

NewGen: Youth Homelessness Solutions & Prevention

Requester Information

Legislator: Walter, R. Neil

Creation Date: 2024-01-15

Submission Date: 2024-01-19

Section 1: Request Details

Description:

This funding is to meet the growing demand for Utah's most vulnerable youth aged 12-17, served by the state's sole Basic Center Programs (BCPs), low-barrier, licensed emergency shelters and Transitional Living Program (TLP), two years of housing, skills development and a successful transition into adulthood. The requested funding is crucial for delivering tailored services including crisis stabilization, family reunification, mental health therapy, education, employment assistance, preparedness for the child services system and aftercare support for as long as it is required. Grounded in evidence-based practices, the BCPs and TLP focuses on positive youth development and trauma-informed care, aiming to protect these youth from street-related risks, exploitation, trafficking, abuse, neglect and empowers them to thrive in society and ultimately contribute to a resilient future workforce. These services help meet the immediate needs of youth experiencing homelessness, breaks the cycle of homelessness and works toward long-term solutions to prevent future homelessness.

Legislative designee contact information:

- Name: Melissa Freigang
 - Organization: Youth Futures Utah
 - Position: Director
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Section 2: Funding Information

How will the appropriation be used?

	One-time	Ongoing
Personnel Services	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$675,000.00
In-State Travel	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Out-of-state Travel	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies and Equipment	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Technology Purchases	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00

Infrastructure/Capital Investments	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$200,000.00	\$0.00
Other Charges/Pass Thru	2024: \$0.00 2025: \$0.00	\$0.00
Expenditure Total		
One-time 2024 \$0.00	One-time 2025 \$200,000.00	Ongoing 2025 \$675,000.00

Funding Sources:

Federal Funds

- Amount Requested 2024 (One-time) \$0.00
- Amount Requested 2025 (One-time) \$200,000.00
- Amount Requested 2025 (Ongoing) \$675,000.00

Revenue Total

One-time 2024 \$0.00	One-time 2025 \$200,000.00	Ongoing 2025 \$675,000.00
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Should unused funding be returned to the state at the end of the fiscal year?

No

Is this project scalable if the Legislature does not fund the full requested amount?

Yes

A short explanation describing how the project might be scaled

The funding request is 1.) to increase funding to meet the growing demand for youth services in all three of Utah's Basic Center Programs (BCPs), low barrier, licensed youth homeless shelters for youth aged 12-17 years by \$200,000 ongoing, 2.) Utah's Transitional Living Housing Program (TLP), by \$100,000 ongoing and \$200,000 of one-time funding to assist with renovation costs to the Ogden BCP to meet licensing, zoning and ADA requirements. Each of these requests can be scaled up or down.

Section 3: Agency Information**Subjects:**

Health and Wellbeing

Agency:

250 / Department of Health and Human Services

Type of entity to receive pass-through funding

- Private Not for Profit

Section 4: Performance Outcome Measurement**Who would benefit from this request (who is the target audience)?**

This request will benefit homeless youth by addressing their immediate needs and working toward solutions.

What is this project or program intended to accomplish?

The aim is to provide a comprehensive support system for runaway and homeless youth, addressing their immediate needs while also working towards long-term solutions to prevent future homelessness. Basic Center Program aims to provide emergency shelter and essential services for runaway and homeless

youth. The program focuses on several outcomes and goals, including: 1. Emergency Shelter: Providing safe and appropriate shelter for runaway and homeless youth who are in immediate need. 2. Basic Needs: Addressing the basic needs of youth, including food, clothing, hygiene, access to positive peers, belonging, empowerment, and self-determination. 3. Crisis Intervention: Offering crisis intervention services to help youth cope with immediate issues and challenges. 4. Family Reunification: Working towards family reunification whenever possible, involving families in the resolution of conflicts that led to the youth's homelessness. 5. Case Management: Providing case management services to help youth access education, employment, and other necessary support systems. 6. Health and Mental Health Services: Ensuring access to healthcare and mental health services to address the physical and emotional well-being of the youth. 7. Life Skills Training: Offering programs that equip youth with essential life skills, including financial literacy, job readiness, and interpersonal skills. 8. Community Outreach: Engaging with the community to raise awareness about youth homelessness and to create support networks. 9. Prevention Services: Implementing preventive measures to reduce the incidence of youth homelessness and address issues that contribute to it. 10. Data Collection and Reporting: Gathering data on program outcomes and using it to improve services and demonstrate the impact of the Basic Center Program.

How will the Legislature know whether the project or program achieved its intended purpose?

The success of the project will be demonstrated by achieving improvements in the following outcomes: 1. Improvement in Social and emotional well-being measured by the decreases in suicidology and self-harm, increases in youth self-esteem, confidence, and interpersonal skills, increases in successful family reunification, increase in the number of newly established, stable relationships and connections for the youth, supportive networks or family-like structures. 2. Increases in educational re-engagement or employment, improvements in the educational progress of the targeted youth, including school attendance, academic performance, and graduation rates, and successful vocational training, post-secondary enrollments, or employment opportunities for transition-aged youth. 3. Increase the number of youth who have gained access to stable housing as a result of the program, retained or sustained stable housing situations over time.

Section 5: Other Supporting Documents

Intent Language

Previous State Funding

None