



FOUNDED: 2015

CURRENT ORGANIZATION BUDGET: \$779,711

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Investment Opportunity

Y2Y seeks a \$2.1M investment over the next two years to expand its footprint and scope of services as well as formalize its growth strategy. Currently, Y2Y turns away twice as many young people as there are available beds. As a first step in scaling up, Y2Y will open one additional shelter in New England. Y2Y will expand its research and evaluation capacity, assess programmatic outcomes, and formalize new partnerships with health centers, job training, and case management providers.

Every night a young person is homeless increases their risk of chronic homelessness by 2%. Young people who experience homelessness are typically faced with the following challenges:

- Home isn't safe: 76% of young people who are homeless are survivors of trauma or abuse
- Home isn't supportive: national and local data suggest that up to 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ
- Home doesn't exist: in Massachusetts, almost 40% of young people in foster care will experience homelessness before the age of 26

Without appropriate shelter and intervention, 18-24-year old youth are at risk to become the next generation of chronically homeless adults, perpetuating the cycle of homelessness.

Y2Y is the nation's first youth homeless shelter run by college students. Through its trauma-informed physical space, unique staffing model, and youth-led programming, Y2Y provides sanctuary for vulnerable guests to rest, grow, and lead, maximizing their opportunities for safe and fulfilling futures. Since 2015, over 350 young people have accessed Y2Y's legal, health, and case management services.

Two-Year Goals

- Upgrade physical space to ensure greater safety for guests and staff
- Pilot and assess new programmatic initiatives to maximize guest outcomes
- Develop staff training and support systems to optimize retention and professional development
- Increase number of staff to include program managers for shelter and internal operations capacity

Ways to Invest

FINANCIAL

- \$25,000 sponsors a guest bed in perpetuity
- \$10,000 supports yearly staff training in trauma-informed care across two sites
- \$5,000 funds guest CharlieCards for Pathways out of Homelessness program

IN-KIND

- Gently used computers and cell phones
- Blankets and sleeping bags for guests
- Volunteers to serve guests breakfast and dinner

Leadership & Governance

Co-Founders and Co-Executive Directors Sarah Rosenkrantz and Sam Greenberg founded Y2Y out of the belief that all young people should have a safe place to sleep and the resources they need to succeed in life. Rosenkrantz and Greenberg met as student volunteers at Phillips Brooks House Association's Harvard Square Homeless Shelter. They are Draper Richards Kaplan Foundation Entrepreneurs, named as Forbes 30 under 30 in Social Entrepreneurship, and received honorable mentions as Boston Globe Magazine's Bostonians of the Year.

Y2Y is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors that includes experts in youth homelessness, nonprofit leadership, legal services, and community organizing.

“

Without Y2Y, I wouldn't be here. Because of Y2Y, I have housing, I have a positive mindset, and I have a job. Y2Y was my biggest cheerleader.

”

KRESHAUN C.

Y2Y Guest



Y2Y'S MODEL



Y2Y provides a safe and affirming environment for young adults experiencing homelessness. Y2Y meets guests' needs with a three-part model: Sanctuary, Pathways, and Leadership Development and Advocacy. This critical intervention model provides emotional and physical stability, and facilitates access to needed resources.

Sanctuary for the Homeless

At Y2Y, sanctuary means more than just a bed. Y2Y offers guests the chance to rest and recover from trauma experienced on the street. Student staff create a welcoming, vibrant space so that guests can build trusting relationships, and feel safe and stable enough to work on long-term goals.

Pathways Out of Homelessness

Y2Y's extensive partner network includes professional health care providers, skilled volunteers, and community partners. Student volunteers advised by faculty and professionals offer programming in legal aid, career readiness, and creative expression. Student case managers work with guests to access critical resources, including job training, mentoring, mental health care, and permanent housing.

Leadership & Advocacy

Y2Y's model relies on the talents, passion, and leadership of hundreds of young adults. Together, guests and student staff receive training and support to become the next generation of advocates for youth-driven solutions to homelessness. Student staff host a weekly guest leadership council to review the shelter's policies and programs. Outside the shelter, guests and student staff work with policymakers and academics to raise support for and awareness of young adult homelessness.



The key is people saying, I'm not going to be able to fix it all. I may not be able to take on all 39,000 homeless youth. But what we can do is we can make a start, right here in Cambridge. And by making a start, we make a real difference, person-to-person.



SENATOR ELIZABETH WARREN, MA

YOUNG ADULTS UNITING TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

Y2Y's college partnership model leverages critical resources to achieve its mission. Y2Y works closely with leading academic researchers in fields relating to child welfare, at-risk youth, and homelessness. Y2Y has also benefited from student projects on topics such as data collection, strategic growth, and program design. This data-rich environment unites expert service providers, community members, local institutions, motivated students and young adults experiencing homelessness to create positive change.

Y2Y operates with 150 weekly volunteers and 35 student staff. The staff is responsible for running the day-to-day operations of the shelter including recruiting volunteers, daily programming, and housekeeping. Before they begin their work with guests, each student staff member receives upwards of 30 hours of training in topics including trauma-informed care, positive youth development, conflict de-escalation, and psychiatric first aid.

