

BUILDING HOPE PROJECT

HOPE 4 Youth Center Reimagined

The **Building HOPE Project** will allow us to continue to meet the needs of young people who are experiencing homelessness in our area. With a new building we will be able to use our programs to provide the tools and support to help more local 16 to 24 year olds out of homelessness.

OUR MISSION

To provide pathways to end Youth homelessness

OUR VISION

All youth will feel safe, valued, and supported while reaching their full potential. This begins with meeting their basic needs and leads to giving them the tools to thrive.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

- 1** Provide life-enhancing programs empowering youth to reach their full potential.
- 2** Engage in transformational partnerships with community leaders, donors, and volunteers.
- 3** Laser focus on premier staff retention and operational improvement.
- 4** Select location and determine funding and operational plans for new HOPE 4 Youth Center.

OUR CORE VALUES



Resourceful

We collaborate to maximize resources and evolve to meet the changing needs of our participants and the community.



Accountable

We operate with integrity and are accountable to our youth, volunteers, community, donors, and employees.



Inclusive

We respect and embrace differences as a strength, allowing people to bring their full, authentic selves to HOPE 4 Youth.



Hopeful

We communicate and operate with optimism and believe in a bright future for the youth we serve and our community.



Compassionate

We serve and work with empathy and understanding to create a judgment-free environment.

OUR APPROACH

The young people we see at HOPE 4 Youth carry many burdens. We recognize that every young person is on their own path where no two stories are the same. We are one touchpoint on their personal journey. As such, we have a four-fold approach¹ when walking alongside youth:

1) Trauma-Informed Care (TIC): Our staff is trained in TIC service delivery models. Rather than fixing what's wrong, we look at youth in terms of what has happened to them — specifically lived trauma. TIC helps us create safe spaces, build trust, and encourage youth to regain healthy responsibility.

2) Strengths-Based: Many youth experiencing homelessness have been in ongoing survival mode or endured trauma that has removed their fundamental sense of choice. At intake, Youth Coordinators empower young adults to set goals based on their strengths and areas where they can regain control for long-term self-sufficiency.

3) Client-Centered: Effective solutions must be informed by the youth we serve. The HOPE 4 Youth *Youth Advisory Council* provides young adults the space to make recommendations for program improvement with an emphasis on including the voice of marginalized groups.

4) Harm Reduction: Ending youth homelessness relies on the important framework of harm reduction, where we encourage youth goal-setting to reduce the negative consequences of drug use, alcohol addiction, or other high-risk behaviors. Without judgment, we offer youth resources for improved sexual, mental, physical, and emotional health.



YOUTH WE SERVE

30% Young Parents

76% BIPOC

66% Female

32% Male

2% Non-Binary

23% LGBTQ+

2

¹ Informed by "Measuring Up: Youth-level Outcomes and Measures for Systems Response to Youth Homelessness" from the University of Chicago, and the 2014 publication "9 Evidence-Based Principles to Help Youth Overcome Homelessness"

² Based on an initial January 2025 Survey post 6 months of engagement

HOPE 4 YOUTH PAST

In late 2012, a series of news articles raised awareness about young people experiencing homelessness in the North Metro. The stories made headlines during the coldest days of winter and sparked an immediate reaction of concern amongst many people. In 2013, with a mission defined, partnerships, and donations, HOPE 4 Youth opened as the first Drop-In Resource Center for youth experiencing homelessness in the North Metro.

HOPE 4 YOUTH PRESENT

If HOPE has a home base, this is it. The HOPE 4 Youth Center in Anoka is the hub for many of our services and resources. It is a safe, non-judgmental place for all youth who are in need.

No appointment is necessary to visit. Youth have the opportunity to receive a hot meal, clothing, food items, hygiene items, shower, and laundry facilities. Our Youth Coordinators help to connect young people to stable housing, health and wellness programs, education and employment opportunities, and more.

Our housing initiatives include HOPE Place, a 12-unit facility in Coon Rapids, and Host Homes, a program that connects at-risk young people to caring adults who offer them a place to stay.

