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.
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.

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