



YOUTHLINK

Report to
the Community:
YouthLink Highlights
2018



WE
ARE
HOME

You helped us transform lives.

In 2018, YouthLink not only transformed into a center of renewed safety, refuge, and excellence, but your support enabled YouthLink to implement our mission and vision as a vehicle to transform the lives of young people experiencing homelessness. This is made possible through caring, collaborative, and supportive services that help youth accomplish their desired futures.

Your support was the catalyst for reimagining innovative and effective ways to engage young people to transform their lives from homelessness onto pathways of self-reliance and stability. Every step of the way, it's your commitment helping us make a difference—from contributing to our *Ignite Change in the Lives of Youth* campaign to helping make Downtown View apartments not just housing, but a home for young people.

VISION: A community in which all youth, without regard to their living situation, have an equal opportunity to pursue their goals and dreams, and an equal likelihood of achieving them.

MISSION: To support and empower young people on their journey to self-reliance.

You helped us focus on what really matters.

With the reimagining and redesign of our building, we took a step back to reflect on how we were delivering services to ensure that all young people have equal access. Through focused discussions with young people, the community, and our partners, we complemented the changes in our building by also redesigning our services with a focus on transformative partnerships. Drop-in time remains easily accessible, but we now have focused periods during which young people can receive one-on-one time with Transition Coaches to discuss future-focused topics like financial planning, education goals, and housing needs. We also use this time for community dinners, family reunification, and specialized gatherings, such as meetings of our men's group and independent living instruction—providing access to skills that can get overlooked during the rush to get basic needs met.

“ Our ultimate goal is to help youth be more successful through intentional, one-on-one time. When they walk through the doors it should be easy for them to access the services they need as individuals. It's all about doing our work better. ”

—Shannon Acuña, Supervisor of Integrated Services

Drop-In by the Numbers

27
games of
Bingo



More than
52,000
meals served



24
birthday
celebrations



WELCOME

1,494
unique young
people served

85%
youth of color



43%
male

53%
female

1%
trans

2,800+
hours our Youth
Opportunity
Center partners
spent connecting
with young
people in our
Drop-In





** YouthLink's Wellness Wheel along with the nine guiding principles are the foundation of YouthLink's integrative services and are delivered with an inclusive, culturally-competent lens.*



You helped us protect the most vulnerable during the Super Bowl.

Your support put YouthLink at the forefront of confronting sexual exploitation during the biggest event in Minnesota in 2018: the Super Bowl.

Working with social service providers from around the city, as well as the Minneapolis Police Department, YouthLink's Intervention Transition Coach helped develop a working plan to keep vulnerable people safe from the risk of sexual exploitation during the festivities surrounding the Super Bowl.

In fact, our Intervention Transition Coach was the only service provider to work directly with law enforcement at the Super Bowl Command Central, helping to provide services to sexually exploited youth during the lead up to game day, the playing of, and following the Super Bowl.

In-person contacts
with women being
sexually exploited

(Stats provided by the Minneapolis
Police Department)



11

with women
ages 17-24

28

with women
ages 17-49



You helped us care for the whole person.

Young people visiting YouthLink seek out services because they are in crisis. YouthLink works to meet young people where they are and provide short-term solutions to bridge gaps during their crisis, but we know that long-term solutions and holistic care can change the trajectory of a young person's journey.

Thanks to significant support from the Medica Foundation, YouthLink has developed an Integrative Health and Wellness Service Model that supports both staff and young people, and is designed to reduce the likelihood of further trauma, simultaneously providing young people with the ability to get their basic needs met, while also addressing their mental, physical, emotional, and spiritual needs. The Medica Foundation has helped us develop more than just a service model—the Medica Foundation Calming Room gives young people a space to relax, center themselves, and continue doing the hard work of moving forward.

“ Medica is excited to support YouthLink in its effort to improve client health and wellness. That work depends on having informed staff with actual experience of the healing model. We are proud of the progress YouthLink has made in staff wellness training which will prepare the organization to further support and heal the youth that rely on their services. ”

—John Naylor, President and CEO of Medica



You helped make our dreams a reality, too.

In 2018, not only did YouthLink complete construction of Downtown View, but we also reached our \$6 million fundraising goal for our *Ignite Change in the Lives of Youth Campaign* thanks to you and members of our community. In May, we announced a challenge grant for \$100,000 from the Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation—which we were able to claim thanks to your generosity.

YouthLink's defining moment, and dream of a lifetime, came in September 2018, when the Peter J. King Family Foundation selected us to receive a \$1.4 million gift for capital costs associated with the renovation of YouthLink's building.

The Peter J. King Foundation provides brick and mortar funding to organizations whose activities are dedicated to the improvement of children's health, education and welfare, and to building a stronger family environment.

