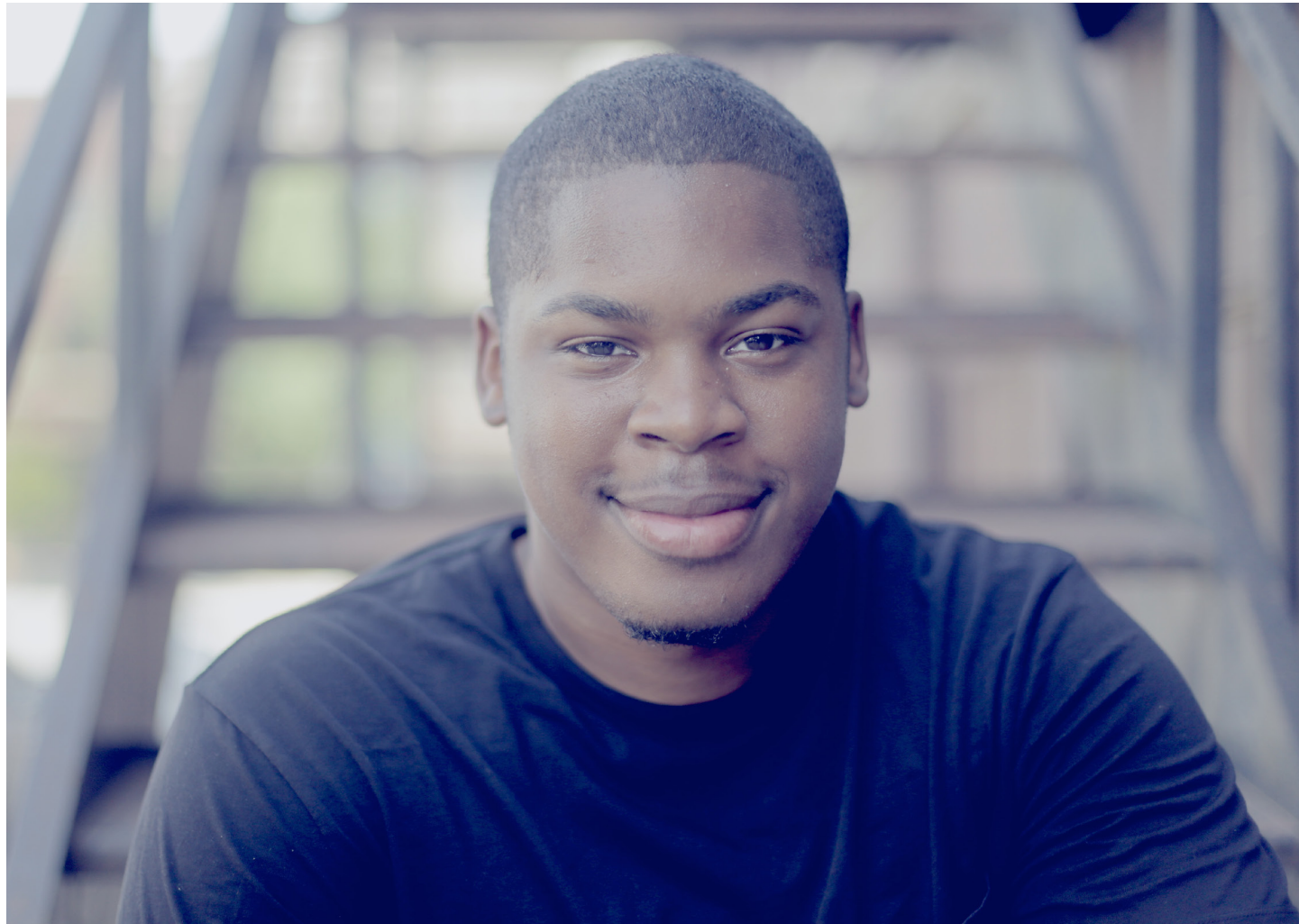




ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015





It's easy to celebrate the large accomplishments like landing a job, or graduating from school. But here at Youth Emergency Services, we put a special emphasis on the small celebrations. And every time a youth meets one of their goals, we think of you, our supporters!

STREET OUTREACH

What are the accomplishments we celebrate? Many youth share with us that YES saved their life. Without YES, these youth have no hope for a future. YES is proud of every youth that walks through our door. Carrie was pregnant and living on the streets. "I slept in the park downtown," says Carrie. "I was scared but luckily it wasn't too cold out. YES helped me a lot." Carrie was able to utilize many of YES' services including the Street Outreach Center. She was able to gain access to services she couldn't afford, get a pantry bag and take prenatal and parenting classes with her boyfriend.

YES' Street Outreach Team, which consists of six staff and one youth intern, logged 130 hours on the street looking for homeless and at-risk youth which resulted in 980 youth accepting help at the Street Outreach Center. The Outreach Program averaged 40 new youth each month

coming to the Center for assistance. Warm meals were served every week day to youth in crisis. Community groups and individual volunteers provided more than 800 warm meals every month. On average, those meals served 50 youth and their children every week night. This might have been the only meal they receive that day.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

Growing up Felicia never really felt loved by her mother. Her mother often left her and her siblings home alone to care for themselves. At 16, Felicia left home in search of a better life for herself. After a year of living with friends, Felicia found herself on the streets with no place to go. She found out about YES and the Emergency Shelter. "Coming into the program, everyone treated me with love and respect. That touched my heart because I didn't have that growing up," says Felicia.

