

Building with Community and Evaluating Innovative Solutions to End Youth Homelessness

MULTI-SITE INNOVATION & LEARNING COHORT

Since 2019, Chapin Hall has been collaborating with cities and counties from across the country to develop, implement and study the effectiveness of direct cash transfers with youth-driven supportive services (a cash plus program) to address youth homelessness.

Chapin Hall is currently supporting the implementation and evaluation of the cash plus model as a pilot in NYC. Building on lessons from the pilot, several sites throughout the country are joining *a multi-site innovation and learning cohort* through adapting the program and evaluation. These sites include:

- Hennepin County, MN
- St. Louis County, MN
- San Francisco, CA
- Oakland, CA
- LA County, CA
- Boston, MA
- Baltimore, MD



Chapin Hall is leading the **evidence-building activities and evaluation** together with local research partners and young adults with lived expertise. Activities include:

- A longitudinal Study of young adults' pathways (at least 2.5 years of primary data collection)
- Process Evaluation, participant interviews and focus groups
- Analysis of participants service and benefit use from State and County administrative data

For the Study, each site will have nearly identical sets of survey questions, allowing Chapin Hall to pool data from all sites collectively building an unprecedented actionable evidence base on what works to help end youth homelessness and support pathways to thriving.

OUTCOMES MEASURED

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| Safe and Stable Housing | Health & Well-being |
| Food Security | Personal Agency |
| Education, training, employment | Access to Services |
| Financial Inclusion and Savings | |



The evaluation looks at quantitative and qualitative outcomes to inform the effectiveness of the model.

INITIAL OBSERVATIONS FROM NYC PILOT

- Young adults are saving the money/building a safety net
- Young adults are leveraging the funds to pursue their goals/priorities
- Some participants are leaving unfulfilling jobs to explore other career opportunities
- Those who are in housing are more food secure and able to focus on non-housing goals (education and employment)
- Gaining financial independence (paying down debt, meeting goals)