance Center

BRIGHTER FUTURES
STRENGTHENING PATHWAYS FOR YOUTH SUCCESS

New Deal to End Youth Homelessness

**Marcella Middleton and
Rivianna Hyatt**



THE NEW DEAL TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS



A WAY HOME
AMERICA



HOUSING
JUSTICE
COLLECTIVE

Introductions



Marcella Middleton
She/Her
Executive Director
A Way Home America



Rivi Hyatt
They/Them
Worker-Owner
Housing Justice Collective

Agenda

Objectives

Warm-Up Activity

Introducing the New Deal

Overview of the New Deal Creation Process

Highlights of Housing Justice Pillar

What Comes Next

Objectives

To unify behind the collective vision of the New Deal to End Youth Homelessness

To understand what is needed to transform our current systems

To understand the Pillar's role in ending youth homelessness and the connection between all the pillar and the rest of the New Deal

To share the next phase of the New Deal

Warm-Up Activity

WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS

Reform Transformative Edge Transformation Of Reform

Introducing the New Deal



The New Deal to End Youth Homelessness

1. Collective Vision
2. Roadmap to Transformation
3. Comprehensive Approach
4. National Policy Platform

The Five Pillars of the New Deal to End Youth Homelessness

FIVE PILLARS



**HOUSING
JUSTICE**



**TRANSFORM-
ATIVE
JUSTICE**



**ECONOMIC
JUSTICE**



**IMMIGRATION
JUSTICE**



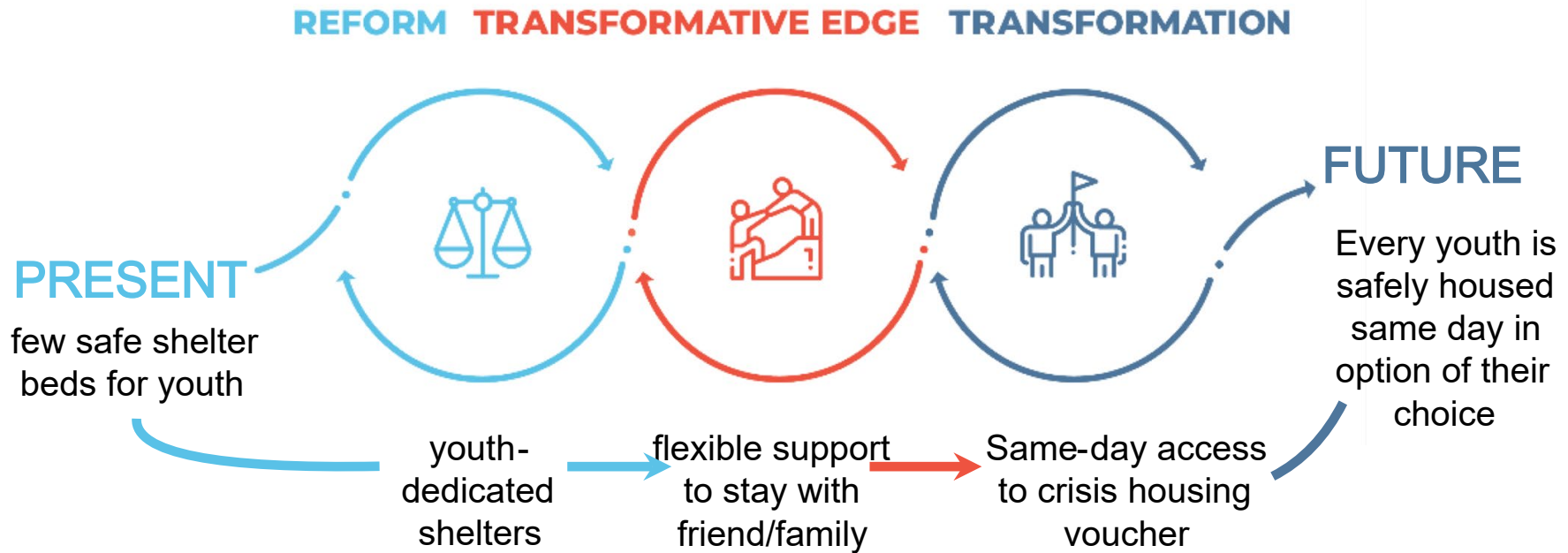
**CHILD &
FAMILY
WELLBEING**

Our Roadmap



The roadmap to transformation process was adapted from Steve Williams' Demand Everything: Lessons of the Transformative Organizing Model: https://rosalux.nyc/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/williams_transformative_organizing.pdf

Our Roadmap





An Interconnected Path to Justice

Justice in one system cannot be reached without justice in each system.

