

# Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles County (HYFLA)



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## About LAHSA

In December of 1993, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles mayor and City Council created the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) as an independent, joint powers authority. LAHSA is the lead agency in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care, which is the regional planning body that coordinates housing and services for homeless families and individuals in Los Angeles County. LAHSA coordinates and manages over \$300 million in federal, state, county, and city funds for programs that provide shelter, housing, and services to people experiencing homelessness.

## Background

Between November 2015 and January 2016, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) convened a series of focus groups with individuals who had lived experience of homelessness to gather feedback on the development of the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative's comprehensive plan to combat homelessness. Recognizing the valuable contributions by those with lived experience of homelessness, LAHSA formalized the focus groups and established ongoing advisory bodies. These advisory groups ensure that lived experience feedback is incorporated into the development of policies, programs, and practices that impact the homeless crisis response system.

LAHSA has two lived experience advisory boards – the Lived Experience Advisory Board (LEAB) for adults and the Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles (HYFLA) for youth. Each body is chartered for 25 members. Members represent all regions across the City and County of Los Angeles and communities.

HYFLA board meetings are held monthly at LAHSA, 811 Wilshire Blvd, 6<sup>th</sup> Fl, Los Angeles, CA 90017. Members of HYFLA are to attend all board meetings and encouraged to participate in all HYFLA-related outside events.

### Timeline for application deadline, interviews, and HYFLA membership confirmation.

Application deadline	Interviews for membership	HYFLA membership acceptance deadline
September 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2019	Rolling	Rolling

For further information or questions, please contact:

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Advisory Group Coordinator

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

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## HYFLA Board Duties and Member Responsibilities

The HYFLA advisory group is responsible for carrying out the following duties:

- A. Advise LAHSA on policy and program development of internal LAHSA policies and programs.
- B. Provide the lived experience perspective on regional, system, and policy issues to LAHSA stakeholders and community partners, when asked.
- C. Provide the lived experience perspective on regional, system, and policy issues to LAHSA governance boards including the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC) Board, Regional Homelessness Advisory Council (RHAC), and the CES Policy Council.
- D. Participate in LAHSA and community activities including community speaking engagements, homeless coalition meetings, Youth Count, and other Service Planning Area (SPA)-specific events.

**Engagement:** HYFLA members expected to demonstrate a commitment to the duties and activities of the HYFLA board. Members are expected to actively participate in HYFLA board meetings, discussions, activities, correspondence, sub-committees, and/or ad-hoc committees. Members are expected to follow the Attendance and Participation, and Code of Conduct policies in the HYFLA charter.

**SPA representation:** HYFLA members represent a diversity of populations within the homeless community and from both city and county of Los Angeles jurisdictions, excluding the cities of Glendale, Long Beach, and Pasadena.

LA city and county jurisdictions are SPA-specific, listed below.

SPA	LA City/County Representation
SPA 1	Antelope Valley
SPA 2	San Fernando Valley
SPA 3	San Gabriel Valley
SPA 4	Metro LA
SPA 5	West LA
SPA 6	South LA
SPA 7	East LA
SPA 8	South Bay/Harbor

HYFLA members shall demonstrate familiarity with the SPA they represent. Evidence of familiarity may include living, being employed, or experiencing homelessness in the SPA they represent during the period of active membership on the HYFLA advisory group. SPA representatives must be available for meetings during regular business hours.

**Compensation:** HYFLA Members are compensated for their participation in approved events. Monthly board meetings, governance board meetings, LAHSA feedback sessions, monthly homeless coalition meetings, and Everyone-In events, including any necessary preparation for these events is compensated. Members may also submit a request to be compensated for other events. Approvals are decided by the Associate Director based on how closely the event and participation further the lived experience group mission. Members are compensated based on hours of attendance at meeting/event and transportation (i.e. TAP card stipend for public transportation or mileage).

Compensation rates, listed below:

Hours	Rate
1-2.5 hours	\$25
2.5-4 hours	\$50
4 hours or more	\$100

### Homeless Youth Forum of Los Angeles County Application Form

To qualify, a candidate must demonstrate all requirements listed below:

- (1) Have lived experience of homelessness who represent the following categories for diversity:
  - A. Geographical Region Representation: membership shall include at least one (1) member from each of the eight (8) Service Planning Areas (SPAs).
  - B. Subpopulation Representation: membership shall include representation of the diverse communities LAHSA serves, including (but not limited to) single youth, youth with families, LGBTQ, survivors of domestic violence, re-entry population, disabled persons, etc.
  - C. Demographic Representation: membership shall include diverse demographic representation in terms of age, race, gender identity, and sexual orientation.
  - D. System Access Representation: membership shall include diverse representation in terms of system access, including (but not limited to) those in interim housing, rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, child welfare or juvenile justice system, etc.
- (2) Demonstrate experience/understanding of homelessness and surrounding issues.
- (3) Demonstrate a knowledge of SPA-level resources and networks.
- (4) Commit to actively participate in HYFLA board meetings and related activities.
- (5) Complete the HYFLA application at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/F3VBVYH>

Completion of the HYFLA application survey must be emailed to [hyfla@lahsa.org](mailto:hyfla@lahsa.org) by 5 p.m. PST on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

NOTE: LAHSA staff and current HYFLA members will review all candidates and respond for interviews within two weeks of receipt of application.