

Hope's Haven

Yellowknife, Northwest Territories, Canada

Project Description: Hope's Haven offers transitional housing services to homeless youth and provides intensive support services to teach life skills and help end the cycle of homelessness. They focus on recovery-oriented, trauma informed care.

Distinguishing Features: This program involves youth in every stage of the housing and support process. Programming is driven by youth-requested supports, such as instruction in cooking, cleaning, interpersonal boundaries, and conflict resolution.

Population Served: Homeless Youth [Ages 15-19]

Website: sidedooryk.com/where-we-are/hopes-haven

SUMMARY

Hope's Haven works to end the cycle of homelessness by investing in the recovery of youth involved in the transitional housing program. Aside from meeting basic needs such as food and shelter, the program focuses on imparting life skills and empowering youth to pursue stable, fulfilling lives.

The organization follows a Housing First program model, prioritizing stable shelter and wrap-around supports.

Youth-driven programming

Youth enrolled in the transitional housing program are partnered with a case planning navigator, who individualizes an action plan to help the youth achieve their goals and pursue stable housing. This collaborative approach allows the youth to address concerns they are motivated to change, and advocate for the support structure they need to maximize their recovery.

Hope's Haven also includes group programming and activities based on youth requests. This includes instruction in cooking, cleaning, and other life skills, as well as workshops for dealing with interpersonal issues such as roommate conflicts, setting boundaries, and cultural engagement.

Housing options

Emergency Shelter

Emergency shelter is available from 6pm-8am seven days a week, 365 days a year. It is a co-ed safe space for youth ages 15-24. All youth who spend the night have access to a cot, toiletries, a warm shower, and breakfast. This program is in place to meet the immediate needs of homeless youth and provide a gateway to other community supports.

Transitional Housing

The transitional housing program is available to youth ages 15-19. Hope's Haven provides youth with intensive supports and individualized case management to help end the cycle of homelessness and prepare youth for independent living.

Side Door

Side Door is a community-based agency that provides support services for youth in Yellowknife. Established in 1995, they focus on empowerment-based programming for youth with nowhere else to turn. Their programs include housing services, mental health and addiction supports, and life skills instruction. They also provide literacy and employment services for youth working to achieve goals and take steps towards successful living.

sidedooryk.com

Yellowknife's Homelessness Initiative:

Everyone is Home

Hope's Haven is one of the organizations involved in Yellowknife's 10-year plan to end homelessness. The initiative focuses on providing trauma informed care to promote intergenerational healing and end the cycle of homelessness.

www.yellowknife.ca/en/living-here/resources/Homelessness/EVERYONE-IS-HOME---YELLOWKNIFE-10-YEAR-PLAN-TO-END-HOMELESSNESS-FINAL-REPORT-JULY-2017.pdf