



Comprehensive, High-Intensity Program Model Serving At-Risk Transition-Age Foster Youth

At-risk extended foster care youth need an integrated approach to well-being:

We know that 28% of young people aging out of foster care in Washington find themselves unstably housed within 12 months of exiting the system¹. Other negative outcomes for these youth include low levels of employment and earnings, as well as high incidence of behavioral health and substance abuse issues. A comprehensive approach is needed to address the multi-layered challenges that many young people face as they transition to adulthood.

YVLifeSet Program Model² -- An opportunity to serve more young adults:

YVLifeSet is a comprehensive, community-based intervention model designed to serve young people 17-22 years old who have been involved in the foster care, juvenile justice and mental health systems or young adults who find themselves without the necessary skills and resources at this critical juncture. Intensive community-based support and guidance is provided to help them make a successful transition to adulthood.

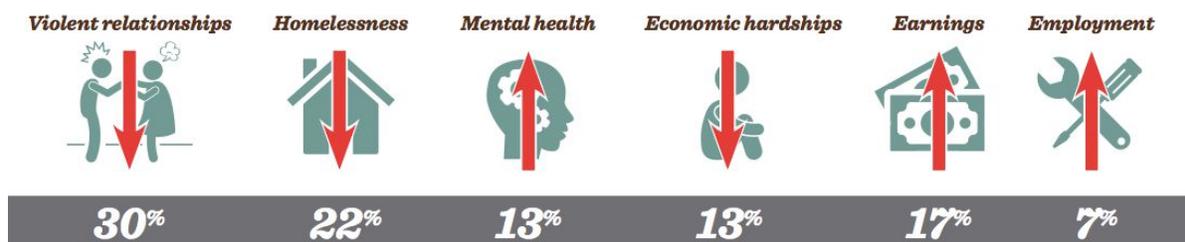
Youth Villages has been providing YVLifeSet services directly since 1999 and is now training local implementing provider organizations in the program model. Youth Villages provides ongoing support and monitoring to ensure implementing agencies maintain fidelity to the rigorous program model.

YVLifeSet in King County – Without public matching funds, at-risk extended foster youth remain in jeopardy:

The YMCA of Greater Seattle is the first of these implementing provider organizations and has been delivering YVLifeSet services since June 2016 with documented success. Outcomes achieved with the first enrolled cohort show great promise for the program model’s ability to impact young adult wellbeing in Washington with significant gains being made in housing stability, education and employment. The YVLifeSet program in King County is currently funded through private philanthropic dollars that are scheduled to end on June 30, 2018.

Evidence and Outcomes – Research proves YVLifeSet improves extended foster youth’s lives:

One-year impact findings from a recent study³ show that the YVLifeSet program improved housing stability, employment, earnings, mental health and reduced intimate partner violence among participants.



Funding Request – A Public-Private partnership:

The vision for funding YVLifeSet’s scaling effort relies on public-private partnerships that utilize both local and national resources to launch new sites. In order to support three teams serving an average of 150 transition-age youth annually, Youth Villages is willing to commit philanthropic funds at 25% of total cost with the remainder to be matched by public funds, totaling \$1,201,050.

¹ Department of Social and Health Services, Research and Data Analysis Division (2017). Housing Status of Youth Exiting Foster Care, Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Systems. <https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/SESA/rda/documents/research-11-240.pdf>

² Additional program model details provided in Appendix A

³Jacobs, Erin and Skemer, Melanie and Courtney, Mark, Becoming Adults: One-Year Impact Findings from the Youth Villages Transitional Living Evaluation (May 12, 2015). New York: MDRC, May 2015 .