

REBUILDING WITH RESILIENCE

Y2Y Network, Inc. FY2023 Annual Report





Y2Y NETWORK
FY2024 ANNUAL
REPORT

MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP

Dear Y2Y Network Supporters and Friends,

As we reflect on the remarkable journey of Y2Y Network over the past year, I am honored to share our progress and express my deep gratitude for your unwavering support. As Chair of Y2Y Network, it has been a privilege to witness the organization's growth since assuming the Chairship in November 2022.

This year has been a testament to our collective dedication to breaking the cycle of youth homelessness in the greater Boston area. With each passing month, I have seen our organization evolve, adapt, and rise to the challenges of a post-pandemic era. I am particularly proud to report that with the support of our community, Y2Y Network has served 130 guests this year, providing them not only with shelter but also with the support and resources they need to navigate the complexities of life.

One of the most significant achievements this year has been our successful return to our unique student-run model. The essence of Y2Y Network lies in empowering young people to serve their peers and to take charge in creating meaningful change in their communities. Our student volunteers have exhibited exceptional dedication and compassion in restoring this critical aspect of our organization. Their commitment to our mission is a testament to the transformative power of youth-driven initiatives.

None of this would be possible without the steadfast support from our donors and community partners. Your belief in our vision has been the driving force behind our success. We express our deepest appreciation for your generosity and commitment to the cause. It is heartening to witness the impact we can create when we join forces for a common goal.

As we celebrate our achievements, it is essential to acknowledge that the battle against youth homelessness is ongoing. The need for support is continuous, and we must remain vigilant in our efforts to break the cycle of homelessness. When I walk through Harvard Square on a cold winter's night and witness the number of people sleeping on the streets, my heart breaks: I know the situation in New Haven is no different. The challenges these young individuals face are complex, and our collective responsibility is to provide them with the tools and opportunities needed for a brighter future.

In the coming year, we appeal to our supporters to continue standing by us in our mission. Each night across Massachusetts and Connecticut, over 1000 young adults have no stable place to call home. Your ongoing support will enable us to expand our reach, enhance our programs, and create lasting change in the lives of those we serve. Together, we can build a community where no young person has to face homelessness alone.

Thank you for being an integral supporter of Y2Y Network. Your commitment fuels our mission and continues to make a lasting impact on the lives of youth in our community.

In solidarity,

Kevin Jennings

Kevin Jennings
Chair, Y2Y Network



Message from
Leadership

Our Mission

Reasons for Youth
Homelessness

Who Are Our Guests?

Guest and Student
Experience

Y2Y Harvard Square
Shelter

New Haven Pilot
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How You Can Help



OUR MISSION

- Y2Y Network is building **student-led programming** to interrupt the cycle of homelessness for a generation of young adults.
- We employ a **youth-to-youth model** to provide a safe and affirming environment for young adults 18-24 experiencing homelessness.
- Y2Y guests have opportunities to **collaborate with their peers** and our partners to create sustainable pathways out of homelessness.
- Y2Y provides opportunities for both guests and volunteers to become **the next generation's leading advocates** for youth-driven solutions to homelessness.

We operate under a student-led model utilizing three pillars of support:



1. SANCTUARY

We provide 30-night stays and emergency bed access in a safe and welcoming environment designed by youth with lived experience of homelessness. Showers, gender-inclusive bathrooms, laundry services, hot meals, and other basic needs support. Trauma-informed approaches to care and services.



2. PATHWAYS

- Student-led case management.
- Onsite medical and mental healthcare.



3. ADVOCACY

Guests and students work together to shape policies that affect young adults experiencing homelessness. Both guests and students have the opportunity to become leaders in creating social change by bringing their own experiences to the table.



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REASONS FOR YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

HOME IS NOT SAFE

Before leaving home, up to 60% of youth report experiencing physical violence, and as many as 35% report experiencing sexual violence.

HOME IS NOT SUPPORTING

As many as 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQIA+. Family rejection is the most common cause of homelessness among LGBTQIA+ youth.

HOME DOESN'T EXIST

As many as 46% of young adults aging out of foster care experience homelessness before the age of 26.

Reasons for Youth Homelessness

Who Are Our Guests?

Guest and Student Experience

Y2Y Harvard Square Shelter

New Haven Pilot Program

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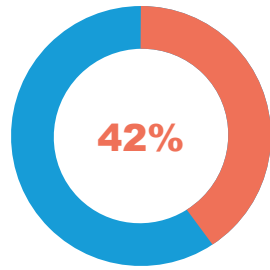
Message from
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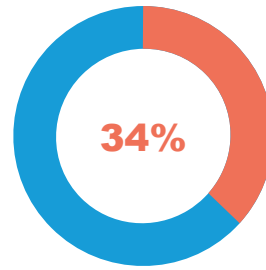
Reasons for Youth
Homelessness

WHO ARE OUR GUESTS?

