

***A Way Home Ottawa:  
Ending  
Youth Homelessness  
Together***

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**VERS UN CHEZ-SOI**  
OTTAWA



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# Who Are We?

A local coalition, creating a **youth-driven** plan to prevent and end youth homelessness through community systems planning.



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# What Have We Done?



# Engaging Youth Effectively

- Outreach, outreach, outreach
- Meaningful leadership comes from intentional hiring process
- Appropriate compensation



# Peer to Peer Research

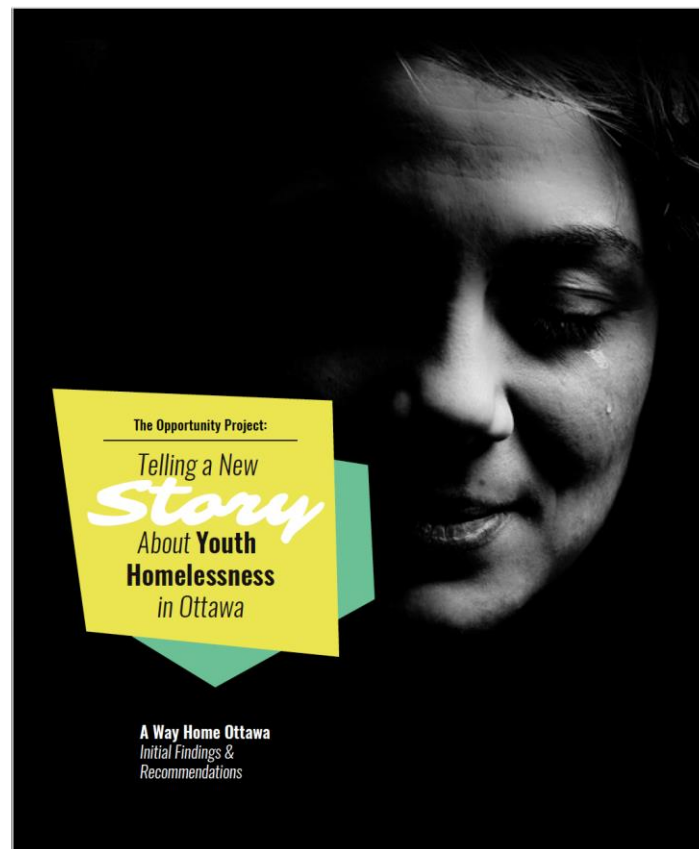
- Training Process
- Quality of Research
- On-going Check-Ins



# The Opportunity Project

Accessible at:

<http://homelesshub.ca/resource/opportunity-project-telling-new-story-about-youth-homelessness-ottawa>



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# Lessons Learned – Phase 1

- Adjusting the setting/ context
- Flexibility is key!
- Value of having expertise on both ends – people with lived experience and research expertise



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# Lessons Learned – Phase 1

- Leveraging authority of experts to influence change stemming from research
- Still missing voices of key groups – led to Phase 2





# Phase 2

- Hired 4 Youth Research Liaisons
- Reaching out to youth with lived experience who identify as LGBTQ2S, First Nations, Inuit, & Metis, and Newcomer Youth



# Questions That Came Up

- What is reasonable to ask?
  - Hours
  - Level of intensity
  - Logistics (bank account)
  - Complexity of peer / professional role



# Lessons We're Still Learning

- Grappling with intersectionality
- Taking the risks into account
  - Re-living trauma
  - “Emeshed-ness” of it
  - Intimidation of professional world



# Lessons We're Still Learning

- Recognizing power differences
- Peer Support was key



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# Questions? Please contact us

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