

# Ithaca/Tompkins Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program

Request for Proposals for  
YHDP Applications Due: May 23

Date Issued: 04/22

Deadline: 05/23 @ 5p.m. EST

Submit proposal by email to [nlafave@hsctc.org](mailto:nlafave@hsctc.org)

If you have any questions, please contact YHDP Project Manager Nicole LaFave: 607-232-1579, [nlafave@hsctc.org](mailto:nlafave@hsctc.org)

## **Background:**

On September 15, 2021, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) awarded \$142 million to 33 local communities, including 11 rural communities, to address youth and young adult homelessness in their local communities. HUD's *Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)* supports a wide range of housing programs including rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and host homes. The Continuum of Care NY-510 Ithaca/Tompkins was selected as a round four community and awarded \$2,028,219.67 on September 21, 2021.

## **YHDP Vision**

The Ithaca YAB envisions ending youth homelessness with an equitable, youth led canopy of mutual aid, a network of resources that share the fundamental belief that everyone deserves housing, providing standards of safety that the current systems have failed to uphold, valuing homeless youth as people, and centering a housing-first framework that is trauma informed, anti racist, and abolitionist. Ensuring the safety of homeless youth involves building community through a foundation of youth power and equity, all youth not only having equitable access to resources but an equitable share of their voice in the discussion.

## **YHDP Mission**

The Ithaca YAB works to create a homeless response system that radically embraces harm reduction by creating pathways that help homeless youth navigate systems to make all experiences of homelessness one time and brief. Centering abolition through intervening in the systematic incarceration and oppression that keep homeless youth disenfranchised, implementing trauma-informed practices, and ensuring anti-racism while promoting youth voices with lived experience into positions of power and authority will allow a housing first system with a radically safe future.

It is imperative that every organization that intends to apply understands how critically important it is to the YAB that your organization's mission aligns with theirs. Throughout the planning process the YAB has been the compass, the North Star, leading this work by telling adult partners what their needs, wants, and desires are. We are committed to cultivating a community in which all of our young people are living their best life, an equitable life, a life of abundance, joy and fortitude. It is our hope that the projects that are submitted will be an apparatus for creating more opportunities of joy via housing stability.

## **Notice of Funding Availability Description**

The Continuum of Care NY-510 Ithaca/Tompkins is seeking proposals from nonprofit service providers and governmental agencies to implement projects to serve unaccompanied homeless youth, age 24 and younger, in support of the Ithaca/Tompkins Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness under the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP), funded by United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Through YHDP, Tompkins County organizations may access up to \$2,028,219.67 in federal funding to support the implementations of projects to serve youth within our community experiencing homelessness or at-risk of experiencing homelessness.

The YAB and CoC are seeking applications from eligible providers for the following projects (see p. 24 regarding additional information about project types):

- Transitional Housing
- Rapid Rehousing
- Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Supportive Services Only

An applicant may apply in partnership with one or more other organizations. Joint applications should submit an MOU reflecting the role of project partners, and specify funding for each organization in the detailed budget.

### **Eligible Applicants:**

- Eligible project applicants are nonprofit organizations, states, local governments, and instrumentalities of state and local governments. For-profit entities are not eligible to apply for grants or to be sub-recipients of grant funds.
- Applications shall only be considered from project applicants in good standing with the state and federal government, which means that the applicant does not have any open monitoring or audit findings, history of slow expenditure of grant funds, outstanding obligation to the government that is in arrears or for which a payment schedule has not been agreed upon, or history of serving ineligible program participants, expending funds on ineligible costs, or failing to expend funds within statutorily established timeframes.

### **Eligible Populations Served:**

To be eligible for assistance, program participants must meet the following criteria:

- Unaccompanied youth up to the age of 24, including pregnant and parenting youth. • Literally homeless or imminently at-risk of homelessness as defined by categories 1, 2, and 4 of HUD's Final Definition of Homelessness.

### **HUD Definitions of Homelessness:**

- **Category 1: Literally homeless individuals/families who lack fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence.** This definition includes:
  - Individuals or families who are sleeping in places not designed for or ordinarily

used as a regular sleeping accommodation (including cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus or train stations, airports, or campgrounds).

