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In July of 2017, Friends of Youth Outreach Hawai'i Foundation adopted the trade name Residential Youth Services and Empowerment or RYSE to reflect its readiness to execute the mission. On June 4th, 2018 RYSE opened an access center as part of the Kawaiiloa Youth and Family Wellness Center in Kailua, where disenfranchised youth are able to sleep safely at night under professional supervision. In addition, they receive: skilled medical attention, hot nutritious meals, clean clothes, laundry facilities, hot showers, personal lockers, counseling, job training and employment assistance, GED education, and nurturing by qualified, professional staff.

RYSE operates an access center in the Windward community where Hawaii's street youth, ages 18-24, are assessed and referred to the appropriate support services and have access to a safe temporary living space specifically designed to address their unique needs.

There are few places to go for street youth on Oahu. At a minimum, the RYSE access center offers homeless youth, ages 18-24, respite from the streets. RYSE collaborates with existing youth providers to an assessment and entry into the coordinated entry system (CES) to connect youth seeking services with the most appropriate resources.

Through the Housing First for Youth approach, the key goal is not simply to be independently housed, but to be supported through a successful transition to independence and self sufficiency. This includes housing support, health and well being, access to income and education, social inclusion and community integration.

The program is built on the principles of the positive youth development model which ensures youth choice and self determination. The youth are offered individualized, client driven support with no defined time limits.

The RYSE access center provides staffing support twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week Youth would and employs ten full time youth care counselors, a behavioral health coordinator, substance abuse counselors and a housing and employment navigator. RYSE also has a team of street outreach workers who provide around the clock support to youth still living on the streets island wide.

The on site services include two levels of engagement for the youth. The first level provides a low barrier entry point for youth who are still "street entrenched" and are not ready to engage in services but are seeking a hot shower, a meal and a safe place to sleep for the night. These youth are given time and space to acclimate to a life off the streets.

The second level of service is for youth who are working to change the course of their lives through employment, education opportunities or treatment. In addition to basic needs services, youth are able to create greater stability in their lives in their own reserved private room. While working with staff, the youth will develop goals and utilize various community resources that will lead to self sufficiency.

Our outcomes are focused on ending the cycle of homelessness in Hawaii by prioritizing the needs of our youth.