

(Title slide)

**What's Hot on the Hill:  
A Federal Policy Update**  
February 5, 2015



**NAEH CY**  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION  
OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH



**nn4y**  
The National Network for Youth  
giving homeless youth a voice

www.nn4youth.org

Darla Bardine, Executive Director, National Network for Youth  
Barbara Duffield, Director of Policy and Programs, NAEHCY  
Patricia Julianelle, Director of State Project and Legal Affairs, NAEHCY  
Cyekeia Lee, Director of Higher Education Initiatives, NAEHCY

1

(Excerpted slides)

**HUD Homeless Assistance Programs**

- Provides funding for emergency shelter, transitional housing, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, supportive services
- HUD definition of homelessness excludes families and youth staying temporarily with others because they have no place else to go, or in motels (if the family uses their own income)
- HUD forces communities to prioritize programs for chronically homeless adults at the expense of families and youth
- HUD's count of homelessness doesn't include most homeless families and youth

24

**2015 Bi-Partisan Legislation:  
The Homeless Children and Youth Act  
H.R. 576/S. 256**

- Introduced in the US Senate by Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) and Robert Portman (R-OH)
- Introduced in the US House by U.S. Representatives Steve Stivers (R-15<sup>th</sup>/OH) and Dave Loebsack (D-2<sup>nd</sup>/IA)
- Supported by 326 organizations, including 57 national organizations (as of yesterday)

25

**The Homeless Children and Youth Act:  
What Does it Do?**

- Amends HUD's definition of homelessness to include children and youth verified as homeless by school liaisons, RHYA programs, Head Start, Health Care for the Homeless programs, etc.
- Prohibits HUD from prioritizing one group over another; communities would be guided by local needs assessments
- Requires data from all federal homeless programs to be part of HUD's Report to Congress

26