Former involvement
with Foster Care



Former involvement in the
criminal justice system



**TOTAL GUEST
COUNT: 128**



Who Are Our Guests?

GENDER

32% FEMALE

42% MALE

13% NONBINARY

SEXUAL ORIENTATION

22% LGBTQIA+

78% HETEROSEXUAL

Guest and Student
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RACE AND ETHNICITY

18% WHITE

43% BLACK

2% ASIAN

1% NATIVE

14% MULTIRACIAL

22% LATINO/HISPANIC



DISABILITY: 7%



**RECEIVED
TRANSPORTATION
ASSISTANCE: 100%**



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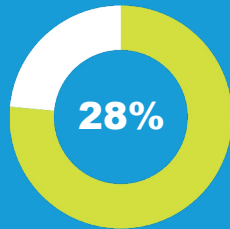
How You Can Help



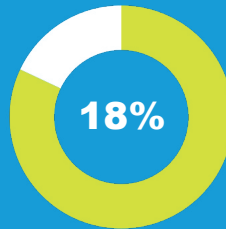
GUEST AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE

When guests were asked, where would you sleep if not for Y2Y, they responded:

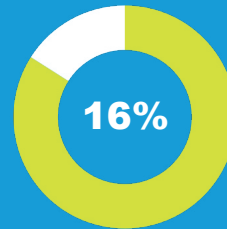
I don't know where



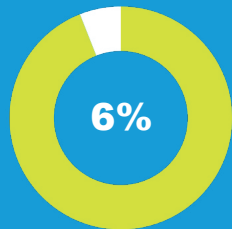
Another shelter



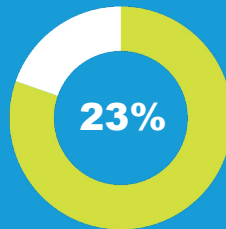
Outside or in a tent



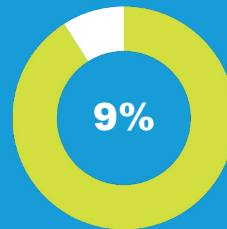
Subway or other
public space



With friends or
family



Declined to
respond



90% of all guests felt safe while staying at Y2Y Harvard Square





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GUEST AND STUDENT EXPERIENCE

GUESTS' COMMENTS

I'm surrounded by people my own age who are all hoping for a better future, working together to escape unstable housing.

Guest T.



I love how staff that does not look like me or reflect my marginalization treat me and engage with me respecting my boundaries.

Guest C.



STUDENT COMMENTS



My all-time favorite moment has been seeing a guest obtain permanent housing, and seeing how the [case management] program really made a difference in this person's life.

Maddie



I see Y2Y as a space of radical care that has been instrumental to the growth of myself and other students at Harvard, an otherwise privileged environment that contributes to the gentrification and housing crises in our local community.

Brian



It's made me realize just how much of youth homelessness is circumstantial — oftentimes, the main difference I've seen between Y2Y guests and my peers on campus is instabilities in family, physical, and mental health that these guests can't be expected to fully control.

Andrew





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Y2Y HARVARD SQUARE SHELTER

Y2Y Harvard Square is one of the nation's first student-run shelters for young adults experiencing homelessness. Our space has served over 820 guests since first opening its doors in December 2015. We are based on the belief that all young adults deserve a safe and affirming place to sleep and access to the resources necessary to disrupt the cycle of homelessness.

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Phillips Brooks House Association (PBHA)

Y2Y Harvard Square is supported by PBHA. They strive to provide student-led programming to meet pressing community needs and advocate for structural change.

Youth on Fire (YOF)

Sharing our space at First Parish Church, YOF is a program of the AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts, and offers a daytime drop-in center for homeless and street-involved youth, ages 14-24.

First Parish Church

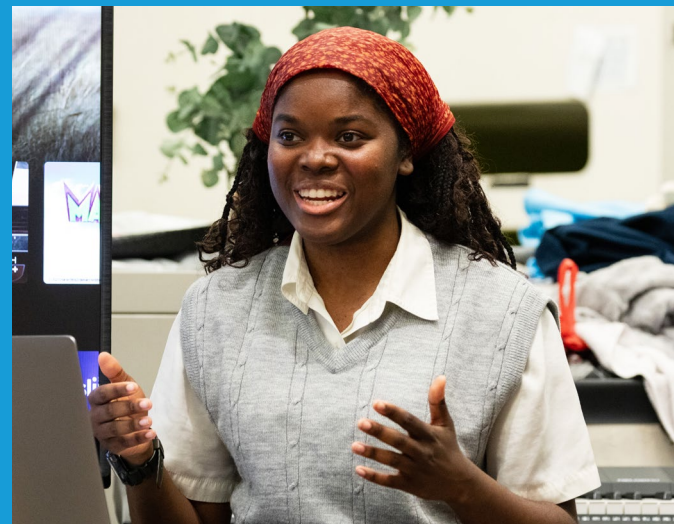
Unitarian Universalist church which graciously allows space for our 22-bed shelter.

