



YOUTHLINK

Report to
the Community:
YouthLink Highlights
2017



You've helped us break new ground.

2017 was a year of exciting transition, change, adjustment, and development. From embracing new technology so that we could more effectively serve the community to re-imagining our building to expand and create a new campus of services — all unified with our new, adjacent Downtown View apartments, 46 units of permanent supportive housing for young people in partnership with Project for Pride in Living.

From the ground up, we've worked to renovate, renew, and create a unified community space where young people can transform their lives — a transformation which you have made possible.

VISION: A community in which all youth, without regard to their living situation, have an equal opportunity to pursue their goals and dreams, and an equal likelihood of achieving them.

MISSION: To support and empower young people on their journey to self-reliance.

We continue to welcome new and diverse partners to the Youth Opportunity Center.

In 2017, we thoughtfully added new Youth Opportunity Center (YOC) partners, including City House, Way to Grow, and the Takoda Institute of Higher Education.

From the spiritual listeners from City House who inspire hope, trust, and healing in the lives of youth, to the volunteers who offer full-family assistance to single parents through Way to Grow, to the nationally-recognized workforce development program helping youth find long-term career opportunities with sustainable wages at the Takoda Institute of Higher Education, we've been able to add partners that are helping young people build foundations to make the future happen.

With partners like these — and our other ongoing YOC partners — young people now have access to the transformational resources necessary to achieve their goals and dreams in life.

“ We're non-judgmental listeners that mirror back
[a young person's] wholeness and their resiliency and their strength.
We listen deeply so they can hear their own truth. ”

