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HEADLINE: First Ever Report Card on Homeless Children Released



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by KYW's Kim Glovas

The first ever national report on homeless children has been released. The National Center on Family Homelessness unveiled the report at a forum in Philadelphia.

The report, titled "America's Youngest Outcasts," is the first ever attempt at providing hard information on the number of homeless children in each state, their health and where they stand educationally. Ellen Bassuk, found of the National Center on Family Homelessness, says there are three goals of the report:

"To increase public awareness, to strengthen local, state, and national policies, and to support best practices, disseminate best practices and improve service delivery in the states."

Pennsylvania stands 14th in the national ranking of taking care of its homeless, and has more than 43,000 homeless children (**read more on Pennsylvania's ranking**).

Bassuk says the key to improving their lot is to change their fragile home environment, with real housing, not motels, and to provide support services to provide a solid foundation.

Read the full report at HomelessChildrenAmerica.org (Acrobat required).