Boston Healthcare for the Homeless

BHCHP provides healthcare and hope to people experiencing homelessness in Boston and beyond. A registered nurse visits the shelter on a weekly basis providing easy-access to our guests in our on-site clinic.

Massachusetts Department of Mental Health's Homeless Outreach Team

An outreach worker visits our shelter weekly to identify and engage individuals who are mentally ill and homeless with the primary goal of linking individuals to appropriate services including the DMH service system. Their wraparound services provide support to some of the shelter's most vulnerable guests.





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STUDENT STAFF DIRECTORS

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Administrative | Alex Dyer | Operations | Necati Unsal |
| Advocacy | Brian Zhou | Operations | Scott Arbery |
| Case Management | Madeleine Pascavis | Operations | Jack Brister |
| Data | Amelia Heymach | Partnerships | Marina Santos |
| Data | Alina Yu | Staff | Melissa Jones |
| Finance/Supplies | Andrew Palacci | Staff | Anais Colin |
| Food/In-Kind | Conrad Hock | Workshops | Mallory Rogers |
| Fundraising | Chris Hidalgo | Volunteer | Ian Lau |

STUDENT STAFF: SUPERVISORS

| | |
|----------------|------------------|
| Kyra Fiber | Elizabeth Propst |
| Ohm Patel | Nicole Kendall |
| Brave Mugisha | Jess Shi |
| Trace Baxley | Anthony Xu |
| Aidan Seguin | Maya Flores |
| Sawyer Maloney | Juyeoun Nam |
| Emily Hansen | Audre Wells |



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NEW HAVEN PILOT PROGRAM

Concluding another year of our pilot program, Y2Y Network reflects on another impactful year of service in New Haven, Connecticut. We successfully recruited a dedicated cohort of student volunteers from Yale University who, after undergoing rigorous training, played a vital role by completing volunteer shifts at Youth Continuum’s homeless shelter. These student volunteers became compassionate advocates, supplementing our efforts to address youth homelessness.

Our partnership with Youth Continuum remains crucial as, together, we’ve created a robust support network for young individuals facing homelessness, offering a path to stability. The importance of our collaborative work is underscored by a recent Point-in-Time count, revealing that at least 1,065 individuals under the age of 25 experience homelessness on a single night in Connecticut, emphasizing the need for our ongoing efforts.

Looking ahead, we are eager to evaluate and refine our strategies in the coming year. As we approach spring, we commit to adapting our efforts to meet the evolving needs of the community. The experiences of the past year will serve as a guide for future initiatives, ensuring our work aligns with the dynamic landscape of youth homelessness.

The dedication of our student volunteers and our collaboration with Youth Continuum have been instrumental in making significant strides toward creating a more inclusive and compassionate community.

As we express gratitude for our achievements, Y2Y Network looks forward with enthusiasm and optimism to the challenges and opportunities in the upcoming year, continuing our mission to break the cycle of youth homelessness.

YALE STUDENT-STAFF LEADERS

Sarah Guan
copresident

Tyler Carey
copresident

Krishna Davis
finance and fund-
raising director

Michaela Bauman
recruitment and
publicity director

Cathleen Liang
student volunteer



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STAFF AND LEADERSHIP



Sharon Scott
Director of
Administration



Amanda Thompson
Director of
Development



**Benjamin Gaytan
Rios**
Program Manager



Faiza Hafeez
Operations
Coordinator



I was attracted to Y2Y initially as a case manager because of Y2Y’s radical approach to youth empowerment — staff and guests of the shelter working together towards personal goals for happiness and health. It was this unique vision that compelled me to stay connected to the organization, leading the case management program, serving as a student staff member during the COVID pandemic, and, most recently, shaping the guest experience through data-driven programmatic adjustment as a member of the Y2Y board.

