

HOMELESS YOUTH HANDBOOK

Know Your Rights. Understand Your Options.



TEXAS APPLESEED

in partnership with

BAKER & MCKENZIE

Presented for:
Understanding Youth Rights
Texas Network of Youth Services
December 2, 2015

Overview



1. Who is Texas Appleseed?
2. What is the Homeless Youth Handbook and how is it different?
3. Small Group Discussion: Questions you anticipate homeless youth will want answered
4. Current and Future Thoughts: Systemic barriers for homeless youth and providers

Texas Appleseed



- Public interest justice center
- Non-profit and non-partisan
- Economic and social justice for all Texans
- Board of Directors comprised of distinguished legal practitioners
- Variety of project areas
- Continue to explore and develop new project areas
- Work with pro bono partners, collaborators, and volunteers

Homeless Youth Handbook



- Initiated by Baker & McKenzie
- Modeled after inaugural edition from Washington
- Launched with providers, youth, legal community, legislative and civic leaders, and a host of organizations that serve homeless youth
- 1,100 hours worked by almost 90 volunteers
- Launched in three states, with three fortune 500 companies
- More to come, including Texas – Early 2016

Homeless Youth Handbook



www.homelessyouth.org

Homeless Youth Handbook



- Written by lawyers who have completed legal research
- Written on the level of 13-15 year old
- Written to give definitive answers
- Glossary included
- Searchable: topic, question, answer, and glossary term
- Links to external resources and providers included
- Website is fully updatable
- Potential App incoming
- Printed versions will be available

Homeless Youth Handbook



HomelessYouth.org

Helping homeless youth understand their rights

a pro bono project by:

BAKER & MCKENZIE

Know your rights. Understand your options.

Pro bono attorneys, partnering with Baker & McKenzie, donated their time and energy to create legal handbooks for participating states. They are written to be practical tools for youth and those who serve youth and need to understand legal rights and options in many different areas of law.

CHOOSE A HANDBOOK:



Minnesota



Southern Minnesota Regional
LEGAL SERVICES
Founded 1909

ECOLAB



Washington

Columbia
Legal Services
Working for Justice Since 1967



Illinois



LAW PROJECT
CHICAGO COALITION
FOR THE HOMELESS

UNITED



Homeless Youth Handbook



Washington
a HomelessYouth.org project

Legal Issues and Options Handbook



Topics

- [Safety and Stability](#)
- [Status Offenses](#)
- [Foster Care](#)
- [Turning 18](#)
- [Housing and Contracts](#)
- [LGBTQ](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Employment & Jobs](#)
- [General Criminal Law](#)
- [Health Care and Medical Rights](#)
- [Mental Health and Substance Abuse](#)
- [Pregnancy and Parenting](#)
- [Domestic and Dating Violence](#)
- [Identification](#)
- [Consumer and Credit](#)
- [Public Benefits](#)
- [Lawsuits in General](#)
- [Immigration](#)

Washington Handbook / Disclaimer

Disclaimer

The materials and content provided in this manual are for general information only and are not intended as legal advice. Although we strive to provide accurate and up to date legal information, we cannot promise it is error free or that it is suitable for your specific concern. Therefore, you should contact an attorney to obtain legal advice for any issue specific to your situation. If you use the materials and information provided on this website or linked to this web site, it does not create an attorney-client relationship between us or any providers of information you find on this web site, and we take no responsibility for any information linked to this web site.

The materials and content are provided as-is with no warranty of any kind. We disclaim all express and implied warranties, including the implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for particular purpose. Under no circumstances will we or our contributors be liable for any consequential, indirect, incidental, special or punitive damages or lost profits, whether foreseeable or unforeseeable, under any legal theory. Some states do not allow the exclusion of implied warranties or the limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above limitation and exclusions may not apply to you.

The law is generally described as of July 31, 2015.

[← Previous](#)

[Next →](#)

[Printer-friendly version](#)


[Disclaimer](#)



BAKER & MCKENZIE

Homeless Youth Handbook





Washington *Legal Issues and Options Handbook*
a HomelessYouth.org project

[Washington Handbook](#) / [Housing and Contracts](#)

Topics

- [Safety and Stability](#)
- [Status Offenses](#)
- [Foster Care](#)
- [Turning 18](#)
- [Housing and Contracts](#)
- [LGBTQ](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Employment & Jobs](#)
- [General Criminal Law](#)
- [Health Care and Medical Rights](#)
- [Mental Health and Substance Abuse](#)
- [Pregnancy and Parenting](#)
- [Domestic and Dating Violence](#)




Housing and Contracts

- [Couch-surfing](#)
- [Finding an apartment and signing a lease](#)
- [Lawyer Referral Services](#)
- [Lease Terminations and Evictions](#)
- [Leases](#)
- [Living in an apartment](#)
- [Public Housing](#)
- [Shelters](#)
- [Trespassing and Squatting](#)

[← Previous](#)[Next →](#)

[Printer-friendly version](#)

[Disclaimer](#)





Homeless Youth Handbook



Washington
Legal Issues and Options Handbook
a **HomelessYouth.org** project



Topics

[Safety and Stability](#)