“ This is a milestone gift. The Peter J. King Family Foundation's commitment to YouthLink has elevated the Youth Opportunity Center into a center of excellence for young people—it is an investment in their future.

This prestigious gift positions YouthLink to impact young people as they move forward on their journey for generations to come. ”

—Dr. Heather Huseby, Executive Director of YouthLink





You helped us create a brighter future.

A safe, warm place to call home where a good night's sleep is common is a critical step toward self-reliance.

With financial support and advocacy from the community, we partnered with Project for Pride in Living to open 46 units of permanent, supportive housing in February 2018 for 18- to 24-year-old young people who have experienced long-term homelessness.

When the keys were handed out to the first 17 residents, all of whom had previously been living on trains and buses, these young people could start to turn their thoughts of surviving to dreaming of a future—a future of their own making.

55
young people
housed in
Downtown View
in 2018



80%
of young people in
Downtown View are
actively working
on education and
employment goals

You helped us expand education's reach.

Safe and stable housing provides the foundation for young people to continue their journey out of homelessness.

Long-term earning and learning opportunities will—and do—help young people experiencing homelessness get on the path to self-reliance. Because of that, we've worked to put tutors in each of our housing sites.

These devoted tutors don't just teach math and writing skills, they instill confidence and create bonds of trust that help young people succeed.

“ I love seeing the moments of accomplishment when students realize they can figure out the problem and answer the question on their own. I get to see them gain confidence in their abilities and in themselves, and that's very rewarding as a tutor. ”

—Cresston Gackle, *Housing Tutor*





You helped us connect to a wider and more diverse community of prospective employers.

Learning changes lives, but learning is more than just math and science. It's also life skills and on-the-job skills. We're thankful for our ever-expanding community of employers, from diverse working environments such as the TSA and Funky Grits restaurant, that is helping young people gain the skills—and paychecks—they need to get them where they want to go.

“ It is my responsibility as a business to be dedicated to the overall health of the community in which we operate. Focus and care for the young, local workforce helps foster pride-of-community and creates a system where stakeholders exist at multiple ages, life experiences, education levels, races, genders, and interests. ”

—Jared A. Brewington, Owner, Funky Grits

You used your creativity to change lives.

Volunteers are at the heart of everything we do at YouthLink, offering their boundless creativity and passion to young people experiencing homelessness. We see, time and time again, how those acts of kindness change lives. Whether it's organizations like Spalon Montage who has helped young people feel more confident in themselves or individual volunteers who have brought in popsicles on sweltering days, the love and care our volunteers put into the little things make a huge difference.



51

number of meals
cooked by volunteer
groups in 2018



2,306

volunteer hours
worked in 2018



\$63,599

value of time
volunteered
in 2018



...with less. I'll feel stronger. My blood pressure will go
...My energy will go up. My blood pressure will be easier. I
...I can gain control of my life. I can do it for 24 hours.
...I can take it one day at a time. My hair will smell better.
...My nose won't smell like ash. My breath will smell better.
...My teeth will be whiter. I don't want bronchitis. I want
...I have to clean subway. I don't want bronchitis. I don't want
...employments. I'm glad of wanting my money. I don't want
...myself. I don't want to my family. I don't want to expose
...anyone to my secondhand smoke. I don't want to protect my pet's
...I don't need a cigarette to feel confident. My family will be
...of me. I'll stop smoking. I'll stop coughing.
...of the circulation savings. My doctor said to
...My circulation will improve. My doctor said to
...It's a challenge I can meet. I feel great about it.
...I can do it. If 4.6 million people can quit, I can quit.
...I have the power to stop. I can quit. I can quit.
...in smoke. It's never too late to quit.



IT'S NOT YOU.
YOU'RE NOT ALONE. I
WHATSOEVER YOU NEED AND HOWEVER LONG IT
IF YOU FEEL TO
IT'S OKAY. STILL A
IF YOU FEEL TOO MUCH,
THERE IS STILL SOM
- JAMIE



Your support made a difference.

YouthLink's young people and the staff of Hennepin County's Health Care for the Homeless can tell you what a huge difference some quiet can make. Thanks to CoreNet, our clinic is protecting the privacy of young people through soundproofing, allowing young people to share sensitive information without those waiting for appointments overhearing. More than just peace of mind, soundproofing gives young people dignity and a way for healthcare providers to build more trusting relationships. When you have no space to call your own, it's amazing what a little privacy can do.

“ When you see YouthLink's impact firsthand, including the health and wellness resources and services, you want to do everything you can to help them with their greatest needs. ”

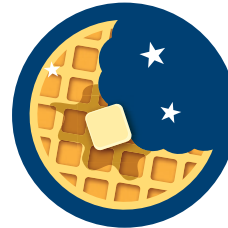
—Jeff LaFavre, President, IAG Commercial

You made our first gala a night to remember.