- Individuals or families who are living in a shelter, transitional housing, or motel/hotel paid for by a third party.
- Individuals exiting an institution who a) resided in the institution for 90 days or less; and b) were residing in emergency shelter or a place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering the institution.
- **Category 2: Imminently homeless Individuals/families.** To qualify for this category, individuals or families must:
  - Be imminently losing their primary nighttime residence within 14 days, AND
  - Have no subsequent residence identified, AND
  - Lack the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.
- **Category 4: Individuals/families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence.** Applies to Individuals/families fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions related to violence, who:
  - Have no identified subsequent residence; AND
  - Lack the resources and support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing.

### **Requirements:**

If selected, each project would be awarded two years of funding with the potential for future annual renewal through the HUD Continuum of Care Program competition. Selected projects would begin implementation in September or October of 2022.

1. Submit a project application to HUD via e-snaps, that achieves the goals and objectives defined by the Coordinated Community Plan and approved by the YAB,

- YHDP Adulting Working Group, and review and rank panel.
2. Comply with program requirements as per the Ithaca/Tompkins County Continuum of Care Policies and Procedures.
  3. Comply with all HUD Continuum of Care and YHDP program reporting and evaluation requirements.

# Application

## Section I. Agency Capacity & Experience

Please answer the following questions:

1. Describe your agency's experience in serving unaccompanied YYA experiencing homelessness or housing instability.
2. What best practices does your agency utilize in engaging and supporting young people?
3. What experience does your agency have in working with the following populations?
  - a. Young adults and unaccompanied youth/minors (under age 18)?
  - b. Young people of color (particularly native youth and black/African American youth)?
  - c. Young people who identify as LGBTQ?
  - d. Young people living with disabilities (physical, developmental, cognitive, etc.)?
  - e. Pregnant and/or parenting young people?
  - f. All gender identities? How does your organization ensure that everyone they serve has their pronouns respected?
  - g. Sexually exploited young people?
  - h. Young people leaving the juvenile justice system or exiting out of foster care?

If you do not already serve these populations, identify how you would reach out and target services to these populations.

4. Describe how your agency actively addresses systemic disparities that specifically affect youth who are African American, LGBTQIA+, have experience in the juvenile justice system and/or foster-care involvement? Provide specific strategies and activities to address these disparities.
5. Please describe if and how the organization prioritizes hiring people with lived

experience, and if the individuals with lived experience have been paid fairly/equitably. Please include job descriptions.

6. Include a description of any intentional strategies used to recruit and retain people of color at various levels of your organization.
7. Describe how your organization includes people with lived experience of homelessness in the development and operations of your organization?
8. Please define the following terms:
  - a. Diversity
  - b. b) Equity
  - c. c) Inclusion.
9. Describe how your organization currently incorporates principles of Trauma Informed Care (as outlined in the Coordinated Community Plan) in its service delivery and operations. If your organization does not currently utilize this approach, describe the steps the agency would take to integrate Trauma Informed Care into its practices?
10. How has your organization fostered youth involvement and leadership historically? If the organization has not fostered youth involvement and leadership, please explain how you plan to incorporate it in your project/s.

## **Section II. Program Design & Implementation**

Please provide a detailed description addressing all of the following:

1. **Program Summary.** Provide an overall description addressing the whole scope of the project. Include the needs to be addressed, the population to be served; geographic area to be served; location of services; outreach strategy and methods for eligibility determinations; the housing and/or supportive services to be provided; linkages with other services and agencies; outcomes to be achieved; and how the project will be accessible and appropriate for YYAs.
2. **Housing.** Describe the housing that will be made available to YYA experiencing

homelessness. For projects directly providing housing, describe the type and location of the housing and the number of beds and/or units to be provided. For all project types, explain how YYA experiencing homelessness will be assisted to obtain and remain in appropriate housing.

