

2019 - 2023

Strategic Plan

Achieve organizational sustainability and health

Mission: Northwest Youth Services collaborates with at-risk, runaway and homeless youth to foster self-reliance.

Vision: All young people have a place to belong; to be safe, heard, and valued.

As the only local organization dedicated to serving young people ages 13-24 at risk of or experiencing homelessness, Northwest Youth Services serves a critical need in Whatcom and Skagit Counties.

We support youth in identifying their personal goals for the future and building the skills necessary to reach their own sense of stability.

Northwest Youth Services offers street outreach to homeless youth, housing programs, help finding a job or enrolling in school, wrap-around mental health services, support for LGBTQ youth, restorative justice for juvenile offenders, and referrals to other services in our community.

The holistic well-being of young people is a core principle in our program and determines how Northwest Youth Services' staff approach our work with young people. We seek to engage youth in thoughtful and creative approaches that inspire them to discover and build upon their strengths.

1020 North State Street
Bellingham, WA 98225
(360) 734-9862

www.NWYS.org

Executive Summary

Northwest Youth Services has experienced tremendous growth over the last ten years; adding new programs, programming sites and staff capacity to better meet the needs of the youth in our communities. Much of this growth has been realized through restricted and/or government funding – creating a strain on the organization’s limited unrestricted funding.

In an effort to “achieve organizational stability and health” Northwest Youth Services has dedicated the next five years of its strategic efforts to expanding on its financial strength and stability, ensuring the highest quality of youth-centered programs, and investing in the dedicated professionals who make this work possible, our staff.



Financial Strength

- 1) Develop an annual fundraising plan that prioritizes increased donor support and community engagement.
- 2) Develop an annual communications plan that educates donors and the community at-large about the organization and the needs of youth experiencing homelessness in our community.
- 3) Ensure financial stability and health.



Quality and Effective Youth Programs

- 1) Create and foster opportunities for youth voice in program evaluation and development - with the goal of developing and intergrating youth leadership.
- 2) Promote a healthy, vibrant program culture that honors growth and learning.
- 3) Develop quality assurance processess and evaluation metrics with the aim of enhancing youth services.



Employee Care

- 1) Promote a healthy and vibrant agency culture.
- 2) Endorse and integrate a whole person care approach that acknowledges and addresses the needs of staff.
- 3) Foster a working enviro. that promotes agency strengths and external relationship building.
- 4) Invest in staff.
- 5) Improve work spaces.
- 6) Encourage excellence in staff performance and youth outcomes.
- 7) Build infrastructure that supports long term business continuity.

To view our Strategic Plan in full, please request a copy by emailing Hello@NWYS.org