

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your support of Avenues directly impacts more than 250 homeless youth every single year. Here are some examples of what you can do to help:



Financial support — Over half of our annual budget depends on community support. Make a secure donation online (www.avenuesforyouth.org), mail a check (1708 Oak Park Avenue North) or call us to make a credit card donation, to discuss donations of stock or planned giving, call 612-844-2001.



Donate supplies — Collect personal hygiene supplies or other essential items, like socks, underwear, pajamas, slippers and winter gear. Deliver them to Brooklyn or Minneapolis Avenues (we appreciate a call in advance). Visit our website to see what we need most on our current Wish List. Or call us at 612-844-2001.



Volunteer — We have an array of volunteer positions at Avenues, ranging from weekly commitments (e.g., cooking, tutoring, office support) to one-time or occasional activities (e.g., cleaning, painting, gardening). The first step is to attend an information session to learn about our mission, programs and volunteer opportunities. Visit our website for the information session schedule or call us at 612-844-2001.



Open your home — To learn about our host home programs, visit our website or call us.



Advocate — Share our stories with your networks. Let your elected officials know that you care about homeless youth.

Contact us:
info@avenuesforyouth.org
612-844-2001



MISSION

The mission of Avenues for Homeless Youth is to provide emergency shelter, short-term housing and supportive services for homeless youth in a safe and nurturing environment. Through such service, Avenues seeks to help youth achieve their personal goals and make a positive transition into young adulthood.

WHAT WE DO

Avenues for Homeless Youth supports more than 250 homeless youth every single year. We help these amazing young people move out of crisis and into stability, then begin to heal from their traumas. From there, we guide youth as they develop long-term goals, then move toward more independent living and full participation in our community.

[ysn](http://ysn.org)  ysnmn.org



[/avenuesforhomelessyouth](https://www.facebook.com/avenuesforhomelessyouth)



[@avenuesforyouth](https://twitter.com/avenuesforyouth)

Avenues for Homeless Youth
612-844-2001
1708 Oak Park Avenue North
Minneapolis, MN 55411
avenuesforyouth.org
info@avenuesforyouth.org

AVENUES

FOR HOMELESS YOUTH

HELPING HOMELESS YOUTH MOVE FROM
SURVIVING TO THRIVING



ABOUT OUR YOUTH

Over 4,000 youth are homeless and on their own every night in Minnesota. Without youth-appropriate housing and support, they are at great risk. Within 48 hours of being on the street, youth are approached by someone who wants to exploit them.

But homeless youth are resilient and filled with potential! At Avenues, we help more than 250 homeless youth every year move from surviving the streets to thriving young adults.

Join us. Read on to learn more about Avenues and how you can help homeless youth.

Wilder Research, 2012 Minnesota Homeless Study



William's Story

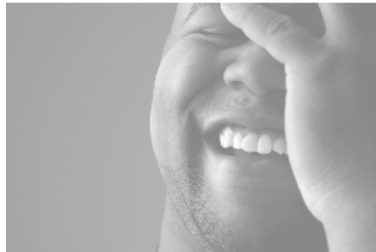
"I found myself without a home. I stayed with my aunt, but there wasn't room. Friends let me crash on their couch, but you can't do that forever. Did I think I was homeless? Not really. I was just doing what I needed to do to survive."

William says the first time he rode a bus all night to stay warm and sleep was really tough. Tired and needing a place to take a breather, he overheard some other kids talking about Avenues.

"They said it's like a home. And it really is. You get a bed, shower, laundry...a place to keep your stuff and stay for awhile until you figure out what's next. You can do homework, stay connected, look for a job. The three meals a day were pretty good! The staff are there around the clock."

William moved into Avenues in the winter, graduated high school and stayed into the fall. His case manager helped him enroll at a community college and move into a local housing program for youth.

"I've been taking some journalism classes. Even wrote an article for the school newspaper. I've got lots of stories inside me. Not all are easy to write. When you're homeless, you see a lot. I'm glad I found Avenues when I did."



ABOUT AVENUES

OUR APPROACH

Since 1994, Avenues has been helping homeless youth move from surviving to thriving. Our approach is founded on "The 9 Evidence-Based, Guiding Principles to Help Youth Overcome Homelessness." We understand that we intersect with young people at a particularly critical place on their life journey. We provide care that is trauma-informed, non-judgmental, holistic and collaborative. We build trusting relationships, focus on youths' strengths, work to reduce harm and create positive opportunities for development.

Avenues' committed and caring staff and volunteers support the youth 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Each youth works with our team of case managers, mental health therapists, nurses, education specialists, youth counselors and community partners.

OUR PROGRAMS

Avenues operates five programs in the Twin Cities that support more than 250 young people every year with shelter, transitional housing and services. With basic needs met and with our support, youth can shift their energy from survival to important developmental activities like school, work, relationships, health, and life skills.

Most Avenues youth transition to stable living arrangements, either more independently or with family. They stay connected and supported through our after-care services.

Site-Based Shelter & Transitional Housing
Avenues' two site-based programs offer homeless youth safety, stability and support during a critical time of life.

- **Brooklyn Avenues** – Our newest program supports 12 youth from the northwest suburbs of Hennepin County at our home in Brooklyn Park.
- **Minneapolis Avenues** – Our oldest program supports 21 youth at our home in North Minneapolis.

Community-Based Host Home Programs

Avenues' three host home programs match youth with community volunteers who have been recruited, screened and trained.

- **GLBT Host Home Program** – Supports 10 youth who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender in the homes of hosts who are LGBTQ or allies.
- **Minneapolis Host Home Program** – Supports 10 youth from Minneapolis in host homes throughout Minneapolis.
- **Suburban Host Home Program** – Supports 10 youth from the suburbs of Hennepin County in host homes located throughout the suburbs.

While in a host home, youth receive ongoing support from a case manager to help them address challenges and pursue goals for their future. Hosts likewise receive ongoing support from a program manager.