3. **Supportive Services.** Describe the supportive services for YYA that will be provided through the project, including the type, scale, and location of supportive services and the mode of transportation to those services. Explain how the program design will be made accessible and appropriate for unaccompanied YYA. Describe how the supportive services will assist YYA to gain independent living skills; to obtain and remain in permanent housing; to access education and increase income through employment and/or benefits; and to maximize their ability to live independently.
4. **Youth Involvement and Leadership.** Describe YYA involvement in planning and designing the proposed project, as well as the organization's plan for active involvement and leadership among YYA in the project's implementation, including employment opportunities and youth voice in the staff hiring process.
5. **Housing First Approach.** Describe how you will use a "Housing First" approach in which assistance is offered and referrals made, including access to intensive, youth focused case management and services, without preconditions and barriers to entry such as treatment or service participation requirements.
6. **Populations of Focus.** Describe how the project will serve vulnerable and often overrepresented YYA experiencing homelessness in Ithaca/Tompkins County, including youth of color, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth; pregnant and parenting youth; disabled youth; youth with mental illness; youth of color; youth who have had involvement with juvenile justice and foster care systems; and victims of sexual trafficking and exploitation.
7. **Numbers of YYA to be Served/Outcomes.** Identify how many YYA your project will serve at a point-in-time and over the course of the grant (2 years). List your proposed client outcomes. Describe the data source(s) you will use to measure progress toward your outcomes and how you will evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

## **Section III. Alignment with HUD USICH Youth Framework and Principles**

### **A. USICH Youth Framework and Four Outcomes**

Please provide a brief description as to how your proposal aligns:

1. Stable housing
2. Permanent connections
3. Education
4. Social-emotional wellbeing

### **B. Principles**

Please provide a brief description as to how your proposal aligns:

1. **Trauma-informed Care** - ensuring that all individuals working within or connected to the homeless response system understand, acknowledge, and are educated on the trauma that is foundational to housing insecurity and homelessness.
2. **Positive Youth Development** - Ensuring that all homeless and housing insecure youth have access to crucial resources and support that engages with their strengths and talents while acknowledging the humanity and power of YYAs without bias or stigma.

## **Section IV. Implementation Plan**

Please provide a detailed description on the following:

1. **Timeline** - Include a timeline for project implementation including the hiring of staff, proposed project start date, project evaluation, and benchmarks for project outcomes.
2. **Staff Training** - Describe training and staff development that will be provided to staff on how to support youth experiencing homelessness (ie. diversity, equity, inclusion,

cultural competency, trauma-informed care, emotional intelligence).

3. **Match** - Projects selected for funding will be required to provide (25% )match documentations.

4. **Budget** - Please see the attached budget worksheet for detailed information about eligible uses and how to create a project budget. Please fill in budget charts below that are applicable to your projects.

- Provide a clear budget for the project that supports the housing, services, and staff proposed. The budget must demonstrate the project is cost effective and that costs do not deviate from the norm in the locale for the type of structure or program.

# YHDP Budget Worksheets

The following budgets should be filled out to capture all costs planned for your YHDP project, as broken down by eligible cost components for the CoC/YHDP program. Please see YHDP NOFO Appendix A for a full list of flexibilities that can be used within YHDP projects.

**Eligible Costs Permanent Rapid Re- Transitional Supportive Supportive Housing (RRH)  
Housing (TH) Services Only Housing (PSH) (SSO)**

<b>Leasing</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Rental Assistance</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	X (tenant-based)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Supportive Services</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Operating Costs</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>HMIS</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Project Administration</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Acquisition &amp; Rehabilitation*</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>New Construction*</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

## Leased Unit Budget

This budget applies to projects that will provide housing to program participant, with leases executed between the property owner and the Recipient.<sup>1</sup>

- If the project intends to provide housing where the lease will be between the property owner and the program participant, complete the [Rental Assistance budget](#), not the leased units budget.

*May be applicable for:* PSH and TH projects

FY 2022 Ithaca, NY MSA FMRs by Unit Bedrooms:

Final FY 2022 & Final FY 2021 FMRs By Unit Bedrooms					
Year	<a href="#">Efficiency</a>	<a href="#">One-Bedroom</a>	<a href="#">Two-Bedroom</a>	<a href="#">Three-Bedroom</a>	<a href="#">Four-Bedroom</a>
FY 2022 FMR	\$1,053	\$1,127	\$1,365	\$1,743	\$1,851
<a href="#">FY 2021 FMR</a>	\$980	\$1,048	\$1,269	\$1,619	\$1,812

**YHDP Project Request:** Please input below the number of units you plan to lease of each unit size in the first column. Then, please calculate your total annual request for funding per unit size by multiplying the number of units requested (first column) by the FMR for that unit size (second column), and multiplying the resulting number by 12 months in the year.