Working at Y2Y has proven to impact more than 500 students who have volunteered since 2015. Data collected from the student staff who run daily shelter operations show that 82% felt that their perceptions of homelessness, foster care, LGBTQ equality, and racial justice had changed. 80% also reported their volunteer experience at Y2Y had made them more likely to pursue public service careers.

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Y2Y is planning for ambitious growth in the next two years, including opening a new shelter by 2021 and almost doubling its full-time staff. Y2Y's strategic planning ensures the organization's fiscal, programmatic, and operational health over the next two years. A key component is a focus on growing revenue via foundation grants and individual contributions, including in-kind donations for the shelter.

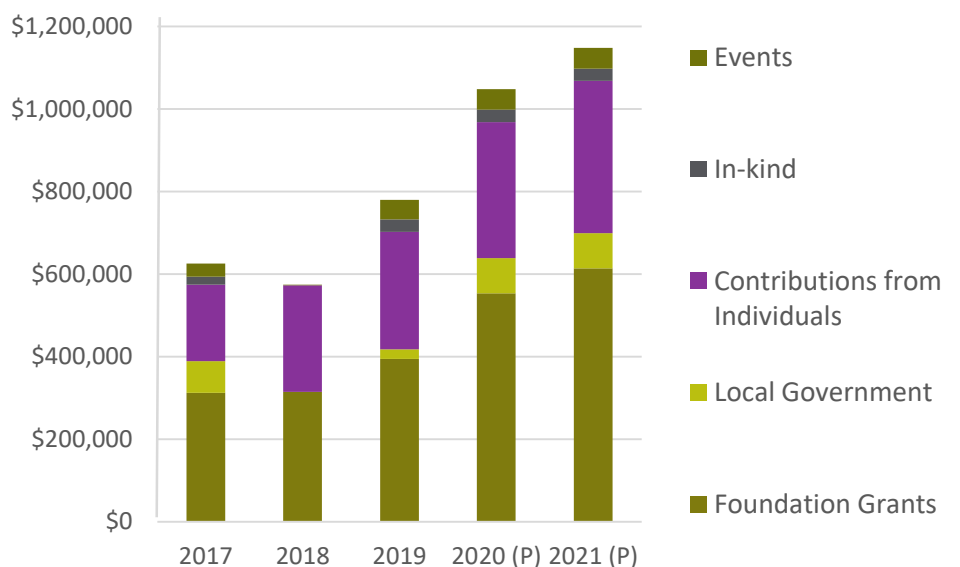
Key Investors

- BANK OF AMERICA
- THE BAUPOST GROUP
- THE BOSTON FOUNDATION
- CAMBRIDGE HOUSING AUTHORITY
- WAGNER FOUNDATION

Partners

- BOSTON HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS
- BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATERS
- ELIOT COMMUNITY HUMAN SERVICES
- HARVARD LEGAL AID BUREAU
- PHILLIPS BROOKS HOUSE ASSOCIATION
- YOUTH ON FIRE

Revenue by Source



Success Story: Sanders

Sanders was excited to start his freshman year of high school at a private school, but soon had to drop out because his family couldn't afford it. He started a full-time job, but was kicked out of his house because he wasn't making enough money to meet his parents' expectations.

Sanders had been homeless for two years before he heard about Y2Y from a friend. Sanders felt "safer at Y2Y than other shelters. They have resources I can take advantage of. There are case managers, lawyers, and great staff support. Y2Y staff care about youth a lot. They're understanding of my situation and background. Y2Y helped me look for and apply to jobs, and helped me navigate a lot of legal and family issues."

Sanders is now hopeful he can work his way out of homelessness and is currently employed at a pizza shop in Somerville. He says his "short-term goal is to make money and save up for a place, and work with Y2Y on legal issues and therapy. My long-term goals are getting my own place, maintaining it, and having enough resources to help me get through."



PROGRAM PERFORMANCE AND ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH

Below is a summary of the key measures that Y2Y will track to demonstrate progress, create internal accountability, incorporate lessons learned, and adjust strategy as necessary.

	FY 2019	FY 2020 (P)	FY 2021 (P)
PROGRAM PERFORMANCE			
Guest safety: % of guests who report feeling extremely safe	88%	88%	90%
Pathways: % of guests who report leaving Y2Y on a pathway out of homelessness	68%	68%	70%
Number of volunteer student staff	200	320	350
Number of guests served	185	250	290
ORGANIZATIONAL HEALTH/CAPACITY-BUILDING			
Number of full-time equivalent employees	5	7	9
% of eligible student staff who return year to year	83%	85%	85%
Number of sites	1	2	2
Total revenue	\$779,711	\$1,048,500	\$1,147,540

SOCIAL IMPACT

Y2Y staff and guests advocate to lawmakers and inform public understanding to promote policy decisions that direct increased attention and resources toward addressing youth homelessness.

Y2Y guests have opportunities to collaborate with service providers, other youth experiencing homelessness, and student volunteers to create sustainable pathways out of homelessness and develop skills for long-term success.

INDICATOR	2018
% of staff who say their mindset and beliefs about homelessness have shifted because of their work	80%
Number of guests attending two or more Shelter Policy Planning Committee meetings	11
Number of State House advocacy events attended by guests and student staff	3
Number of guests reporting stable housing upon leaving Y2Y	24
% of guests who obtained employment during their stay	30%