- Families unsupported by a child welfare system not working for youth will cause homelessness...
- A economic system that makes education unattainable and offers youth few pathways to a liveable and sustainable wage will cause homelessness...
- A criminal system rooted in punishment and incarceration will continue to criminalize youth and lead to homelessness...
- An immigration system that actively keeps youth in need out of the country and offers them little to no resources when they make it here will lead to homelessness...

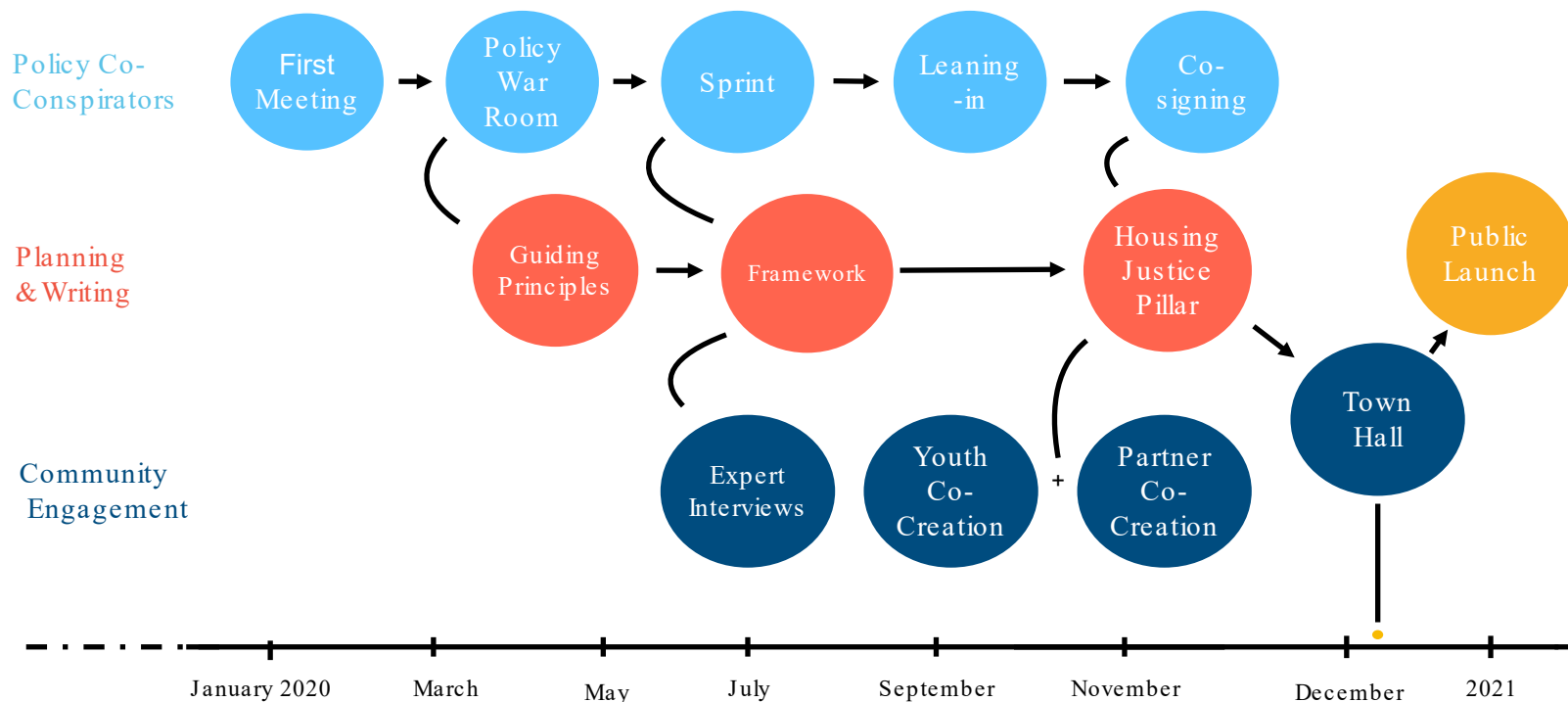
...even with the best homeless response system.