SIZE OF UNIT	NUMBER OF UNITS	FMR	TOTAL ANNUAL REQUEST  (=NUMBER OF UNITS x FMR x

			12)
<i>Sample: # Bedroom</i>	6	\$1000	\$72,000
SRO / 0 Bedroom		\$1,053	

<sup>1</sup> Recipient means the entity that executed a YHDP Grant Agreement with HUD.

1 Bedroom		\$1,127	
2 Bedroom		\$1,365	
3 Bedroom		\$1,743	
4 Bedroom		\$1,851	
<b>Total Annual Assistance Requested</b>		N/A	
<b>Total Assistance Requested For Grant Term (2 Years)</b>		N/A	

## Leased Structures Budget

Project Applicants that plan to lease structures or portions of structures for housing or supportive services must complete the "Leased Structures Budget".

If you plan to lease a structure for YHDP but have not yet identified the site, please estimate your budget using the best available information and provide an explanation of your plan and timeline for identifying and securing the site.

***May be applicable for:*** PSH, TH, and SSO projects

Name of Structure:

*The name of the structure can be as simple as "Structure 1" or something that is descriptive of the use of the structure.*

Street Address:

Assistance Requested:

<b>HUD Paid Rent (per Month)</b>	
<b>Total Annual Assistance Requested</b>	
<b>Total Requested for Grant Term (2 years)</b>	

## Rental Assistance Budget

Project Applicants that plan to provide rental assistance to participants (short/medium - or long term) as part of their YHDP project must complete the "Rental Assistance Budget".

If you are applying for rental assistance units, the lease agreement will be between the landowner and the participant. If the leases are between the project applicant and the landowner, then the Project Applicant must complete the leased unit's budget, not the rental assistance budget.

*May be applicable for:* RRH, PSH, and TH projects

FY 2022 Ithaca, NY MSA FMRs by Unit Bedrooms:

Final FY 2022 & Final FY 2021 FMRs By Unit Bedrooms					
Year	Efficiency	One-Bedroom	Two-Bedroom	Three-Bedroom	Four-Bedroom
FY 2022 FMR	\$1,053	\$1,127	\$1,365	\$1,743	\$1,851
<u>FY 2021 FMR</u>	\$980	\$1,048	\$1,269	\$1,619	\$1,812

YHDP Project Request: Please input below the number of rental assistance units of each unit size you plan to use in the first column. Then, please calculate your total annual request for funding per unit size by multiplying the number of units requested (first column) by the FMR for that unit size (second column), and multiplying the resulting number by 12 months in the year.

SIZE OF UNIT	NUMBER OF UNITS	FMR	TOTAL ANNUAL REQUEST (=NUMBER OF UNITS x FMR x 12)
SRO / 0 Bedroom		\$1,053	
1 Bedroom		\$1,127	

2 Bedroom		\$1,365	
3 Bedroom		\$1,743	
4 Bedroom		\$1,851	
<b>Total Annual Assistance Requested</b>		N/A	
<b>Total Assistance Requested For Grant Term (2 Years)</b>		N/A	

## Supportive Services Budget

All projects providing supportive services should complete the “Supportive Services Budget.”

*May be applicable for:* PSH, RRH, TH and SSO projects

Please see [Appendix B](#) for a sample Supportive Services Budget.

<b>ELIGIBLE COSTS</b>	<b>QUANTITY AND DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ANNUAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED</b>
Assessment Of Service Needs		
Assistance With Moving Costs		

Case Management		
Child Care		
Education Services		
Employment Assistance		
Food		
Housing/Counseling Services		
Legal Services		
Life Skills		
Mental Health Services		
Outpatient Health Services		
Outreach Services		
Substance Abuse Treatment Services		
Transportation		
Utility Deposits		
Operating Costs ( <i>for SSO projects only</i> )		
<b>Total Annual Assistance Requested</b>	N/A	
<b>Total Assistance</b>	N/A	

<b>Requested For Grant Term (2 Years)</b>		
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### Operating Budget

The “Operating Budget” is only applicable for Transitional Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing programs. CoC operating costs may not be used in a building or unit receiving CoC rental assistance. If the lease for the unit/building states that certain costs are covered in that lease, then CoC operating funds cannot be used to cover those items.

