



www.thelinkmn.org

612.871.0748

The Link's Youth Programming

Housing

The Link offers a continuum of programs for youth and young families who are experiencing homelessness which include a Street Outreach Program, a Drop-In Center, two emergency shelters, and 250+ units of supportive housing. The Link's Street Outreach Program and C.O.R.E. Drop-In Center help to identify at-risk and homeless youth, assist them with immediate needs, and provide ongoing services to help youth move out of crisis. The Link's emergency shelters provide support to minor youth and suburban youth and young families while they work toward long-term housing. Within our Supportive Housing Programs, The Link offers culturally and geographically specific housing in the 7 County Twin Cities Metro to meet the needs of Black youth in North Minneapolis, LGBTQ+ youth, systems involved youth, parenting youth and their dependent children, young people with disabilities, and suburban youth experiencing homelessness. The Link is the largest provider of housing for young people experiencing homelessness in Minnesota. All of The Link's housing programs provide a safe and stable place for youth to live, along with the support and services they need to transition out of homelessness and achieve their goals.

Contact Housing and Services Division Director: James Lewis at jlewis@thelinkmn.org or (612) 287-1642

Youth Advocacy

The Link's Youth Advocacy programs provide support to young people who are at-risk or who are currently involved in the juvenile justice system. These programs provide an alternative response to the juvenile justice system for youth with the understanding that if young people have their basic needs met, positive support and access to services to help them with the hardships they experience, they will be less likely to be involved in criminal activity. School Matters specifically helps youth who have been truant get back into school, stay in school, and helps to prevent them from dropping out. The Youth Connection Center (YCC) provides a safe place for law enforcement to drop off youth who have committed low level or status offenses, or who have been sexually exploited, in order to receive supportive services. The Community Navigator Program, Marshall Reed Youth Center (MRYC) and P.O.W.E.R. Program provide supportive services and case management for youth who have committed higher level offense and are referred through Hennepin County Probation. A culturally specific program for African American parents of youth who are in the YCC or School Matters Program is also available to provide support, assistance with basic needs and parenting skills education.

Contact Youth Advocacy Division Director: Blaine Turnbull at bturnbull@thelinkmn.org or (612) 767-4471

Safe Harbor

The Link's Safe Harbor Programs operate in partnership with the State of Minnesota's No Wrong Door Response for Sexually Exploited Youth, which was created in response to Minnesota's Safe Harbor Law. The Link provides a continuum of services for sexually exploited youth that includes the West Metro Regional Navigator Program, which provides a first point of contact; crisis intervention and on-going mobile services; the Passageways Emergency Shelter and Housing Program, which provide a safe place for victims of trafficking between the ages of 12 and 24 to live while receiving specialized services: mental health advocacy, educational support and aftercare services. All of our Safe Harbor Programs are specifically designed to help youth heal from the trauma of being sex trafficked, and support them in achieving the positive goals they have for themselves and their future.

Contact Safe Harbor Division Director: CeMarr Peterson at cpeterson@thelinkmn.org or (612) 232-8385



MAKE AN IMPACT



Shop and make a difference! Check out The Link's urgent needs wishlist at www.thelinkmn.org/get-involved.



Support youth and families in The Link programming through a financial contribution. Visit www.thelinkmn.org/donate to learn more.



Volunteer! Visit www.thelinkmn.org/volunteer for upcoming opportunities and to find resources for hosting donations drives to supply basic need items to youth in our programs.



Connect with The Link on social media: @thelinkmn on Facebook to learn more about programs, urgent needs and success stories.



Join us at one of our events! Learn more about upcoming events at thelinkmn.org/events.