Overview of the Housing Justice Pillar Co-Creation Process



OVERVIEW

How we got here



Community Engagement

33 co-creation sessions with youth and older adult partners

200+ participants from every region of the country

159 youth and young adult leaders

one vision for system transformation, rooted in justice

Lessons Learned from Youth Engagement

1. We must compensate youth at rates that match the policy work we are asking them to engage with – think equity to others doing policy work
2. We must offer different levels of engagement for youth to choose from long term planning to single time engagement
3. We must be willing to pivot, to take on policy ideas we are unsure of how to operationalize, and step back from policy ideas that are not supported by those with lived expertise

Lessons Learned from Community Engagement

1. We have to hold the space for people to envision transformation even when we are in times of crisis
2. We will disagree and we have to continue to build coalition while stay rooted in values and the demands of young people
3. We have to provide the tools to communities to take this work to a local level and to use it alongside the national movement

Housing Justice Pillar Overview





Action 1

ACTION

Abolish the need for congregate shelters by creating crisis housing that meets the needs of youth and young adults

RESULT

- There are no longer shelters.
- Any young person has access to immediate (same day) access to crisis housing of choice that offers privacy, dignity, and safety.
- Crisis housing leads to long-term housing of their choice within 30 days.

No shelters means no longer using facilities that lack private rooms/units without access to places to cook, provide for self hygiene, secure belongings, and access 24 hours.





Transformative Efforts

A robust and coordinated youth and family **prevention** system

Direct **cash transfer** to young people, with optional housing navigation services

Immediate access to emergency housing vouchers without eligibility restrictions or prioritization





Action 2

ACTION

Make housing an entitlement for youth and young adults under 30 through rental assistance, dedicated affordable housing units, and homeownership support.

RESULT

- All youth and young adults under 30 have access to a variety of housing subsidies, including homeownership supports and family-based services
- Safe, accessible housing of their choice at less than 30% of their total annual income.





Transformative Efforts

A full-scale federal investment in the rehabilitation and production of **affordable** and **accessible housing** units and homes

A dedicated **housing voucher program** not restricted by eligibility or prioritization requirements and without time-limits or income requirements or restrictions

Direct **cash transfer** to young people, with optional housing navigation services

Laws that allow for youth under the age of 18 to live independently in **housing of their choice**





Transformative Efforts

Comprehensive
**income
discrimination
protection**

Re-creation of
**local land use
and zoning
regulations** to
address
systemic
racism

**Federal Bad
Landlord
Enforcement
Program** that
includes a
pathway to tenant
ownership of
building

Re-creation of
federal, state,
and local funding
regulations to
ensure that
**funds can be
used flexibly**





Action 3

ACTION

Make the supports youth need an entitlement and have the systems and services governed by, an in collaboration with Black, Brown, Indigenous and LGBTQ communities to meet youth's employment, education, transportation, and health needs.

RESULT

- All youth have access to:
 - affordable, quality physical and mental health care from providers that look like them;
 - employment & entrepreneurship opportunities that pay a living wage and universal basic income when not employed;
 - free education and job training opportunities; and
 - accessible transportation.





Transformative Efforts

**Federal
Saving
Program**
Connected
to Housing

Fully
supported
**education
and career
pathways**

Investments
that
support
**digital
equity**

Investments
in **a young
person's**
community

Federally-fu
nded
**universal
health care**
benefits

A federal
**living
wage**

Universal
Basic
Income

Investment in
**neighborhood
and community
based
organizations** led
by Black, Brown,
Indigenous, and
LGBTQ folks



What Comes Next



NEXT

Space for Needed Investments

1. Support for deep community engagement – it takes time, relationships, and the ability to equitably compensate
2. Support to offer local communities tools and coaching to implement the transformative framework of the pillars
3. Support to build out the housing justice policy agenda

NEXT

New Deal = Policy Agenda

1. Work with an advisory of youth and young adults with lived expertise to create a policy agenda from the New Deal
2. Policy agenda will impact public policy around youth and young adult homelessness
3. Advocate the New Deal Policy Agenda





Family & Youth
Services Bureau

Runaway and Homeless Youth
Training & Technical Assistance Center

BRIGHTER FUTURES
STRENGTHENING PATHWAYS FOR YOUTH SUCCESS

Thank You!

Please complete the evaluation for this session.

Click on the link in the Chat, then select:

Day Two

Workshop

New Deal to End Youth Homelessness