—Jane, Volunteer Spiritual Listener from City House

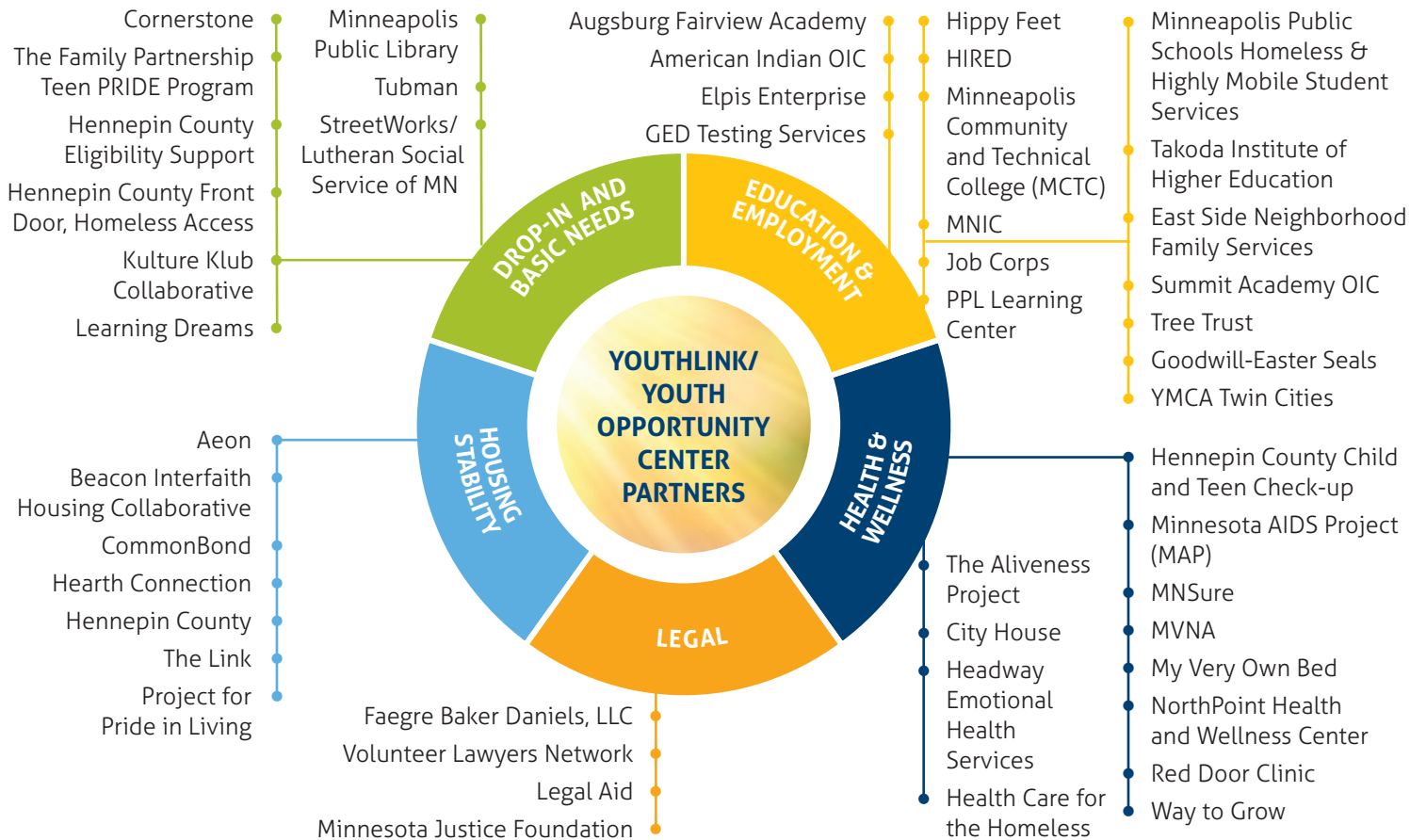


DROP-IN BY THE NUMBERS



“ It’s an awesome opportunity to walk in partnership with young people. Every community benefits immeasurably from this climate of positive support, where all young people, regardless of their current life situation, have access to life-changing services and resources moving them forward. We feel honored to be a part of their journey destined for success. ”

—Barb Hydeen, Director of Employment Services at Takoda Group





We use technology to better connect youth to the services they need.

Thanks to our partnership with the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District (DID), YouthLink is now using new software to make sure that the needs of the most vulnerable youth are being met. Our Street Outreach team can now receive alerts from DID's Safety Communications Center or send alerts to other outreach groups and DID regarding their contacts on the street directly via smartphone. The 24/7 software tracks trends from multiple organizations to determine where outreach is most needed during the day — even down to the minute — and allows local businesses to partner with service organizations when they run into issues instead of being forced to call police during a crisis.

2,575

contacts were made with young people on the streets of downtown Minneapolis by YouthLink's Street & Peer Outreach team

48

occasions where YouthLink's Street & Peer Outreach team helped de-escalate potentially violent confrontations between youth

300

contacts were made by YouthLink's Street & Peer Outreach team with downtown law enforcement, security guards, and business owners

We take care of the whole person.

We believe mental, physical, spiritual, and social health are interconnected and interrelated — they are all building blocks of the same circle of health. While we've always worked holistically with youth, in 2017, we worked together with staff and youth to develop a way to clearly talk about all of their health needs. Our new tool, the "Wellness Wheel," will be a central part of our conversation with youth as we move forward.

“Offering holistic services with an integrative approach helps encourage youth to engage in services that will tend to mind, body, and spirit. Often we focus on immediate needs but by tending to the whole person, we help increase overall health and wellbeing — and success in achieving life goals.”

—Shannon Brennan, Supervisor of Integrated Services at YouthLink



We've literally broken new ground with Downtown View.

Thanks to key city, county, and private supporters, our partnership with Project for Pride in Living broke ground in 2017 to build Downtown View, an aspiration-based apartment community.

As we broke ground on the apartments, the redesign and expansion of our main facility was also underway. Bridging Downtown View and YouthLink will be our new Career Pathways Center, funded in part by a generous grant from Target Foundation. Located in Downtown View, certificate training programs, job fairs, post-secondary visits, employer interviews, mock interviews, and courses in financial literacy will all be part of the Career Pathways Center.

In the future, we'll be able to point to 2017 as the year we truly took YouthLink to new heights.

