

# STATE INDEX ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Justin Rush, Public Policy Director

# OBJECTIVES

---

- ★ Walk away with a better understanding of the State Index on Youth Homelessness Project
- ★ State Index on Youth Homelessness - Who, What, When, Where?
- ★ Listening Sessions/Feedback - What will it take to prevent and end youth homelessness



# State Index on Youth Homelessness

- ★ TCF and the NLCHP are collaborating on researching, publishing and disseminating a report that measures, scores and reports on the systems, environment, and laws of all 50 states as they relate to youth homelessness

# WHAT IS A PSE EVALUATION?

We'll be looking at the:

1. Policies
2. Systems
3. Environment

To hold states accountable in preventing and ending youth homelessness .....

# POLICIES:

- Surveying the state laws of all 50 states to determine the current laws related to the following categories:
  - definitions,
  - diversionary programs,
  - criminalization and status offenses,
  - emancipation,
  - right to contract,
  - health care access,
  - discharge from the juvenile justice system,
  - access to federal benefits,
  - access to public education, and
  - harboring unaccompanied youth

# ENVIRONMENT & Systems:

- Tracking whether a state provides easy-access to obtaining a state-issued identification card,
- Identifying if the state has a current plan to end homelessness,
- Tracking if there is a state entity (office of homeless youth services, homeless youth state coordinator, commission on homeless youth, etc.) that monitors youth homelessness,
- Tracking whether the state has implemented a housing needs assessment, identifying groups at greatest risk for homelessness,

# TIMELINE:

September/October - Information & Data Collection





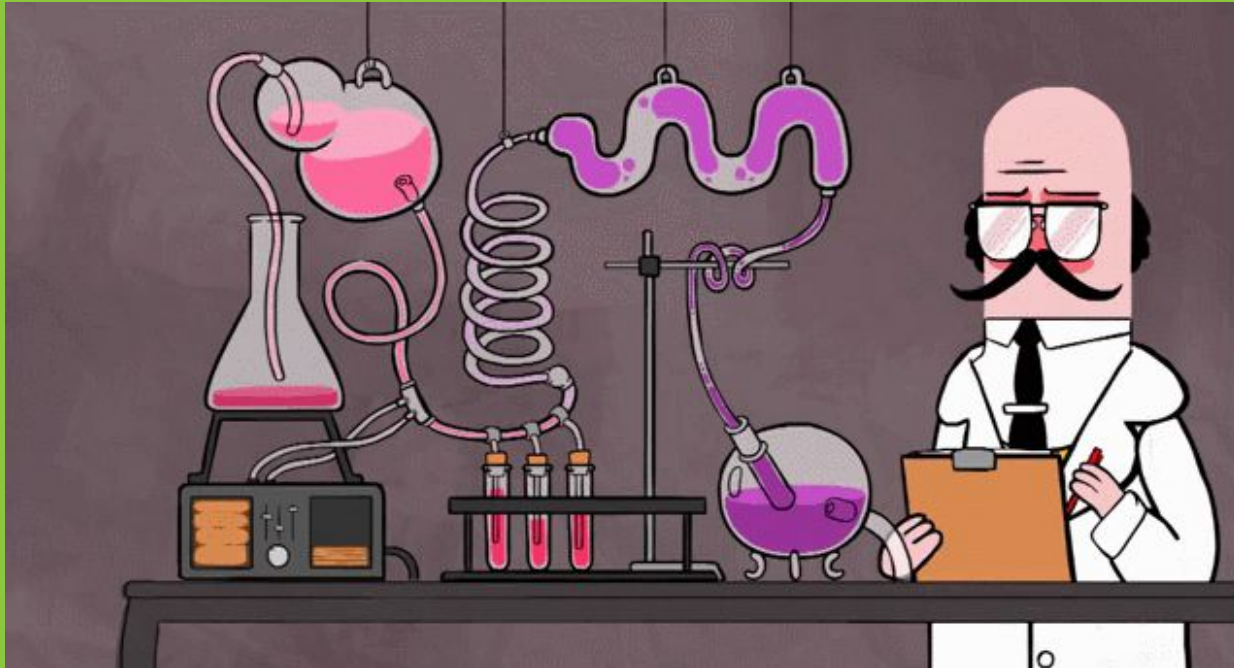
# TIMELINE:

