

Congressional issues on homelessness	FY 2016 Challenges and Requests from Advocates (as of July 2015)
McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Grants	<p>Challenge: Final FY 2015 Level: \$2.135 billion; Administration: Requested \$2.480 billion; Full House: \$2.185 B (\$50 million increase, no \$ for new projects); Senate Appropriations Committee: \$2.235 B (limited # new projects, \$40M for youth). Senate & House give ESG \$250M</p> <p>Request: Provide \$2.480 billion for Homeless Assistance Grants in FY 2016.</p>
HUD Vouchers	<p>Challenge: Sequestration downsized the program, FY 2014 bill got back some but that stalled in FY15, need 67,000 more to get back to pre-sequestration level. Administration request – \$21.123 billion; House bill – \$19.919 billion; Senate bill – \$19.934 billion, Senate adds FUP/DV, and HUD-VASH</p> <p>Request: Provide \$21.1 billion for Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers in FY 2016 and restore 67,000 vouchers lost to sequestration</p>
Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (S. 262 and HR 1779)	<p>Challenge: The Runaway and Homeless Youth Act “expired” in 2013 so it needs to be reauthorized-updated and pass through Congress</p> <p>Request: Sponsor bills.</p>
Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) and Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY) programs, the <u>only</u> two federal programs specific to children/youth	<p>Challenge: Both House and Senate Committees on Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations passed FY2016 funding bills, but did not increase funding. House bill decrease RHYA by \$1M</p> <p>Request: Increase funding for homeless children and youth Provide at least \$71.5 million (\$6.5M increase over FY15) for EHCY, and provide at last \$114 (\$7M over FY15) million for RHYA, and \$2 million for a national study</p>
Homeless Children and Youth Act, S. 256 and HR 576	<p>Challenge: Federal agencies do not have the same definition of homelessness, reducing effectiveness of interagency service coordination and negatively affecting children and youth who are homeless</p> <p>Request: House and Senate members should sponsor.</p>
Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (HR 5 and S. 1177, the Every Child Achieves Act)	<p>Challenge: Opportunity to make federal education policy more effective for children and youth who have no place to call home, particularly by refining key provisions of the McKinney-Vento Act and Title I, Part Z.</p> <p>Request: Sponsor HR 5 and S. 1177</p>
Higher Education Act for Homeless and Foster Youth – action/re-introduction in the Fall	<p>Challenge: Need to strengthen provisions that serve homeless college students</p> <p>Request: Sponsor in the fall of 2015</p>
Veterans	<p>Challenge: FY 2015 level: \$1.4 bill; Admin proposed: \$1.4 billion. House passed Administration’s proposal in April Includes CUTS to GPD, no new VASH vouchers; Senate Appropriations Committee improved upon VA’s proposal by \$200 million (Extra funds for SSVF, etc.)</p> <p>Request: Provide \$1.6 billion for homeless veteran programs within VA, including: \$500 million for Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF); Pass legislative fix to go above SSVF cap; \$250 million for Grant and Per Diem; and \$374 million for HUD-VASH case management</p>

<p>SAMSHA</p>	<p>Challenge: Appropriations Bills from H & S propose large cuts to PATH Program; Senate: \$25M cut from \$65M FY15 level or 38% decrease; House proposing \$10 million cut; H&S are proposing \$2M cut to SAMHSA homeless programs but in different places (3% cut); Senate is proposing a \$50M cut to the Substance Abuse Block Grant (3% cut)</p>
<p>National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF)</p>	<p>Challenge: Some in Congress do not want fund</p> <p>Request: House Ask: Oppose H.R. 574; Senate Ask: Oppose any attempts to add language to Appropriations bills or any other bills that would prevent Fannie and Freddie from providing the funding for the NHTF or prevent HUD from implementing the NHTF</p>