



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
St. Paul and Minneapolis



Who We Are

The Youth Services Network (YSN) is a statewide collaborative of runaway and homeless youth serving organizations committed to developing shared, collaborative strategies to respond to youth homelessness. Formed in 2003, YSN includes 15 different youth serving organizations across Minnesota.

What We Do

YSN member organizations respond to the needs of at risk and homeless youth across Minnesota by providing outreach, drop-in, housing and other services. The leaders of YSN member organizations meet regularly to share best practices, develop collaborations and work on a shared vision, including legislative priorities, for responding to youth homelessness in Minnesota. YSN member organizations created and are committed to following the Nine Guiding Principles of Youth Work: journey oriented, trauma informed, non-judgmental, harm reduction, trusting youth/adult relationships, strengths based, positive youth development, holistic and collaborative.

Who We Represent

YSN organizations serve runaway and homeless youth in Minnesota. On any given night in Minnesota, more than 6,000 youth are homeless. Of these youth:

- 35% are pregnant or parenting
- 73% are racially diverse
- 47% have been homeless for a year or longer
- 90% have experienced trauma or abuse
- 68% have experienced at least one out of home placement

Accomplishments

In 2015, YSN launched the nation's first app (ysnmn.org) providing real-time information regarding emergency services for youth. The app includes geo-location services to connect youth with shelter, outreach workers, drop-ins and other services they may need.

In the last year, YSN member organizations have provided outreach to over 7,000 youth, drop-in services to 6,056 youth and housing services to over 1,500 youth.

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