[Status Offenses](#)

[Foster Care](#)

[Turning 18](#)

[Housing and
Contracts](#)

[LGBTQ](#)

[Education](#)

[Employment & Jobs](#)

[General Criminal
Law](#)

[Health Care and
Mental Health](#)

[Washington Handbook](#) / [Housing and Contracts](#) / [Couch-surfing](#)

Couch-surfing

[I am staying at a friend's house for free and he is kicking me out. Can he do that?](#)

[I am staying at a friend's house. Can I use this address for mail? School? Residency?](#)

[← Previous](#)

[Next →](#)

[Printer-friendly version](#)

[Disclaimer](#)



BAKER & MCKENZIE

Homeless Youth Handbook



Washington
Legal Issues and Options Handbook
a **HomelessYouth.org** project



Topics

[Safety and Stability](#)[Status Offenses](#)[Foster Care](#)[Turning 18](#)[Housing and
Contracts](#)[LGBTQ](#)[Education](#)[Employment & Jobs](#)[General Criminal
Law](#)[Health Care and
Medical Rights](#)

[Washington Handbook](#) / [Housing and Contracts](#) / [Couch-surfing](#)

/ [I am staying at a friend's house for free and he is kicking me out. Can he do that?](#)

I am staying at a friend's house for free and he is kicking me out. Can he do that?

Yes. Your friend's past generosity does not mean he has to house you indefinitely. You have not made a contractual agreement with the property owner or tenant, so your right to live at the house is subject to your friend's whims. You must leave if he is kicking you out.

Moreover, if your friend is renting, he has a separate agreement with the landlord. Your friend's landlord could have rules restricting guests' length of stay. Without signing the lease yourself, you may subject your friend to an additional fee, or worse, cause your friend to violate the terms of the lease. Or if your friend receives Section 8 or other housing assistance, they could lose their benefits if you stay more than a certain amount of time.


[← Previous](#)[Next →](#)

[Printer-friendly version](#)


[Disclaimer](#)

Homeless Youth Handbook





Minnesota *Legal Issues and Options Handbook*
a HomelessYouth.org project



Minnesota Handbook / Glossary

Glossary

A

[Alaska Native Corporation \(ANC\)](#)
[Annual Percentage Rate](#)
[Antipsychotic medicine](#)
[Assistance Unit \(AU\)](#)
[Asylum](#)

B

[Bankruptcy](#)
[Building](#)

C

[Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood \(CDIB\)](#)
[Certified Mail](#)
[CHIPS](#)
[Conciliation Conference](#)
[Concurrent Permanency plan](#)
[Constitution of the United States](#)
[Contempt of Court](#)
[Contract](#)
[CPS](#)

D

Topics

[Options for Safety and Stability](#)

[Status Offenses](#)

[Foster Care](#)

[Turning 18](#)

[Housing and Contracts](#)

[LGBTQ](#)

[Education](#)

[Employment Law: Rights and Responsibilities as an Employee](#)

[General Criminal Law](#)

[Health Care and Medical Rights](#)

[Mental Health and Substance Abuse](#)

Homeless Youth Handbook



Homeless Youth Handbook

Search



Other Information

[About the Handbook](#)

[Disclaimer](#)

[Glossary](#)

[Useful Resources](#)

Emancipation

Emancipation means that a minor has the same legal rights and obligations as an 18-year-old (or older) adult. Emancipation could be expected to occur (1) by reaching the age of 18, (2) by lawful marriage, or (3) by court order. There is no standard law or procedure allowing for emancipation in Minnesota. If you have a current CHIPS case, your attorney can make the request that you live independently at age 16, with approval from the county board. If you have a case in front of a judge on a different matter, your attorney can then ask the court to emancipate you pursuant to case law, but this rarely happens in Minnesota. If you have no current court case, you can't go to court and ask that a judge declare you emancipated.

There is currently no content classified with this term.

Small Group Discussion



- What questions have you received from homeless youth that you would like answers for in this resource?
- What questions do you think homeless youth will have that you believe we may not have thought of?

Current & Future Thoughts



What are potential barriers for homeless youth and their providers that should or could be addressed by specific policy or systemic changes?

Contact Information

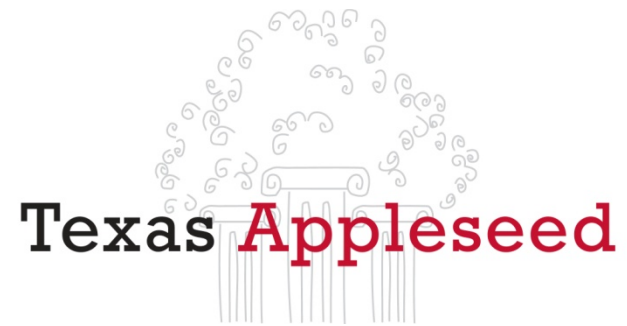


Gabriella C. McDonald
Pro Bono & New Projects Director
Texas Appleseed
1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Suite 201
Austin, TX 78701

Phone: 512-473-2800 ext. 109

Fax: 512-473-2813

gmcdonald@texasappleseed.net
www.texasappleseed.org



THANK YOU!