Stable Housing

**BASELINE**
28.7% of youth experienced homelessness after aging out of care (SFY 2018 - Iowa Aftercare Services).

**HEAD WINDS**
(Key Factors)
- Youth leave foster care without strong networks of support or skills to live independently.
- Insufficient accountability for, and follow-through on transition plans.
- 40% of homeless youth in Polk County are Black.

**STRATEGIES**
- Identify, track and serve young people who are at risk of becoming homeless.
- Support policies that extend the age to which foster care services are provided.

**2019 ACTIVITIES**
- Conduct organizational self-assessments on race equity, housing first, and trauma informed care.
- Ensure quality, youth-led transition planning with follow-through.
- Evaluate utilization of and equitable access to rent subsidy and FUP voucher programs.
- Advocate for foster care services to age 23 or older.

**2019 TARGET**
78% of youth do not experience homelessness.

**PARTNERS**
Youth Policy Institute of Iowa
Youth Action Board
Polk County Continuum of Care Board
Iowa Homeless Youth Centers
Primary Health Care (Centralized Intake)
Central Iowa Shelter and Services
Des Moines Public Schools
Goodwill Inc.
Anawim Housing
Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Department of Human Services

2017 Polk County “Plan to End Youth Homelessness” completed.

2018 Benchcard on supporting family connections created for Judges.

2017-2019
Ongoing involvement of a Youth Action Board.

2017 Polk County "Plan to End Youth Homelessness" completed.