Homeless Youth with Histories of Involvement with Juvenile Probation

Findings from YouthCount 2.0!

135 reported that they had been involved with juvenile probation at some point. (33%)

The following statistics provide information on the characteristics, histories and risk behaviors for these youth.

**434 Youth Surveyed**

- Age 13-17: 19%
- Age 18-24: 81%

**135**

- African American: 58%
- White: 18%
- Hispanic: 14%
- Multiracial: 15%

- Male: 54%
- Female: 44%

**42%** reported they had aged out of the juvenile justice system.

Of those:

- 47% Went to Family Homes
- 17% Went to Shelter, Motel or the Streets
- 13% Went to Foster, Group or Transitional Homes
- 13% Went Somewhere Else
- 11% Went to a Friend or Romantic Partner

**55%** reported they are currently homeless because they were kicked out of a family or relative home.

- Had been involved in foster care at some point: 54%
- Aged out of foster care: 27%
- Reported a previous episode of homelessness: 80%

ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES:

ASSESS 10 TYPES OF TRAUMA:

- Emotional Neglect: 64%
- Emotional Abuse: 62%
- Physical Abuse: 50%
- HIV Member Used Drugs: 47%
- HIV Member Was in Prison: 35%
- Witnessed Domestic Violence: 38%
- Sexual Abuse: 32%

Mean Score = 4.67 (significantly more than other homeless youth)

UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON
GRADUATE COLLEGE of SOCIAL WORK
Traded Sex for Money/Needs 27%
Used Marijuana in Past Year 68%
Smoke Cigarettes 67%
Sexually Active 88%

Mental Health
52% met screening criteria for serious mental distress based on last 30 days
27% Had attempted suicide

Lifetime History of Diagnoses
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: 56%
- Bipolar: 60%
- Depression: 60%
- Conduct Disorder or Oppositional Defiant Disorder: 22%
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder: 28%
- Schizophrenia: 18%

Service Use
- Had taken psychiatric medications: 50%
- Had received outpatient therapy: 42%
- Reported an unmet need for mental health treatment: 42%

Social Support
- Reported there is no adult in the community they can go to for job or school advice: 34%
- Reported there is no adult they can go to for emotional support: 43%
- Say there is no adult in their life who cares about them: 28%

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