“When we get down to it, 2017 has been much more than a year of simply 'brick and mortar renovation.' This has been a year of intentionally creating a place of inclusion, unity, community, engagement, and aspiration — a place where young people, at a crossroads in life, can decide to access their equal rights to opportunities and to live with long-term stability, employment, and self-reliance.”

—Dr. Heather Huseby, Executive Director at YouthLink





We collaborate to build resumes at YouthLink.

Young people often find themselves employed in minimum-wage jobs that might not allow for much wiggle room in their budget. But, thanks to our partnerships with Goodwill-Easter Seals, HIRED, the Takoda Institute of Higher Education, and others, we're building resumes one work experience at a time. Whether it's through HIRED's hospitality training to help young people get sustainable jobs in the hospitality and hoteling industry or through Hippy Feet's pop-up employment to help young people make ends meet, we're working on an earning-and-learning model that will support young people's futures.

“Hippy Feet's pop-up employment model offers young people a safe and productive opportunity to make immediate income, add experiences to their resume, and gain a reference for the future. This employment model is more than just a 'part-time job' as it gives young people a voice and the opportunity to identify the value, whether intrinsic or monetary, that they can bring to the table.”

—Michael Mader, CEO and Founder of Hippy Feet

We've expanded our education services to help young people get from A to Z.

Passing the GED or graduating high school isn't the final step on the education journey — for many young people, it's just the beginning. To help young people interested in going to college, we've brought volunteers on-site to help youth complete financial aid applications. In coordination with our Education Navigator, these volunteers have created seminars and printed materials so young people can better understand the financial aid process and be less scared by it. After all, we all know that building dreams requires some financial backing.



YouthLink provided over 400 GED-related services in 2017, including:



One-on-one
tutoring



GED test
materials



GED testing
vouchers





You make YouthLink feel more like home.

We don't take the time, effort, and care of our volunteers lightly.

It's your special touches that make huge differences in the lives of young people who visit YouthLink. Without question, YouthLink would be an impersonal place without our volunteers. Our volunteers bring the warmth of life and home into the building with their laughter, stories, and — yes — even home-baked cookies and brownies.

Your listening skills and coaching, combined with the care and energy you bring to YouthLink, helps youth grow.



45

number of
community drives
you hosted in 2017



2,465

volunteer hours
you worked
in 2017



\$64,962

value of time
volunteered
in 2017

You are the architects of dreams.

It takes vision and desire to make dreams come true — but it also takes funding.

Without the ongoing support of our donors, nothing we do would be possible.

From our Night of Hope sponsors like SUCCESS Computer Consulting who raise money and awareness every year, to those of you who have donated your birthdays, every day we celebrate what you enable us to do.

As we revel in the growth of our building and the bright futures of the youth we serve,
we know we couldn't do it without your support.

“ I need to know that the money that I'm contributing is actually reaching the people that it's meant for and I see that every time I'm here. I see the work that's being done here; I see the impact that it has on young lives and I just can't think of a better place to contribute. ”

—Claudia Kittock, Volunteer and Donor



Financial Highlights

Statement of Financial Position

Balance sheet for year ending September 30, 2017

Assets		2017	2016
Current assets	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 592,283	\$ 850,581
	Current portion of pledges receivable	402,708	323,959
	Grants receivable	326,292	240,218
	Miscellaneous receivables	46,287	58,317
	Prepaid expenses and other assets	51,589	63,697
	Total current assets	\$ 1,419,159	\$ 1,536,772
Property and equipment	Land	167,553	203,000
	Buildings and improvements	3,350,022	3,350,022
	Furniture and equipment	260,062	409,222
	Construction in process	1,362,254	128,492
		5,139,891	4,090,736
	Less accumulated depreciation	(1,773,866)	(1,742,095)
		3,366,025	2,348,641
Pledges receivable, net of current portion		232,543	75,365
Total assets		\$ 5,017,727	\$ 3,960,778

