

OUR IDENTITY

MISSION

We create communities, rooted in belong, for youth experiencing instability to own their future.

VISION

A society where all youth have support, stable housing, and belonging.

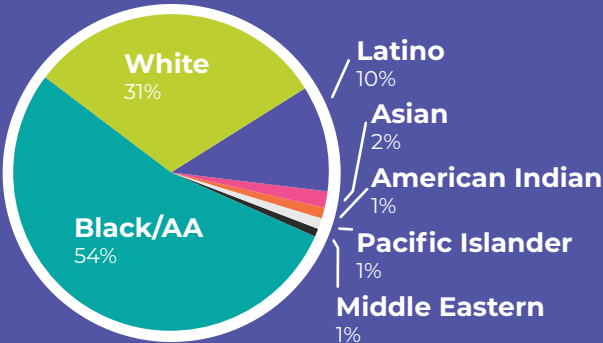
VALUES

Authenticity | Inclusion
Community | Agency



WHO WE SEE

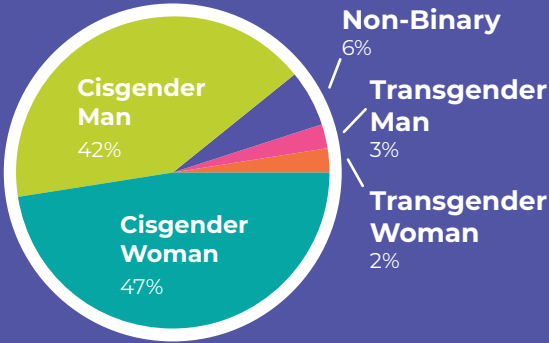
In 2024, AYA saw a total of 792 unique youth. We've seen a 93% increase in young people since pre-COVID (2019). Much of our growth in serving youth has come from increased federal funding over the past 2 years. Hopefully, we will be able to see that growth continue but the future is currently uncertain.



RACE

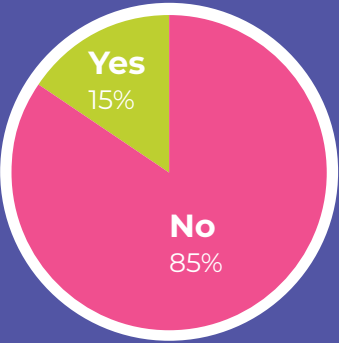
Barriers due to systemic racism in housing and current racial disparities increase the risk of homelessness for people of color.

In Kent County, the general population is made up of 30% BIPOC and Mixed Race, meanwhile, 69% of AYA Youth are BIPOC or Mixed Race.



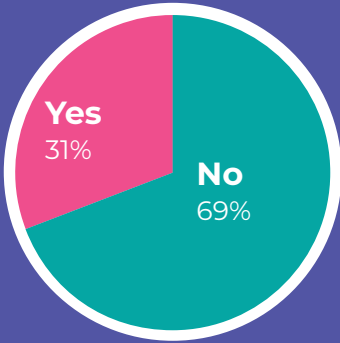
GENDER

“Limited information exists about the number of transgender people experiencing homelessness...but all the data tells a similar story: transgender people are more likely to be unsheltered than their cisgender peers, and those who are unsheltered have considerably more health and safety challenges than those who are sheltered.”*



DISABILITY

Many employers are not accessible or accommodating to employees with disabilities making housing stability difficult for those with a disability and without a support network. In Kent County, only 8% of adults under 65 have a disability while 15% of AYA Members have self-reported a disability.



LGBTQ+

LGBTQ+ Youth are 120% more likely to experience homelessness. In Kent County, only 6% of youth publicly identify as LGBTQ+ while 31% of AYA Youth identify as LGBTQ+.

*National Alliance to End Homelessness and Homelessness Research Institute. *Transgender Homeless Adults & Unsheltered Homelessness: What the Data Tells Us*



2024

QUICK FACTS

792 unique youth supported

425 of AYA youth, roughly 54%, experienced sleeping outside, in a car, or an emergency shelter

Increased accessed to **35** beds in AYA Housing

\$132,724 distributed to youth through Direct Cash Transfers (DCTs)

90% of youth in AYA housing exit into continued stability

WHAT ARE DCTS?

Direct Cash Transfer (DCTs) is an internationally tested program used as an intervention by giving youth the funds needed to break down barriers to stable housing.

Once youth have received a DCT, AYA offers continued support, equipping youth with the necessary knowledge and tools to work towards stability.

DCT's have been proven to be successful for short term and long term stability - often being the quickest and cheapest way to resolve or prevent homelessness.



Did you know?

We have partnered with over 35 community partners to expand the resources and programs available to AYA youth in Drop-in and Housing. Below, we have showcased a number of partners.

PHYSICAL HEALTH & FOOD ASSISTANCE



Trinity Health

VILLAGE WELLNESS GR



COMMUNITY FOOD CLUB

Network 180
Kent County Community Mental Health Authority



Open Doors. Open Hearts. Quality Care.



Health Net OF WEST MICHIGAN
Navigating Care. Connecting Resources.



MENTAL HEALTH



TelebehavioralHealth.US



MEL TROTTER MINISTRIES



WELLNESS ACTIVITIES

MINDFUL School of Yoga

LBGT+ SUPPORT

GRAND RAPIDS PRIDE CENTER

arbor circle



COALITION TO END HOMELESSNESS



Covenant House
Opening Doors for Homeless Youth



EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION SUPPORT



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY



STEEPLE TOWN NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



TRANSPORTATION



THE RAPID

HOUSING

FINANCIALS

Source of Revenue	Amount	Percentage
General Contributions	\$1,215,782	29%
Corporate Sponsorship	\$313,255	7%
Foundations & Grants	\$2,310,856	55%
Program Revenue	\$47,175	1%
In-Kind Donations	\$254,150	6%
Miscellaneous	\$11,936	0%
Gain on Sale of Fixed Assets	\$67,861	2%
TOTAL	\$4,220,015	100%

Expenses	Amount	Percentage
Youth Programming & Support	\$3,028,787	80%
Management & General	\$371,381	10%
Fundraising	\$395,363	10%
TOTAL	\$3,795,531	100%