

# ABOUT CONNEQT



## About Avenues

Avenues partners with youth experiencing homelessness to achieve their dreams. The agency provides housing, emergency shelter and supportive services to youth in its five programs.

Every night in Minnesota, 6,000 youth experience homelessness. LGBTQIA+ youth and youth of color disproportionately experience homelessness.

Learn more at:  
[www.avenuesforyouth.org](http://www.avenuesforyouth.org)

**ConneQT, a host home program, is a creative, community-based response to LGBTQI+ youth homelessness.** The goal of this program is to provide safer, culturally responsive housing within a youth's own community. We do this by recruiting, training, and supporting community members that share their homes. Youth live with community members from one week to one year, depending on their needs.

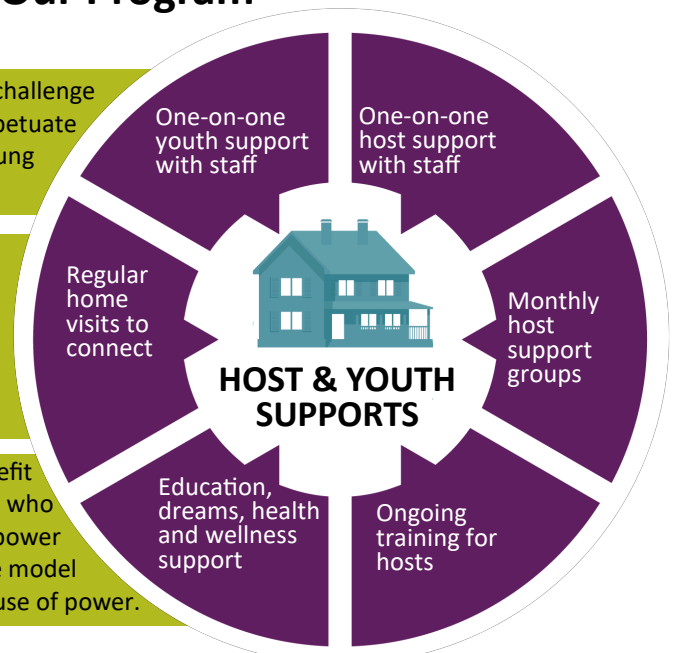
## About Our Program

### Our Values

**1** We seek to recognize and challenge systems of power that perpetuate barriers and injustice in young people's lives.

**2** We recognize and respect intersectionality of identities. We want youth and community to bring their whole selves to this experience.

**3** We believe that youth benefit from living with adult allies who are aware of the inherent power dynamics of the host home model and strive to minimize misuse of power.



**There are many unknowns when it comes to hosting and building community with youth. It requires trust, hope, vulnerability, commitment, communication, healthy boundaries, and flexibility. To host, you:**

- Have an extra bedroom or space for the youth
- Are at least 25 years old
- Identify as LGBTQI+ or an ally (our program supports LGBTQI+ youth)
- Live within one hour driving distance from downtown Minneapolis, and have lived near the Twin Cities for a least one year
- Have renter/homeowner's insurance
- Have a commitment to anti-racism, social justice and equity; be committed to continually working on how power and privilege shows up in your own life

**For more information, contact Ryan Berg at [rberg@avenuesforyouth.org](mailto:rberg@avenuesforyouth.org) or 612-345-8445**