Liabilities and net assets		2017	2016
Current liabilities	Accounts payable	\$ 466,982	\$ 90,432
	Fiscal agent payable	25,000	
	Current portion of capital leases payable	–	31,791
	Accrued: Payroll and payroll taxes	129,496	145,482
	Vacation	90,826	84,118
	Other	336,180	13,129
Total current liabilities		\$ 1,048,484	\$ 364,952
Capital leases payable, net of current portion		–	
Mortgage payable		500,000	
Total liabilities		\$ 1,548,484	\$ 364,952
Net assets	Unrestricted	2,495,774	2,763,202
	Temporarily restricted	973,469	832,624
Total net assets		\$ 3,469,243	\$ 3,595,826
Total liabilities and net assets		\$ 5,017,727	\$ 3,960,778

Statement of Revenues

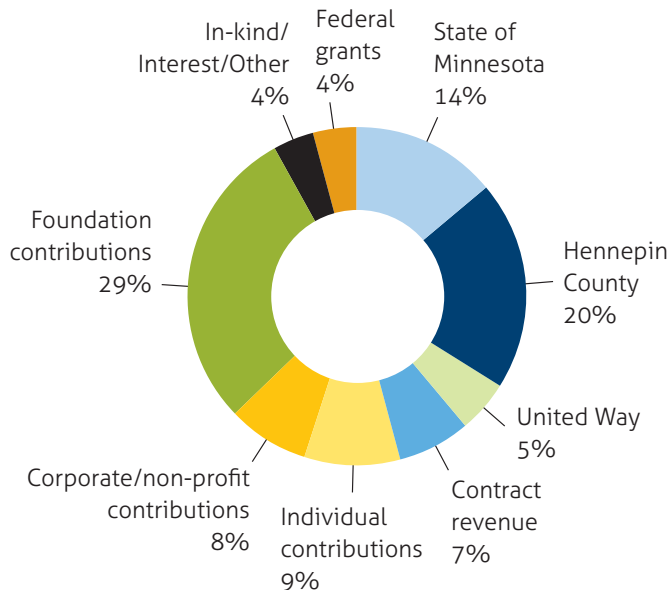
October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017

Revenue	2017
Federal grants	\$ 194,183
State of Minnesota	644,592
Hennepin County	934,775
United Way	232,061
Contract revenue	333,273
Individual contributions	439,223
Corporate/non-profit contributions	362,489
Foundation contributions	1,375,480
In-kind contributions	139,266
Interest income	15
Other income	186,253
Total revenue	\$ 4,841,610*

*Includes \$1,195,121 of Ignite Change Campaign contributions

2017 Revenue

For year ending September 30, 2017



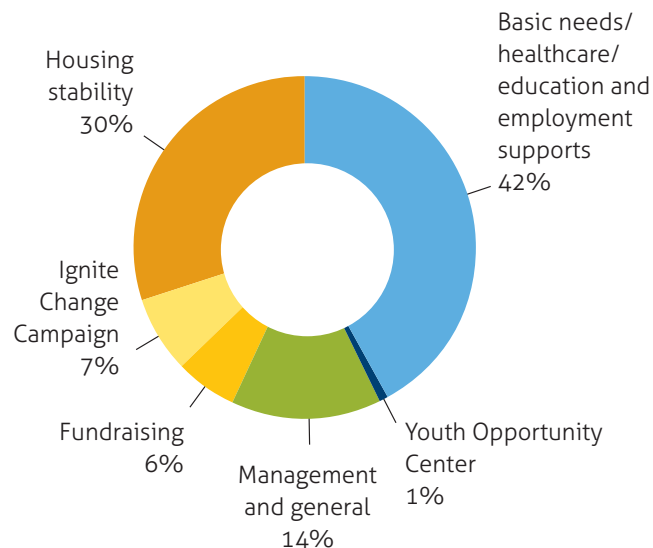
Statement of Expenses

October 1, 2016, through September 30, 2017

Expenses	2017
Program expenses	
Housing stability	\$ 1,463,069
Basic needs/healthcare/education and employment supports	2,096,201
Youth Opportunity Center	62,580
Total program services	\$ 3,621,850
Supporting activities	
Management and general	708,977
Fundraising	266,096
Ignite Change Campaign	371,270
Total supporting activities	\$ 1,346,343
Total expenses	\$ 4,968,193

2017 Expenses

For year ending September 30, 2017



2017 Donors

Your support, in all its forms, is deeply appreciated at YouthLink. From the financial contributions that help us plan for tomorrow, to the practical socks, hats, and hygiene supplies that meet today's needs, your generosity builds a foundation of independence for young people experiencing homelessness. Thank you!

