

Attachment F: Focus Group Questions

STREET OUTREACH PROGRAM DATA COLLECTION PROJECT FOCUS GROUP QUESTIONS
PROJECT/EVENT: FAMILY YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU

LIFE HISTORY AND HOMELESSNESS:

- How long have you been homeless?
- Have you gone back and forth between being homeless and having a place to live?
 - o Can you talk a little more about that?
- What led to you becoming homeless most recently?
 - o Who were you living with before you became homeless most recently?
 - o Could you go back home to live now, if you wanted to?
- What is your day-to-day life like these days?
 - o Can you talk a little more about your daily routine, or the activities that fill your days?
 - o How much contact do you have with your parents/guardians?
- Do you go to school?
 - o If so, what year/kind of school are you in?
 - o If not, why are you not in school?
 - o Would you like to go back to school? What kind of services or supports would you need in order to go back to school?
- What are your greatest strengths that help you cope with street life?
- What supports come from outside yourself, like family, friends, or other street youth?
- Where do you see yourself in five years?
- Are there other experiences of your life on the street or your own history that you would like to tell us about?

SERVICE USE:

- Who do you rely on the most when you need help?
- What kinds of services have you received?
 - o What kinds of services do you use most often?
 - o What has been the most useful help that you have received?
- Are there certain services or supports that you choose not to access? If so, why do you choose not to access them?
- If you could talk directly to funders of the services that you use, what would you say to them?

SERVICE NEEDS:

- What is the biggest service or support that you are lacking right now?
- Can you talk more about other services that you need right now?
- Would you like to have your own place to live?
 - o If YES, what could service agencies do to help you get your own place to live?
- Can you talk more about what would make your life easier on any given day?

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CHALLENGES TO ACCESSING SERVICES:

- What are some of the challenges you face when trying to access services?
 - o What are some things agencies or programs could do to help you overcome the challenges you face when trying to access services?
- Have you had any experiences with services that have made you not want to go back? If so, what happened?
- What characteristics of staff are most helpful? The most unhelpful?
- What kind of help or services do you wish were there for you that are not available now?
- Do you have any suggestions for agencies to be more effective in providing services?