NEW SOLUTIONS for YOUTH FACING HOMELESSNESS
in Columbus & Franklin County, Ohio

Community Shelter Board has been awarded a demonstration grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development intended to dramatically reduce homelessness among youth, age 24 and younger. The federal award is being blended with resources from the local public and private sectors, in keeping with CSB's longstanding tradition of public/private partnerships.

"No young person in our community should be living without stable and supportive housing. We are grateful for funding that will help end homelessness for some of our most vulnerable residents."

Columbus Mayor Andrew J. Ginther

"Every young person should have a safe place to lay their head at night. Now we will be able to design a system to help our young people to quickly find safe, supportive, and sustainable housing."

Kevin L. Boyce, President,
Franklin County Board of Commissioners

More than
1,300
youth age 24 and younger were served in Columbus shelters in 2017.

More than 900 unaccompanied youth between the ages of 14 and 24 visited Star House – a drop-in center, in 2017.

Factors most frequently reported by youth as contributing to their homelessness
child abuse • family conflict • neglect • generational poverty • inadequate job training opportunities

Middle- and high-school age youth encounter child abuse, neglect, or bullying at higher rates than the national average.

Source: Star House

HUD requires a four-month planning process that includes a needs assessment and development of a comprehensive, coordinated, community-wide response to youth homelessness for a variety of new housing and service options.

A committee of stakeholders is collaborating to develop the plan, including representatives from local government, youth service providers, homeless service providers, The Columbus Foundation, and young people who have experienced homelessness. Once the new plan for youth is approved by HUD, funding allocations will be made to implement new project models and services for youth. Implementation of new projects is anticipated to begin in 2019.

> "We'll learn from young people who have first-hand experience of homelessness, and they'll have a direct role in choosing which project ideas get funding."
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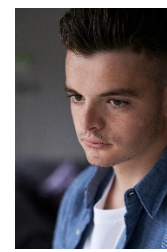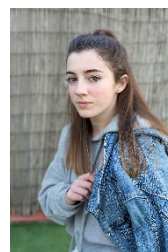> Becky Westerfelt
> Huckleberry House

YOUTH CORE TEAM

Huckleberry House, Chair • The Center for Healthy Families • City of Columbus
The Columbus Foundation • Community Shelter Board
Franklin County Board of Commissioners • Franklin County Children Services
Kaleidoscope • Star House • YMCA of Central Ohio
Youth Action Board • YWCA Columbus

Use of the federal award is restricted to planning for and implementation of new housing and service options for youth. Private sector investments will continue to be needed to round out a broad array of options for youth, including prevention services.

The federal award for youth does not diminish the need for funds to operate the current homeless system of care that serves 12,000 people a year with homelessness prevention, shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

Follow along at www.csb.org/howwedoit/communityplanforyouth

Community Shelter Board leads a coordinated, community effort to make sure everyone has a place to call home. CSB is the collective impact organization driving strategy, accountability, collaboration, and resources to achieve the best outcomes for people facing homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County. With the support of a compassionate community, our system of care served more than 12,000 people last year with homelessness prevention, shelter, street outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing.

Community Shelter Board is funded by the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the United Way of Central Ohio, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation, American Electric Power Foundation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the State of Ohio, and many other public and private investors.

www@csb.org • 614-221-9195