The Emergency Shelter program, provided an immediate, safe place to sleep for 49 unduplicated youth. Those minutes off the street for those youth were potentially lifesaving. Ninety six percent of those youth who left the shelter did not go back on to the streets, which is always our number one goal.



TRANSITIONAL LIVING

Like many YES youth, Sarah never had a chance to be a child. She describes her childhood with words like 'rough' and 'unstable'. She was sexually and physically abused by her father. Sarah dropped out of school and got a job. However, Sarah began drinking heavily and lost everything. She couch-surfed or wandered the streets of downtown. She found YES through our website. "I am grateful for YES because I'm not sleeping on the streets," says Sarah. "I have a bed, I have a safe place to go every night. I would not be where I am today without YES." Thirty-nine youth were a part of the Transitional Living Program last year. Eighty-five percent of the youth advanced their education or were employed. The average length of stay was seven months. Upon leaving the program, 82% had safe housing and were equipped to be independent. Nine youth advanced through the Transitional Living Program into their very own apartment after completing financial education classes and good tenant training.

MATERNITY HOME

Monica grew up in Chicago feeling unwelcome in her own home. She ran away from home several times and had to live on the streets. After the birth of her son, Maxi, she decided that her current environment was no place to raise her son so she moved to Omaha. Soon Monica found herself back on the streets with no place to live. Then Monica found out about YES and the maternity home. "I don't know where I would be with my son if I had not found YES," says Monica.

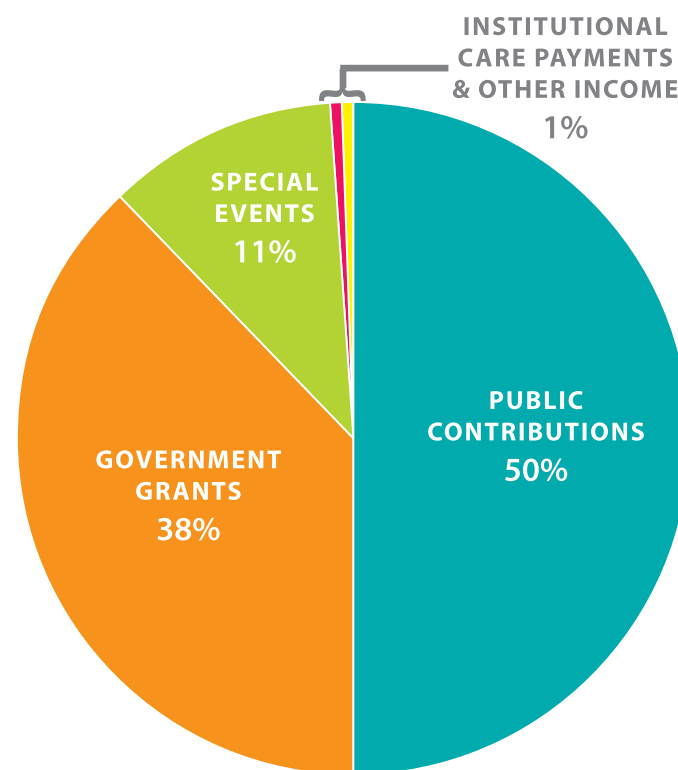
The Maternity Home helped 16 young mothers, three of which were pregnant upon entering the program, learn how to care for themselves and their children. One hundred percent learned how to be good parents by completing parenting classes. Additionally, 69% of the young mothers advanced their education or were employed.

THANK YOU!

And though we keep a keen eye on the big picture, we know that it's often the small accomplishments that have the biggest impact. Thank you for making these moments possible and we hope that you will continue to celebrate with us.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to get regular updates and hear more stories from YES youth.

www.facebook.com/yesomaha
www.twitter.com/yesomaha

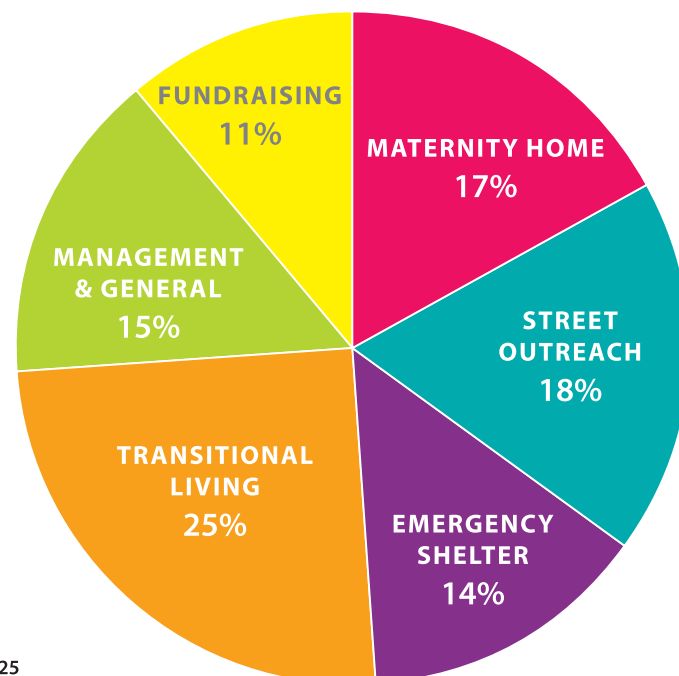


REVENUE

Public Contributions:	\$859,210
Government Grants:	\$662,081
Special Events:	\$188,135
Institutional Care Payments:	\$3,646
Other income:	\$8,603
TOTAL:	\$1,551,525