In 2018, YouthLink hosted our first gala-inspired event, Breakfast Under the Stars, presented by Sunrise Banks.

The event was a night of waffles (and wine!) showcasing our recently renovated facility and featuring youth performances, a live auction, and an interactive art project. Thanks to our generous sponsors and attendees, YouthLink raised nearly \$100,000 in support of our meal program.

161
community
and youth
attendees



46
financial
and in-kind
sponsors



229

Financial Highlights

Statement of Financial Position

Balance sheet for year ending September 30, 2018

Assets		2018	2017
Current assets	Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 489,302	\$ 592,283
	Current portion of pledges receivable	443,720	402,708
	Grants receivable	278,806	326,292
	Miscellaneous receivables	157,792	46,287
	Prepaid expenses and other assets	70,831	51,589
	Total current assets	\$ 1,440,451	\$ 1,419,159
Property and equipment	Land	167,553	167,553
	Buildings and improvements	8,255,441	3,350,022
	Furniture and equipment	470,816	260,062
	Construction in process	–	1,362,254
		8,893,810	5,139,891
	Less accumulated depreciation	(1,984,994)	(1,773,866)
		\$ 6,908,816	\$ 3,366,025
	Pledges receivable, net of current portion	83,251	232,543
	Total assets	\$ 8,432,518	\$ 5,017,727

Liabilities and net assets		2018	2017
Current liabilities	Accounts payable	\$ 181,047	\$ 466,982
	Fiscal agent payable	–	25,000
	Deferred Revenue	50,491	–
	Current portion of long-term debt	580,000	–
	Accrued: Payroll and payroll taxes	116,795	129,496
	Vacation	82,736	90,826
	Other	46,925	336,180
Total current liabilities		\$ 1,057,994	\$ 1,048,484
Capital leases payable, net of current portion			
Notes Payable		1,463,332	500,000
Mortgage payable		2,070,000	–
Total liabilities		\$ 4,591,326	\$ 1,548,484
Net assets	Unrestricted	3,002,459	2,495,774
	Temporarily restricted	838,733	973,469
Total net assets		\$ 3,841,192	\$ 3,469,243
Total liabilities and net assets		\$ 8,432,518	\$ 5,017,727

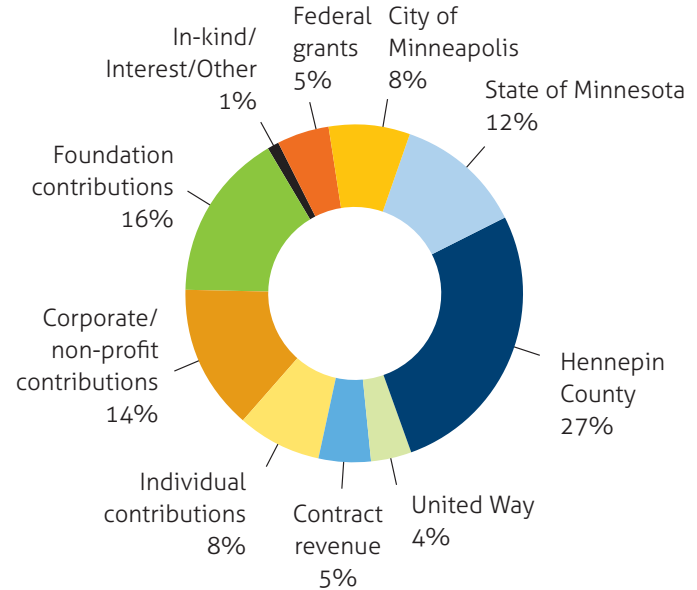
Statement of Revenues

October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2018

Revenue	2018
City of Minneapolis	\$ 449,474
Federal grants	265,349
State of Minnesota	639,950
Hennepin County	1,442,702
United Way	223,252
Contract revenue	251,535
Individual contributions	417,675
Corporate/non-profit contributions	759,583
Foundation contributions	849,012
In-kind contributions	80,882
Interest income	0
Other income	9,449
Total revenue	\$ 5,388,863*