**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER - FINAL DRAFT OF INDIVIDUAL SECTIONS/EDITS AND REVISIONS**



# TIMELINE:

JANUARY - FINAL REVISIONS + TEST OF ONLINE PLATFORM



# TIMELINE:

FEBRUARY - DEBUT STATE INDEX ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

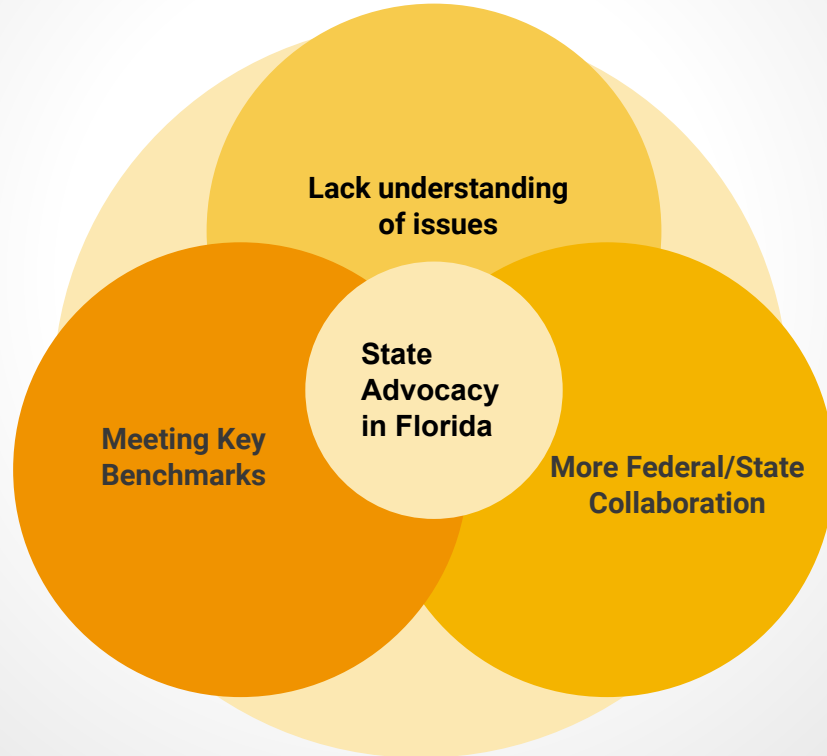


# TRUE ADVOCACY FELLOW: What the State Index Means for Advocacy



# QUINTAY - What I Learned

---



# Quintay - How I participated/What I Did

- I attended the True Fellow Training Retreat where my fellows and I learned a lot of helpful tools that helped us complete our projects.
- I wanted to know is there a current plan to end homelessness in each state.
- I collected data for the political makeup of both chambers of the state's legislature. With this information we will be able to determine what political group is doing the least and the most amount of effort in ending homelessness.
- I observed all 50 states to see if they had an interagency council on homelessness this help me to determine how much effort each state was putting forth towards ending the issue.

# Quintay - What the State Index Means for Florida

The last time Florida updated its plan in efforts to prevent homelessness in the state was this year. Governor Rick Scott received a letter from the Florida council on homeless dated June 30th 2017. With the state Index I plan to mobilize them to other advocates in my state so we can update the current plan by 2018 in hopes of educating policy makers to help end homelessness by 2020.



# TRUE COLORS FUND

Justin T. Rush

[justin@truecolorsfund.org](mailto:justin@truecolorsfund.org)