[Requiring the Current Navigation Center and all Future Navigation Centers to have designated areas for Transitional Aged Youth]

**Resolution urging that San Francisco Board of Supervisors establish the current Navigation Center, the second Navigation Center being constructed, and all further Navigation Centers have areas designated for Transitional Aged Youth Bedding and Services**

WHEREAS, Transitional Aged Youth (TAY), defined as youth aged eighteen through twenty-four, comprise the vast majority of San Francisco’s homeless youth population[[1]](#footnote-1); and

WHEREAS, TAY Youth is at an all-time historic high[[2]](#footnote-2); and

WHEREAS, While there are approximately 3,200 homeless children under age nineteen struggling to live in the City of San Francisco, there are near 8,000 homeless or marginally housed TAY[[3]](#footnote-3); and

WHEREAS, There are approximately 58,000 students in college that are struggling with Homelessness, a 75% increase over the last 3 years[[4]](#footnote-4); and

WHEREAS, Educational attainment is the single greatest predictor of future employment and economic success for young people; and

WHEREAS, These numbers are likely even higher as homeless families often shy away from self-reporting to government entities for fear of Child Protective Services interventions and food stamp reductions, and due to shame[[5]](#footnote-5); and

WHEREAS, TAY are San Francisco’s most at-risk population; and

WHEREAS, 42% of homicide victims in 2012 were TAY Youth[[6]](#footnote-6); and

WHEREAS, 9,000 TAY are neither working nor attending school[[7]](#footnote-7); and

WHEREAS, More than 2,000 of TAY are currently involved in the juvenile and criminal justice systems[[8]](#footnote-8); and

WHEREAS, 80% of young adults age 18-25 on Adult Probation lack a high school diploma or GED; 75% were unemployed at the time of arrest[[9]](#footnote-9); and

WHEREAS, each year nearly 3,000 TAY access public mental health and substance abuse services[[10]](#footnote-10); and

WHEREAS, approximately 1,400 18-24 year olds receive cash welfare benefits and nearly 4,000 18-24 year olds receive Food Stamps[[11]](#footnote-11); and

WHEREAS, In 2014, the Mayor’s Office of Holding conveyed a TAY Housing Work Group and promised the creation of 400 beds designated for TAY specifically by the year 2015[[12]](#footnote-12); and

WHEREAS; While such a number of beds are important, there are not enough to satisfy the large number of homeless TAY in the City of San Francisco; and

WHEREAS, The City of San Francisco has plans to open a new Navigation Center at the Civic Center Hotel[[13]](#footnote-13); and

WHEREAS, the Navigation Center has a maximum capacity of only 75 individuals[[14]](#footnote-14); and

WHEREAS, Transitional Aged Youth are much more likely to be without a shelter then the adult population[[15]](#footnote-15); and

WHEREAS, Taylor Muer, Executive Director of Larkin Street Youth Services has stated, “Transitional Aged Youth housing is not even close to being satisfied”; and

WHEREAS, Because of their age and lack of experience, TAY are less able than their adult counterparts to overcome these barriers[[16]](#footnote-16); and

WHEREAS, Larkin Street Youth Service’s Larkin Street Inn, which houses 40 individuals and has a wait time of 2-8 weeks[[17]](#footnote-17), and the Community Housing Partnership’s Edward II Inn, which houses 25 units, are the only shelters in the city of San Francisco dedicated to TAY[[18]](#footnote-18); and

WHEREAS, the Unemployment Rate of TAY ages 20-24 is double that rate of homeless adults[[19]](#footnote-19); and

WHEREAS, Transitional Aged Youth are much more likely to be without a shelter then the adult population[[20]](#footnote-20); and

WHEREAS, An average one bedroom one bathroom apartment in San Francisco in January, 2016, costs $3,115, an 8% increase in 6 months and a 215% increase in 7 years[[21]](#footnote-21); and

WHEREAS, Minimum wage in the City of San Francisco is $12.25 an hour; and

WHEREAS, If a youth was to work an average 60 hour work week earning minimum wage, they would still not have enough to afford average rent, let alone the additional expenditures of living such as food and an education; and

WHEREAS, San Francisco citizens have voiced that their number one concern in the is homelessness, the second being housing affordability[[22]](#footnote-22); and

WHEREAS, Supervisors Campos and Kim have expressed an interest in declaring a state of emergency for homelessness[[23]](#footnote-23); and

WHEREAS, Mayor Ed Lee and Supervisor Campos have both expressed an interest to construct more Navigation Centers[[24]](#footnote-24); now therefore be it

RESOLVED, The San Francisco Youth Commission urges the San Francisco Board of Supervisors to establish that the current navigation center and all further navigation centers have areas designated for TAY services and bedding.

1. Applied Survey Research, January 2015, Homeless Unique Youth Count and Survey [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Center for American Progress: The High Cost of youth Unemployment: <http://www.taysf.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/08/The-High-Cost-of-Youth-Unemployment.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Transitional Aged Youth SF, Policy Priorities for Transitional Age Youth Vision & Goals 2014-2016, page 1 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Affordable College Online: <http://www.affordablecollegesonline.org/homeless-students-guide/> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. Transitional Aged Youth SF, Policy Priorities for Transitional Age Youth Vision & Goals 2014-2016, page 2 [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. Transitional Aged Youth- San Francisco (TAYSF) initiative, TAYSF 2011 Progress Report [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. San Francisco Examiner: SF to Open Second Navigation Center for Homeless Residents. <http://www.sfexaminer.com/sf-open-second-navigation-center-homeless-residents/> [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. More Than a Shelter: An Assessment of the Navigation Center’s First Six Months. 2015, Dec. 10 [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. Larkin Street, June 2014, Youth Homelessness in San Francisco: 2014 Report on Incident and Needs [↑](#footnote-ref-15)
16. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: HRSA [↑](#footnote-ref-16)
17. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-17)
18. Community Housing Partnership: Edward II. < http://www.chp-sf.org/housing-services/housingproperties/edward-ii/> [↑](#footnote-ref-18)
19. Larkin Street, June 2014, Youth Homelessness in San Francisco: 2014 Report on Incident and Needs [↑](#footnote-ref-19)
20. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-20)
21. Rent Jungle: <https://www.rentjungle.com/average-rent-in-san-francisco-rent-trends/> [↑](#footnote-ref-21)
22. SF Chronicle: Homelessness Soars to No. 1 Concern in SF, New Poll Finds. 2016, March 16. <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Most-see-SF-moving-in-wrong-direction-poll-finds-6892152.php> [↑](#footnote-ref-22)
23. CBS Bay Area: Campos Calls for Declaration of Homeless Emergency in San Francisco. 2016, March 8 < http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2016/03/08/campos-calls-for-declaration-of-homelessness-emergency-in-san-francisco/> [↑](#footnote-ref-23)
24. IBID [↑](#footnote-ref-24)