



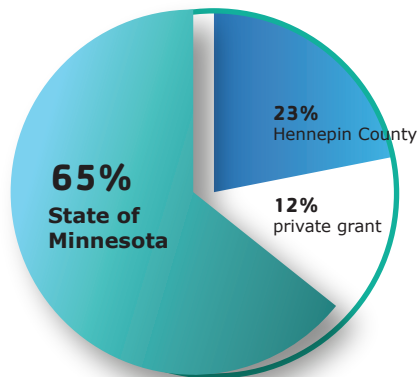
Safe StaY: Emergency shelter and housing

Safe StaY reaches out to youth with safe shelter and supportive services, preventing exploitation and chronic homelessness.

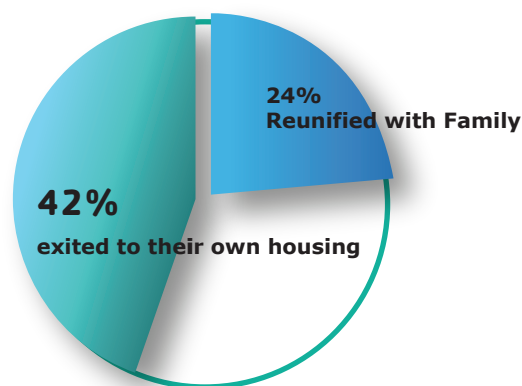
Safe StaY was created in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Since then, the model has proven to be wildly successful at much lower cost than site-based congregate shelter. Because of the effects of economic inequity, youth who are Black, Indigenous or persons of color are disproportionately likely to experience homelessness. The length of time spent in an episode of homelessness is the biggest predictor of repeated episodes of homelessness. In addition, youth homelessness is a primary contributor to youth exploitation. Safe StaY helps prevent these negative outcomes. Because of the program's impressive return on investment, more communities are looking to add this model to their homeless response systems.

In Safe StaY, youth shelter in partner hotels while YMCA staff work intensively with them to resolve the housing crisis. Both those who are single and parents are given a safe space and get help meeting basic needs. Safe StaY gives them time, space, and 1:1 support to secure permanent housing. With intensive problem solving, flexible financial assistance, housing search support, family reunification (when appropriate), and ongoing support, we can quickly resolve episodes of homelessness. We currently partner with four metro-area hotels, providing them with a steady source of revenue during a time when people are traveling much less for business or pleasure.

Safe StaY funding to date:



Results of Safe StaY for 179 youth: typical stay of 16 weeks



JP (name changed), age 23, was living with family when they became homeless and split up to survive. He had been sleeping in the stairwell of a downtown apartment building on and off for several years before he entered Safe StaY. The program gave JP the support he needed to stabilize his housing. He now has a full time job with UPS and just moved into his own apartment.

please support the Homeless Youth Act to continue providing vital shelter to our young people.

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**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**