Foundation Builders and Planned Givers

Foundation Builders donate
a minimum of \$1,000 per
year for three years or more.
Planned Givers have included
YouthLink in their estate plans.

*To learn more about becoming
a Foundation Builder or to
make a planned gift, please
contact Frances Roen,
Director of Development
and Communications, at
612.252.1283.*

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Ignite Change Campaign Donors

(through December 31, 2017)

\$300,000+

Carl & Eloise Pohlad Family
Foundation
Target Foundation

\$100,000–\$299,999

3M Foundation
Buuck Family Fund of The
Minneapolis Foundation
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Downtown Minneapolis
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\$50,000–\$99,999

Family Housing Fund
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Annual Fund Donors

Life Changer

\$20,000+
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Foundation
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The Charlson Foundation
United Way Arise Project
Weck Charitable Trust
World Childhood
Foundation, Inc.

Dream Maker

\$5,000–\$19,999
Ameriprise Financial
Ameriprise Financial
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Believer

\$1,000–\$4,999

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 Edina Realty Foundation, Grand Ave. Office
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Nurturer

\$500–\$999

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We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions in our list of donors and funders. Please call our Development Office at 612.252.1283 with any corrections.

To see a full list of financial and in-kind donors, download our full report at www.youthlinkmn.org/about-us/financials/

Donors are listed based on their gift category during the fiscal year in which the donation or original pledge is made.



Dear Friends:

2017 has been a year of ground-breaking transition and foundational realignment, adjustment, and repositioning — all in preparation for transformation and growth — for both YouthLink and the youth we serve.

Our gratitude to our city, county, donors, community partners — especially Greiner Construction, Project for Pride in Living, and UrbanWorks Architecture — and our board for helping to bring this vision to pass is beyond words. There's been a historic rebirth of the entire property located on the corner of 12th Street North and Chestnut Avenue. Housing both Downtown View and YouthLink, this truly is a cross-roads corner for new opportunities in the lives of young people experiencing homelessness.

2017 has been a year full of so many proud memories and notable initiatives to celebrate, including:

- YouthLink joined together with Hennepin County for the 100-Day Challenge, a country-wide challenge to house 100 youth in 100 days. Hennepin County housed 236 youth in 100 days and was the only location in the country to include employment as part of their goal.
- YouthLink partnered with the Guthrie Theatre and Friends of the Mill District to create the Mill City Youth Players, a program that allows young people to collaborate on, write, and act in a work of their own making.
- Through a partnership with Headspace meditation app, we provided youth and staff with no-cost online resources to address their mental, emotional, and spiritual health anytime, anywhere.

We look forward to incredible transformation in 2018 in a number of ways, but especially thanks to a generous \$200,000 donation to the Ignite Change campaign from Medica Foundation, where we will start intentional visioning and planning to design the framework for an integrative model of wellness services for youth throughout YouthLink. This includes focusing on the health disparities young people face, such as access to physical fitness, adequate sleep, and ongoing support for their mental and emotional health. In 2018, our transformative initiatives will include the agency-wide implementation of an integrative wellness service delivery approach.

Finally, this report would not be complete without acknowledging the resilience, dedication, and adaptability of the young people we serve, our incredible staff, and our amazing partners. Throughout the past year of transition

(including demolition, construction, and renovation), their steadfast focus on our vision and mission has been the cornerstone as our foundation has been altered and strengthened.

Greatest thanks to you for your support. We look forward to even more transformation and innovation as we help young people navigate pathways of opportunity to construct their own goals and dreams in life.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Heather Huseby". The script is cursive and fluid.

Dr. Heather Huseby, Executive Director, YouthLink

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Will Roach". The script is cursive and fluid.

Will Roach, President, Board of Directors

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