

2022-2025 Strategic Goals

1 Conduct outreach to build relationships with target youth populations in Northern and Southern Utah (OUTREACH): conduct youth outreach in Northern and Southern; build rapport with runaway and homeless youth (RHY) through consistent and frequent visits; distribute information about Youth Futures programming and community resources; ensure an adequate number of National Safe Place sites are available in service areas; attempt to reach at-risk youth before they become homeless.

2 Develop strategic partnerships with community organizations and service providers to increase awareness about programming and future growth (OUTREACH): identify statewide youth and homeless services providers, juvenile justice system stakeholders and detention centers to send information about Youth Futures programs and services; present at child welfare provider meetings; serve on the Homeless Coalition committees in Weber, Washington and Iron Counties; identify and sign MOUs with strategic nonprofit and community partners; build relationships with employers willing to hire youth; highlight services through media outlets to increase broader community awareness; identify areas of the state in need of additional youth homelessness services.

3 Assess and meet the immediate needs of youth, ages 12 to 18, experiencing homelessness or in crisis (STABILIZATION): provide emergency and temporary shelter to RHY; conduct intake needs and suicide assessments; determine and meet basic needs of safety; shelter, hunger, clothing and personal care; obtain immediate physical and mental health care as needed; provide resources and survival gear to street youth; referrals to 24/7 crisis hotline.

4 Design and deliver interventions that encourage permanent self-sufficiency for youth (INTERVENTION): provide supervision and youth-centered model to RHY in shelter; develop, implement and monitor individualized case plans; connect youth with educational and community resources; provide individual, family and support group therapy; conduct life skills courses including basic hygiene, meal preparation, daily living skills, financial literacy, healthy living, employment preparation, etc.; assist with future placement such as family reunification, housing, Job Corps, transitional living, employment, etc.

5 Provide follow-up and aftercare services to prevent shelter youth recidivism or future homelessness (AFTERCARE): help youth in developing longer-term life plans; assist youth in retaining jobs and staying in school; provide drop-in services including meals and access to resource room; continued access to life skills courses; develop and present youth with toolkit for survival as adults; plan for future transitional housing centers for young adults up to age 22.

6 Ensure financial resources are available to support organizational sustainability and program growth (CAPACITY BUILDING): create strategic development plans with diversified funding sources; steward donors, volunteers and event participants; identify and implement new technologies which enhance donor tracking, development activities, volunteer management and event efficiency; evaluate organizational and program costs to maximize and leverage contributions and in-kind donations; develop plans and funding sources for establishing programming in additional areas of the state.