

Contact Us

For Referrals

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For Volunteer Opportunities

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Program Collaboration and Funding Provided By:

The Street Youth Planning Collaborative, CityHousing Hamilton,
The City of Hamilton, The Ministry of Community and Youth Services,
The United Way of Burlington & Greater Hamilton,
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The Charles Johnson
Charitable Fund



United Way
Burlington &
Greater Hamilton



Wesley Youth Housing

191 Main St. W. - 4th/5th Floors

Wesley Youth Housing (WYH) provides a fully furnished multi-staged housing program for homeless youth and those at risk of homelessness between the ages of 16-21. This program was developed through the Street Youth Planning Collaborative, in partnership with CityHousing Hamilton and the City of Hamilton. The WYH Program opened its doors in September 2007 and has a capacity of nine youth in stage one and ten youth in stage two.



First Stage of Program

Youth will first move into the program in a “pod” living environment. Each youth has their own locking bedroom, yet share a kitchen, eating area, living room and two bathrooms with up to two pod mates. During this phase youth will work closely with mentors setting and working towards goals, attending school (or working) and spending time with a Life Coach primarily one on one in areas such as budgeting, grocery shopping, time management, etc. In addition to mentors being available 24/7, youth have access to on site community partners.

Second Stage of Program

During the first stage of the program, youth develop the skills and resources required to graduate to the second stage of the program and move into a private bachelor apartment. The second stage of the program moves the youth toward the ultimate program objective - a life of independence.

Youth in this stage continue to have access to support from mentors, but are provided with an increased opportunity to practice their newly developed skills and independence before venturing out on their own.



Main Objective of the Program

The main objective of the program is to provide youth aged 16 - 21 with access to safe affordable short term housing with the supports required to help them build the skills necessary to be able to live independently in the community.

How Will the Program Address the Objective?

- Program Mentors begin working with youth as soon as they move into stage one of the complex
- A Life Coach works with the new residents on life skills such as grocery shopping, cooking and laundry
- Goal setting then becomes a focus in the program
- Counseling and mentorship are provided 24/7
- Ongoing support is individualized for each youth in the program to ensure effective results for the youth
- Community partners are on site for support in specific areas
- Housing is a focus upon entering the program to maximize options for when youth leave the program
- Stage two presents an opportunity for increased independence and provides a chance for the youth to practice skills developed in stage one of the program

How to Make a Referral

Youth are referred primarily by professional/agency referrals; however, self-referrals are accepted. The intake package has a portion the youth completes followed by a section the referring professional completes. If you would like to make a referral to the program, please see reverse for further information.