**IN 2024, WE SERVED 650 YOUTH; A 32% INCREASE OVER
LAST YEAR. WE PROVIDED SERVICES FOR 5,158 VISITS.**



HOPE 4 YOUTH FUTURE

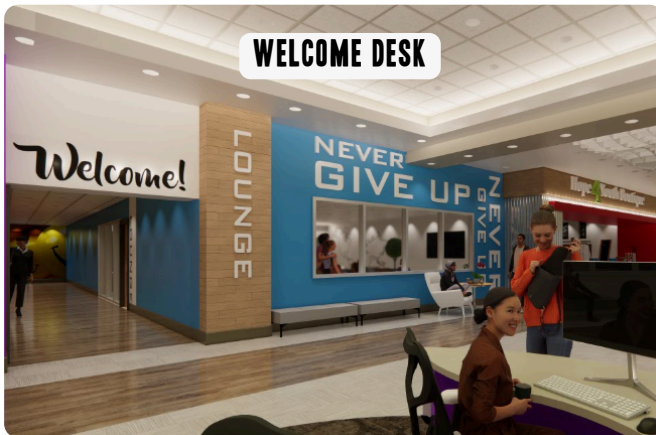
Our ability to support even more young people through our proven strategies is limited by the inability to expand at our current rental facility.

A new HOPE 4 Youth Center in the Anoka County area would double the space available for youth and young families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. A new center would also expand access to our life-changing services that focus on creating:

- Ongoing basic-needs support
- Stable housing
- Employment
- Education
- Healthy connections
- Social and emotional well-being

A new facility would bring our entire organization — administration, caseworkers, volunteers and others — together to efficiently and effectively fulfill our mission, vision and ultimate goal:

TO PROVIDE PATHWAYS TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS.



WITH YOUR HELP, WE CAN PROVIDE MORE HOPE

The Building HOPE Project will expand our ability to serve young people who might otherwise go without the basic support needed to end their experience with homelessness and overcome other social barriers.

Building HOPE Capacity

- Licensed commercial kitchen for preparing healthy meals
- Large basic needs pantry stocked with healthy foods and hygiene supplies
- Storefront and expanded display area for clothing closet donations
- Bright, roomy dining area for community lunches and dinners
- Comfortable lounge area for relaxing and socializing
- Modern computer lab for online school, job applications, and mentorship programming
- Expanded shower, laundry, and personal storage facilities
- Sorting and overstock storage area for clothing, food, and supply donations
- Private meeting rooms for creating housing, education, and employment plans

Building HOPE Together

Positive interactions between youth and our caring adult volunteers and mentors ensure our vision for all youth to feel safe, valued, and supported while working to reach their full potential. Our new facility will allow community engagement and support to be under one roof, creating more opportunities for:

- Youth socializing activities
- Support group meetings
- Volunteer onboarding and training programs
- Vocational and developmental training programs

This new facility would bring our entire administrative staff under one roof and would provide space for HOPE 4 Youth to collaborate with other community partners in powerful new ways, including:

- Career development programs
- Virtual mental health and wellness checks
- Parenting classes for young adults with children
- Possible on-site medical, dental, and other services

Building HOPE Investment

- \$8M funded to purchase, design, build, furnish, and equip the new facility
- \$1M HOPE 4 Youth long-term funding and endowment.

WHY SHOULD YOU COME ALONGSIDE US?

According to a recent youth survey,

74% of youth have obtained or maintained stable housing in the last 6-months.

79% of youth feel their resilience to cope with stress and unforeseen circumstances has improved.

77% of youth feel their mental health has improved in the last 6-months.

71% of youth have made advances in their employment/career goals in the last 6-months.

84% of youth have had no encounters with the justice system or less (frequent) encounters than prior to working with H4Y.

85% of youth have stopped using or reduced chemical and alcohol usage.

2

WE PARTNERED WITH
129
AGENCIES FOR SERVICES
AND RESOURCES.

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TO GET INVOLVED TODAY



Volunteer

HOPE 4 Youth provides meaningful one-time and long-term volunteer opportunities that allow you to make a difference in the lives of the young people we serve.



Donate Items

Many of our youth have little or nothing when they come to us. Being able to provide clothing, food, and other items helps restore a sense of hope, self-worth, and dignity.

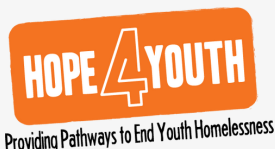


Financially Support

The help we provide is made possible, in part, by generous donors who give to support HOPE 4 Youth.

For more information on these opportunities visit: HOPE4YouthMN.org

SCAN THE QR CODE TO
LEARN MORE ABOUT
HOPE 4 YOUTH!



For more information on the Building HOPE Project, please contact LaChelle Williams, Executive Director.

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