*May be applicable for:* PSH and TH projects

<b>ELIGIBLE COSTS</b>	<b>QUANTITY AND DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ANNUAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED</b>
Maintenance/Repair		
Property Taxes And Insurance		
Replacement Reserve		
Building Security		
Electricity, Gas, And Water		
Furniture		
Equipment (Lease, Buy)		
<b>Total Annual</b>	<b>N/A</b>	

<b>Assistance Requested</b>		
<b>Total Assistance Requested For Grant Term (2 Years)</b>	N/A	

### HMIS Budget

Project applicants that plan to use YHDP funds to pay for staff and overhead costs directly related to contributing and maintaining data in HMIS or a comparable database should complete the “HMIS Budget”.

*May be applicable for:* All project types

<b>ELIGIBLE COSTS</b>	<b>QUANTITY AND DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>ANNUAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED</b>
Equipment		
Software		
Services		
Personnel		
Space & Operations		
<b>Total Annual Assistance Requested</b>	N/A	

<b>Total Assistance Requested For Grant Term (2 Years)</b>	N/A	
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## Project Administration Budget

Up to 10 percent of any CoC project grant may be used for project administration costs, excluding planning grants or Unified Funding Agency (UFA) costs.

*May be applicable for:* All project types

<b>ELIGIBLE COSTS</b>	<b>ANNUAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED</b>
<b>Salaries, wages, and related costs for:</b>	
Preparing /amending program budgets and schedules	
Developing systems for assuring compliance with program requirements	
Developing agreements with subrecipients and contractors to carry out program activities	
Monitoring program activities for progress and compliance with program requirements	
Preparing reports and other documents directly related to the program for submission to HUD	

Coordinating the resolution of audit and monitoring findings	
Evaluating program results against stated objectives	
Managing people whose primary responsibilities are described above	
Travel costs incurred for monitoring of subrecipients	
Administrative services performed under third-party contracts or agreements (ex: general legal services, accounting services, and audit services)	

Other costs for goods and services required for program administration (ex: rental or purchase of equipment, insurance, utilities, office supplies, and rental and maintenance (but not purchase) of office space)	
Costs for providing and attending trainings and conferences related to youth homelessness	
Costs of carrying out the environmental review responsibilities	
<b>Total Annual Assistance Requested</b>	
<b>Total Assistance Requested For Grant Term (2 Years)</b>	

## Acquisition/Rehabilitation/New Construction Budget

A housing structure/unit that receives acquisition, rehabilitation, or new construction funds cannot also use leasing funds, tenant-based rental assistance funds, and/or short- or medium-term rental assistance funds.

***May be applicable for:*** PSH, TH, and SSO projects

Name of Structure:

Street Address:

Assistance Requested:

CATEGORY	AMOUNT REQUESTED
1. ACQUISITION	
2. REHABILITATION	
3. NEW CONSTRUCTION	
4. TOTAL ASSISTANCE REQUESTED	

# Appeals Process

## 1. Who May Appeal?

An agency may appeal a decision concerning a project application submitted by that agency

## 2. What May Be Appealed?

The appeals process applies only to project scoring and ranking. There is no appeal for project tiering. An appeal may not be submitted if: all questions on the application were not completed, all required attachments were not submitted with the application, and/or the application was not submitted by the required deadline

## 3. Timing of an Appeal

Formal appeals may only be submitted by a project within three (3) business days of a project receiving their ranking. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Collaborative Applicant, who will then forward to the Ranking Committee. The written appeal must consist of a brief statement no longer than one page, and can be in the form of a letter, memo or email. Any appeal via email must be sent to the Human Services Coalition, [nlafave@hsctc.org](mailto:nlafave@hsctc.org), the Collaborative Applicant and Lead Agency.

## 4. Appeals Decisions

The Ranking committee and the CoC Governance committee will review all appeals. Appeals are decided by majority vote and may not be overturned by the full CoC.

## E-snaps

E-snaps Project Application: HUD requires that all applicants for YHDP funds submit an application through the web-based e-snaps system. Selected projects will be required to enter their applications into E-snaps after the competitive proposal and selection process is complete. Details on accessing E-snaps can be found [here](#).