EXPENSES

PROGRAMS SERVICES	
Maternity Home:	\$260,664
Street Outreach:	\$275,127
Shelter:	\$219,301
Transitional Living:	\$388,369
SUPPORTING SERVICES:	
Management and General:	\$234,315
Fundraising:	\$173,749
TOTAL:	\$1,551,525



Dear Donors and Supporters,

You'll see that each of the Youth Emergency Services' programs are filled with stories. Stories of heartbreak becoming achievement. Stories of encouragement and self-reliance. And you'll come to learn for yourself the best story of all: how your gift is put into action, empowering and inspiring homeless and at-risk youth to rebuild their lives for themselves, their children and our community.

YES is the only Omaha Metro based organization that specifically targets our programs to homeless youth. We have always had an innovative approach on how we help homeless youth leave the streets. Our approach is all-inclusive: we don't just heal wounds but, we nurture youth from crisis intervention to re-integration into the community with dedicated programs and staff that provide emotional support, practical help and life skills.

As you look through the stories on youth in YES' programs, remember that you are here – in every part of our programs- each and every day. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Allison Brown Corson
Director of Development

2014-2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

YOUTH SERVED

- 10,137 youth interactions
- 1,564 youth served through Street Outreach
- 49 youth served through the Emergency Shelter
- 36 youth served through Transitional Living Program
 - 16 males
 - 20 females
- 16 young mothers served through the Maternity Home
 - 3 youth pregnant at intake
 - 13 youth with children at intake
- 17 youth served through Transition in Place

EDUCATION

- 18 youth advanced in grade levels
 - 11 youth in high school
 - 4 youth in trade school
 - 3 youth in college
- 9 youth graduated high school
- 1 former youth graduated college

EMPLOYMENT

- 142 youth gained employment skills or education through the Street Outreach Center
- 73 youth received assistance in obtaining an ID needed for employment
- 37 youth were employed as a requirement of the Transitional Living Program and Maternity Home

STABLE HOUSING

- 88 youth had safe, stable housing upon discharge
- 65 youth were reunified with family, a friend, or parents
- 6 youth moved were living independently



Youth Emergency Services' mission is to serve homeless and at-risk youth by providing critically-needed resources which empower them to become self-sufficient.

SUPPORTERS OF YOUTH

2014-2015

Youth Emergency Services gratefully acknowledges all donors. Every effort is made to assure the accuracy of this list. If there is a mistake, we would like to apologize in advance and ask that you report corrections to our office at 402-345-5187.

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**For a complete listing of donors to the United Way of the Midlands, please contact the YES office at 402-345-5187.

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Dear Supporter,

Sometimes it’s hard to imagine what life would be like without the stable, supportive environments many of us experienced as a child. Many of the youth served by YES haven’t been as fortunate...

- If you didn’t have an ID, you wouldn’t be able to enroll in school, apply for jobs, and secure an apartment.
- If you didn’t know where your next meal was coming from, you would spend your time and resources to feed yourself instead of focusing on the things that will help you become truly self-sufficient.
- If you were a young mother without a safe place for you and your child to sleep at night, you wouldn’t be able to concentrate on getting your degree.
- If you had to sleep in your car at night, you wouldn’t be able to find an appropriate place to do your homework.

These are all scenarios that homeless young people face every day. Because of you, Youth Emergency Services is able to change that situation, alleviate some of the stress and worry, and provide supplies and ample resources to help these youth succeed. In 2014-2015, you helped more than 1,600 homeless and near homeless youth find the support they needed to, not only survive but, succeed.

It may not seem like much, but every time you give to Youth Emergency Services with your time, talents, donations, and gifts, you are giving these youth the hope they need to become thriving members of our community. When homeless and near homeless youth know that there are people who believe in them, they are willing to believe in themselves.

Last year, the youth in YES’ programs showed significant increases in their ability to stay in school, hold a job, and reconnect with family. I invite you to explore all of their accomplishments by seeing page 4.

You are the reason for the success of these youth. As you read this, there is a young mom playing with her baby in a safe environment, a youth receiving enough food to sustain for a week, a tired young person finally falling asleep without the worry of safety, and most importantly the opportunity for success. Through your gift, you celebrate their humanity and their hopes. From the bottom of our hearts, and those we serve, thank you! Away we go!

Sincerely,

Mary Fraser Meints

Mary Fraser Meints
Youth Emergency Services
Executive Director



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