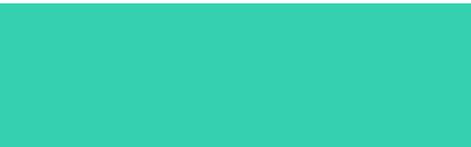


Youth and Young Family Homelessness



The Link and YSN

- A youth and adult led nonprofit founded in 1991 by two black leaders and former Vikings players, Jim Marshall & Oscar Reed
- Provides a continuum of services, emergency shelter and housing for youth and young families experiencing homelessness, victims of sex trafficking and youth involved in the foster care and/or juvenile justice system. The Link's service area includes the 7 county metro area and does provide support for some youth from Greater MN.
- The Youth Services Network (YSN) is a state-wide coalition of homeless youth and Safe Harbor providers



Programs

- ❑ Street Outreach (*day, late night, overnight in north Minneapolis & Dakota County*)
- ❑ Drop-In Center (*Dakota County*)
- ❑ Homeless Prevention (*north Minneapolis*)
- ❑ Emergency Shelter (*1 in Dakota County & 1 in Hennepin County total of 20 Shelter Beds*)
- ❑ Housing (*261 units within 9 Housing Programs for Youth & Young Families within Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, Carver, Anoka & Washington Counties*)

Services included in these programs: case management, employment & education services, mental health therapy, chemical dependency, financial literacy, leadership development and more.

Two of our programs are culturally specific: Project Live Out Loud for LGBTQ+ youth & Northside Homeless Prevention Program for black youth and young families.

Two of our housing programs are specific to parenting youth with children.

Emergency Shelter and Housing



What are we seeing?

- ❑ Number of youth experiencing homelessness still far exceeds our capacity, turning youth away regularly
- ❑ Youth being kicked out, running away from abusive situations, living out of cars/abandoned buildings/some in encampments, “couch hopping” in unsafe situations
- ❑ Higher severity of mental health needs
- ❑ Increased Youth being Shot (Gun violence)
- ❑ Increases in Domestic Violence & Severity
- ❑ Many pregnant & parenting youth
- ❑ Discrimination

There is so much hope...

- Numbers of Youth Experiencing Homelessness are decreasing as investments in HYA increase (*6,000 unaccompanied homeless youth per night in 2015 when HYA was funded at \$5.238 Million v. 4,876 in 2018 after a \$3 million increase to \$8.238 million*)
- 85% of youth contacted 6 months after exiting a HYA Housing Program were stably housed, 80% were after 2 years of exiting
- Personal Story of LE

Getting out of Homelessness – Youth in our Project Live Out Loud Housing Program



Youth Experiencing Homelessness are Amazing, Resilient and Deserve & Need our Support



Thank You!

- Thank you so much for your support of youth and young families experiencing homelessness!

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