Siva Emani, Board Member



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kevin Jennings - Chair

Maria Dominguez Gray

Michelle Patterson - Treasurer

Siva Emani

Ayala Livny - Clerk

Sarah Rosenkrantz

Bob Giannino

Mina Makarious

Skyler Brader

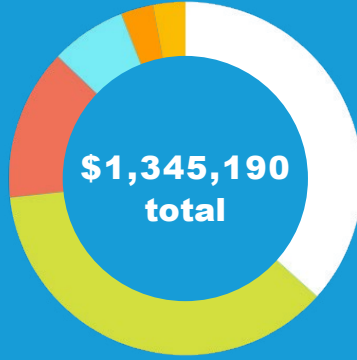
Genevive Walker



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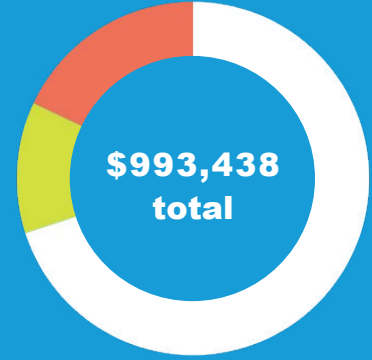
FINANCIALS: EXPENSES AND REVENUES

REVENUE



- 37% - Endowment
- 37% - Foundational grants
- 14% - Individual donations
- 7% - Corporate
- 3% - Governmental grants
- 2% - Other

EXPENSES



- 70% - Programs
- 12% - Development
- 18% - Administration

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SUPPORTERS

50K+

Amy Palmer
Bridge Over Troubled Waters
First Republic Bank
Fox Rock Foundation
Liberty Mutual Foundation
Mabel Louise Riley Foundation
Steven Bonsey and Elisabeth Keller
The Boston Foundation
Wellington Management Foundation

15K - 49,999

Church on the Hill
City of Cambridge
Mount Auburn Hospital
Rowland Foundation
The Baupost Group
Winter Walk Boston

5K - 14,999

Avra Goldman and
Steven Greenberg
Brian and Stephanie Spector
Cambridge Community
Foundation
Cambridge Savings
Charitable Foundation
CambridgeSide

Cara and Keven Stevens
Donna M. Kletjian Lead
Charitable Trust
Gabrielle Brussel
John Chany Trust
John DiGiovanni Family
LTD Partnership
Josh Levin-Scherz

Network for Good
Reverend John Finley
(Champions of Love)
TJX Foundation
Target Circle
Timken Matthews
Family Foundation
Wagner Foundation

1K - 4,999

Anita Gajdecki
Ann Woodin
Anna Bonsey
Anonymous
Ari Lipman
Aronson Family
Charitable Fund
Bonnie Blanchfield
Brenda Shannon
Carol Brown
Christine Brown
Christine Hirshland
Claire Cannatti

Dave and Lisa Evans
David McCue
Donald Stevens
Douglas Gensler
Grace Whitney
Gregg Meyer
Ian Evans
Jessica and D. Sculley
Jill and David Adler
Joseph Arthur
Joshua Bhatti
Justin Schall
Kyle Eichner

Lisa Lagasse
Mandy Campbell
Michelle Patterson
Mina Makarious
Nancy Antonacci
Needham Hurst
Richard Stern and
Lance Goodman
Skyler Brader
Studio G Architects
Takeda Pharmaceuticals
Xavier du Maine

Many individuals and organizations not listed here provided generous support to Y2Y Network in FY23 including some who chose to remain anonymous, those who contributed gifts of less than \$1000, and those who supported us through non-philanthropic means. Wherever you fall on this list, your decision to support young adults experiencing homelessness is deeply appreciated. **Thank you for advocating for Y2Y and for youth!**

We have made our best efforts to list our partners comprehensively, but sometimes our reporting methods fall short. If you feel that you have been excluded from this list or that we have made an error, please contact our Director of Development at amanda@y2ynetwork.org



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HOW YOU CAN HELP



RESOURCES

MAKE A GIFT

Your support ensures young adults have a safe space to sleep and the tools they need to succeed.

- Visit our website (y2ynetwork.org) to make an online donation
- Send a physical check to our office (955 Massachusetts Ave, Box 424, Cambridge, MA 02139)
- Contact Y2Y Network Director of Development (amanda@y2ynetwork.org) for more information about ACH direct transfers, making gifts or securities, or giving through Donor Advised Funds

OFFER IN-KIND SUPPORT

To support Y2Y Harvard Square with an in-kind donation please contact our operations coordinator (faiza@y2ynetwork.org).



TIME

VOLUNTEER

To sign up for volunteer shifts, please contact our program manager (benjamin@y2ynetwork.org). You can choose between weekly shifts, one-time shifts, or joining the substitutes list. Volunteers of all ages are especially needed during Thanksgiving, the winter holiday season, spring break, and summer when many weekly student volunteers are away.

HOST AN EVENT

Host a friend-raising event to raise awareness about Y2Y Network's work, a fundraiser to support the work, or a supplies drive. For further support, contact our director of development (amanda@y2ynetwork.org).



VOICE

SHARE OUR STORY

- Tell your friends, family, colleagues, and community about Y2Y Network's work.
- Sign up for our newsletter at y2ynetwork.org.
- Follow us on Facebook.
- Share our posts with your online community.



Thank you to everyone
who has supported
Y2Y Network!