2018 Revenue

For year ending September 30, 2018



*Includes \$1,116,209 of Ignite Change Campaign contributions

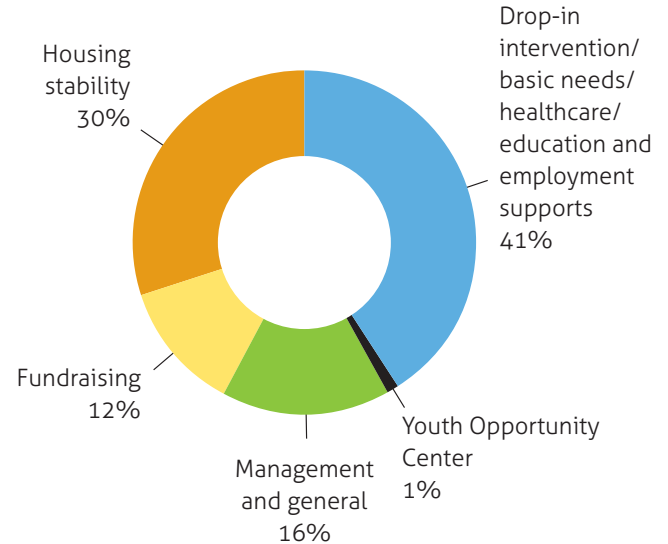
Statement of Expenses

October 1, 2017, through September 30, 2018

Expenses	2018
Program expenses	
Housing stability	\$ 1,487,996
Drop-in intervention/basic needs/healthcare/ education and employment supports	2,063,627
Youth Opportunity Center	67,458
Total program services	\$ 3,619,081
Supporting activities	
Management and general	814,513
Fundraising	583,320
Total supporting activities	\$ 1,397,833
Total expenses	\$ 5,016,914

2018 Expenses

For year ending September 30, 2018



2018 Donors

Your support, in all its forms, is deeply appreciated at YouthLink. From the financial contributions that help us plan for tomorrow, to the practical socks, hats, and hygiene supplies that meet today's needs, your generosity builds a foundation of independence for young people experiencing homelessness. Thank you!

Foundation Builders and Planned Givers

Foundation Builders donate a minimum of \$1,000 per year for three years or more. Planned Givers have included YouthLink in their estate plans.

To learn more about becoming a Foundation Builder or to make a planned gift, please contact Christine Schwitzer, Director of Development, at 612.252.1226.

**Denotes 2018 Board Member*

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Xcel Energy Foundation
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(through December 31, 2018)

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\$20,000+
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\$5,000–\$19,999
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\$1,000–\$4,999

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Meghan Kremer
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Minneapolis Commodores Barbershop Harmony Society-MPLS Chapter
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\$100–\$499

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Tammy Brevik
Jimmy Bridges
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Elsa Bross
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David Bucher
Adam Burnoski
Christopher Dean &
Valbona Bushi
Brian Busta
Cynthia Buxton
Cake Plus-Size Resale
Mauren Carberry
Mark & Gail Casey
Nicole Celestine-Thomas
Richard & Jeanne Chaney
Lois Christian
Nancy Cincotta
Nathan Clanton
Jeanne Claridge

Carol Clarke
Erin Clarke
Patricia Clarke
Audrey Clay
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David Conkey
Arne & Jessica Cook
Peyton Cook
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We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions in our list of donors and funders. Please call our Development Office at 612.252.1226 with any corrections.

Donors are listed based on their gift category during the fiscal year in which the donation or original pledge is made.



Dear Friends:

Thanks to your continuing dedication, support, and kindness, 2018 was a year of special transformation for YouthLink.

That transformation was all made possible through the amazing engagement of community partners, friends, and advisors on the needs and issues facing the young people we serve.



This year, as the newly renovated campus of YouthLink was in the final stages of completion, a special community leader showed interest in knowing more about the young people we serve. Russell King, along with the Board of the Peter J. King Family Foundation, spent intentional and meaningful time getting to know and understand more about the mission and vision of YouthLink. After careful, thoughtful, and farsighted review, the Peter J. King Family Foundation awarded YouthLink the milestone—and momentous—gift of \$1.4 million to support completion of the project. This gift was—and is—a defining moment in the history of YouthLink, as it will allow the organization to open a new chapter in our history of transformation. (On June 5, 2019, in a celebration open to the public, we will rededicate the YouthLink – Youth Opportunity Center facility to honor the Peter J. King Family Foundation.)


We were thrilled to be able to take time to celebrate with our friends and community during our first “Breakfast Under the Stars”—a gala-inspired event raising funds to support YouthLink’s services and programs. This special evening event, held at our beautiful, newly renovated campus overlooking the Minneapolis skyline, raised over \$100,000 to support efforts such as providing meals for young people.

As we continue to move into the future of transforming the lives of youth, we do so with a thankful heart for the dedication and selfless giving of our staff, community, volunteers, friends, donors, and advisors, as well as those who are considering getting to know us more. We’re grateful for you and the fact that you agree that the young people served by YouthLink are the future of our communities. These young people are not voiceless, and they should not be ignored. They are young people worth investing in, and their

lights of hope burn brightly within them when given just the slightest encouragement.

Thanks to you, we will continue to help stoke their sparks of hope as they ignite into flames of passion taking shape as career aspirations, stability, and self-reliance.

I look forward to our partnership with you as we follow their light into 2019 and beyond.



Dr. Heather Huseby, Executive Director, YouthLink



Will Roach, President, Board of Directors

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