

Youth Homelessness Policy Proposal

Seattle Youth Commission 2010

Max Miner
Loey May Engel
Sarah Servin
Tiffany Do
Policy Aide: Marci Curtin

Purpose

To prevent youth homelessness.

Background

- 1,900 homeless youth in King County.
- Family conflict and home issues are primary causes.
- Prevention is key to ending youth homelessness before the cycle begins.

Program Research

- Youth Community Meetings
- Cocoon House
- PSKS
- YouthCare
- Friends of Youth

Proposal

Contract with nationally recognized teen prevention program Cocoon House Project SAFE with referrals from YouthCare's teen shelter program.

Cocoon House Project SAFE

- Prevention-focused program
 - Provides parents of at-risk youth with a free, 90-minute phone session with a masters-level therapist.
 - Goal: resolve family issues to the extent that the youth is able to safely remain at home.

Outreach

- Advertise
 - Schools
 - Community centers
 - Juvenile justice
 - Homeless youth service centers
 - 211 community information line
- YouthCare
 - Would serve as regional contact with Project SAFE
 - Refer families

Budget

- \$41,200
 - Serves 50-60 families at \$686-\$824 per family.
 - Vs. \$200,000 for a new program and thousands of dollars per year on homeless you housing and services.
 - Potential to save the city money!

Connections

- Race and Social Justice Initiative
- Committee to End Homelessness in King County
- Seattle Youth and Families Initiative

Thank You!