



### **The Future of Homelessness - Statistics on Kentucky 18-24 Year Olds**

28% of Kentucky school children do not graduate from high school. 41% of African American Kentucky students do not graduate from high school and 45% of Hispanic Kentucky students do not graduate from high school. Meanwhile, these students only qualify for 8% of jobs in Kentucky which are requiring more and more education.

There is a well documented earning gap between high school graduates and those who do not of at least \$10,000. Drop outs from a single year in Kentucky will cost the state \$4.2 million.

During the past year, 556 Kentucky foster children between the ages of 18 and 21 extended their stay in foster care to 21. This allows them to get help with housing, living expenses, health care and other vital services. Over that same year, 531 foster children turned 18 and left state custody due to their own choice or because they were denied an extension. These young adults are less likely to get a college education and more likely to become homeless, live in poverty and/or end up in prison.

Over the past year, 555 young adults between 18 and 24 stayed in Louisville shelters. This was primarily in the large homeless shelters.

There is a new movement where these young adults are speaking out for themselves called TrueUp. Check out their website at [www.trueuplouisville.com](http://www.trueuplouisville.com) to hear what they have to say.