



Ending Youth Homelessness by Addressing Trauma

FEANTSA Youth

When: 16 – 20 October 2023

Where: European Youth Centre, Budapest, Hungary.

What: A study session is a 5-day course, designed with the support of the Council of Europe's Youth Department. Study sessions depart from traditional courses by using non-formal education to encourage participants to share their experiences, stories and expertise on a given issue. As a participant to a study session you are an expert based in your experience as a volunteer, professional or student and will be encouraged to share your insights with colleagues from across Europe. A special attempt will be made to select participants with diverse professional and geographic backgrounds to ensure diversity in thoughts and knowledge.

This will be the eighth in a series of study sessions led by FEANTSA Youth.

Our study sessions have provided an opportunity for young professionals from across Europe to come together to identify key issues in tackling youth homelessness and co-develop a series of solutions. The study sessions have led to a growing and dynamic alumni network with membership from across a wide variety of fields including social work, youth work, academics, students, law, architecture, public policy (local and national civil services), NGOs and others.

The past study sessions have focused on taking a human rights approach to preventing youth homelessness while also developing and implementing an advocacy strategy aimed at raising awareness for youth homelessness among policy makers.

This year's study session was selected by members of FEANTSA Youth to meet a growing demand to develop core skills around supporting young people experiencing homelessness in a trauma-informed way. Trauma-informed care in homeless service settings recognizes and responds to clients' previous trauma, approaches clients through a strengths-based lens, and provides clients with safety, respect, and choice.

The aim of this study session is to encourage youth homeless services to deliver services to vulnerable and marginalised youth in a trauma-informed way.

The objectives of the study session are:

1. Framing youth homelessness as a violation of human rights
2. Understanding what trauma is, and the connection to experiences of homelessness

3. Understanding the connection between trauma and how young people engage or disengage in services
4. Connecting trauma as an obstacle to accessing human rights
5. Understanding how to apply trauma informed care
6. Developing competences to adapt trauma informed care to their services, including target groups such as LGBTIQ youth, unaccompanied minors, young people with experience of gender based violence and young migrants.

Who Should Apply:

- Under 30 years old, a small portion of places are available for people over 30, but priority will be given to young people.
- Living in a Council of Europe member state
- Persons working with young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, or;
- Persons who have experienced homelessness
- Able to communicate in English, this is a participatory training and all participants will be required to actively participate in group discussions.
- Enthusiastic, energetic and prepared to engage in non-formal education
- Willing to commit yourself after the study session in order to plan and carry out coordinated work together with other participants and share your learning in your local context.

In addition to the above criteria, applications are particularly encouraged from:

- Non-European Union Countries, while also a Council of Europe Member State

How: Online applications are now open and will close 26 June 2022.

Application process: 35 participants will be selected by mid July based on:

- Motivation
- Knowledge of youth homelessness issues
- Experience of human rights-based approaches to social issues
- Geographic, gender and age balance

On average 2 – 3 participants will be chosen from each country

Applicants will be notified if they have been selected or not by the end of July 2022.

Cost: Travel, accommodation and meal costs will be covered by the Council of Europe; a €50 registration fee will be charged for participants, this will be deducted from the travel expenses reimbursement

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