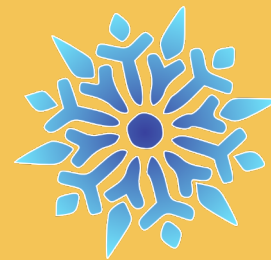


# Uncovering Hidden Homelessness

~ raising awareness and promoting change



WINTER ISSUE - DECEMBER 2023

In this winter newsletter, we are featuring Part Two of our spotlight on the Youth Action Board. To read Part One, if you missed it, click here: [Part One](#)

# 1

## Getting to Know You:



## The Dane County Youth Action Board



### What is the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program?

The Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) is a HUD initiative designed to end youth homelessness by empowering young people with lived experience to participate in leadership throughout the program's design, implementation and evaluation. The YAB works closely with the HSC, as well as local service providers, community members, HUD Technical Assistance Teams and young people with lived experience to assess our community's needs and design YHDP funded projects. Our community funded a System Navigation (Supportive Services Only) Project and a Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing Project.

Our first System Navigation program is set to launch with our partners at OutReach LGBTQ+ Community Center! Look out for more information, and more programs launching with other partners in the near future!

For more information on the Dane County Youth Action Board and Madison/Dane's YHDP, view our [Coordinated Community Plan 2022](#) or visit: [www.yabdanecounty.com](http://www.yabdanecounty.com)

In the news...

# 2

(Click on a link below to be transported to the article)

### Check out these two articles!

This one documents local homelessness trends and car camping:

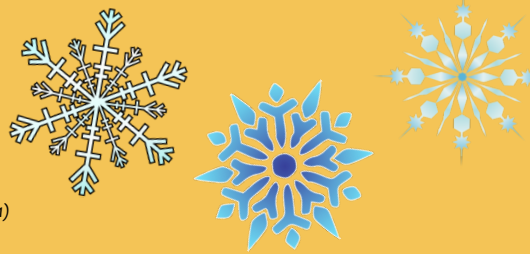
[https://madison.com/news/local/government-politics/madison-dane-county-homeless-car-camping/article\\_86295c42-888e-11ee-99cd-c35122624125.html](https://madison.com/news/local/government-politics/madison-dane-county-homeless-car-camping/article_86295c42-888e-11ee-99cd-c35122624125.html)

While the second offers an excellent view of complexity and reality of doubled up homelessness citing national examples

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/nation/why-this-widespread-form-of-homelessness-is-often-overlooked-and-unsupported>

# Uncovering Hidden Homelessness

~ raising awareness and promoting change ~



Introducing **The Dane County Youth Action Board** (Continued from page 1)

## One thing you want people to know about doubled up homelessness and youth. How can people in the community help?

A huge challenge in addressing youth homelessness is the connection between youth and doubled up homelessness. Many times, youth homelessness remains undetected to the system, and even to the people closest to the young person because of the way doubled up homelessness can exist so uniquely for each person. Through the drafting of our Coordinated Community Plan, we analyzed data that projected roughly 2300-2900 youth who are at risk of experiencing homelessness, but less than 400 youth were accounted for in our homelessness system. The reason so many young people are undetected is because youth who report they have been doubled up don't always recognize themselves as being homeless, despite the definitions. Community members, families and friends supporting each other is so powerful and important, especially due to the increasing lack of affordable housing and overstrained resources. But due to the harmful stigmas and shameful feelings that can often coincide with any type of housing crisis, the downside is that many young people go through this alone, without the emotional and communal support they need and deserve!



We believe that breaking those stigmas and empowering and validating youth at every level can change the internalized relationships they hold with themselves surrounding housing instability! Normalizing the conversation about these experiences in trauma-informed ways can help bridge the gap, identify and support youth early, and divert and stabilize them much more safely and quickly!

### **Anything else you would like to share?!**

Beyond YHDP administrative funding, the YAB is currently working to find it's own funding to support it's other projects and activities. This limitation, and the high demand from YHDP, creates challenges for participating in the necessary work throughout the HSC/CoC. We ask you, our community, to keep us in mind, and keep our name and efforts lifted at tables amongst potentially interested parties. Any and all support, through social media, donated time, funding or resources, advice and advocacy, or sharing of information makes a huge difference to our operation and sustainability! We appreciate your time in getting to know us!

Find the Dane County Youth Action Board here:

- Facebook
- Instagram
- Donations

Looking for things to do this winter break?  
Click [HERE](#) for a few local options to keep the family busy

# 3

This newsletter is brought to you by the Doubled Up Committee...

Since 2019, we have been working to raise awareness about doubled up homelessness in our community and advocating for resources to support this population.

Questions or comments?  
Email us at [doubledupworkgroup@gmail.com](mailto:doubledupworkgroup@gmail.com)