## **Submission Requirements:**

Format: Please limit your written proposal to no more than twenty (20) single spaced pages.

Deadline: Proposals should be received by May 23rd, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. EST.

Submission: Proposals MUST be submitted by email to [nlafave@hsctc.org](mailto:nlafave@hsctc.org)

Address submissions to Nicole LaFave, YHDP Project Manager

# Additional YHDP Project Details

## Transitional Housing

<p><b>Overview:</b> Facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families to permanent housing within 24 months. Funds may be used for acquisition, rehabilitation, new construction, leasing, rental assistance, operating costs, and supportive services.</p>	<p><b>Key Elements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eligible populations: Categories 1, 2, 4</li><li>• Recipient providing TH can pay for operations of a building they own, or pay for leasing costs</li><li>• TH units can be master leased units, scattered sites or host homes.</li><li>• TH can offer an alternative to current shelter options; offer options to youth who have criminal history or no rental history</li></ul>
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### Ithaca YHDP Definition:

Transitional housing is low barrier housing with diverse options for youth ages 12-24, including but not limited to a community housing building as well as scattered sites with an emphasis on pet friendly housing as well as housing for young parents, that provide homeless youth

immediate access to housing and resources. These resources include mental health professionals present that provide help receiving emotional support animal documentation as well as individual and group therapy, caseworkers that are open for communication on people that should not be present for safety reasons (parents, ex-spouses, abusers, etc.) as well as help with resource navigation with an emphasis on confidentiality, as well as live-in emotional support staff who would assist with medication management and provide a safe space within the building. These staff will be trauma informed and NARCAN certified, providing increased support for more vulnerable people including an individualized check in system that works for each YYA. Housing available would exist across the county so that YYAs can live in the environment that is best suited to their health as well as the environment closest to their support system, job, and education. All units will be ADA accessible.

## **Rapid Rehousing**

<p><b>Overview :</b> RRH is a permanent housing program where a youth may receive up to 36 months of rental assistance and supportive services, with up to six months of aftercare once the rental assistance ends. Supportive services often focus on income maximization and stability planning. The participant enters into a lease directly with the landlord.</p>	<p><b>Key Elements:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rental assistance models can be flexible, should align with CoC’s written standards for administering RRH</li> <li>• Young people can choose their own units in the community/private market</li> <li>• Eligible populations: Categories 1, 2, 4</li> <li>• While it is a time-limited resource, there are no indicators for who will succeed in RRH - it is a resource that can work for anyone</li> </ul>
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**Ithaca YHDP Description:**

The RRH program’s goal is helping YYAs access permanent, stable, supportive housing for youth ages 12-24, with a specific emphasis on providing pet friendly housing and housing for young parents that is low barrier and housing first. This housing will be scattered site as well as site-based to provide the most diverse options possible. This includes rental assistance that is flexible and need-based, as well as general need-based financial assistance and assistance communicating with landlords. The YYAs in the rapid rehousing program would have access to a wide array of services, including roommate matching services, transportation to NA/AA

meetings as well as jobs and educational environments, and classes on life skills specifically pertaining to living alone. These YYAs would have access to the same caseworkers, emotional support staff, and mental health professionals that work in the transitional housing program. Housing available would exist across the county so that YYAs can live in the environment that is best suited to their health as well as the environment closest to their support system, job, and education. All units within the RRH program will be ADA accessible.

## **Joint Transitional Housing-Rapid Rehousing**

Overview: TH-RRH provides short-term crisis housing for youth who enter the TH portion of the program. It also provides medium/long-term permanent housing for youth who transition directly from TH into RRH or from homelessness into RRH. A youth has a choice of which program they wish to access and both TH and RRH portions must be available. Many youth who have no rental history and/or multiple barriers find the support provided with TH an easier launching pad into permanent housing.

Key Elements:

- Eligible populations: Categories 1, 2, 4
- Recipient providing TH can pay for operations of a building they own, or pay for leasing costs
- TH units can be master leased units, scattered site or host homes.
- TH can offer an alternative to current shelter options; offer options to youth who have criminal history or no rental history
- RRH operates with all the same tenets as a classic RRH program.

**Ithaca YHDP Description:**

Transitional housing is low barrier housing with diverse options for youth ages 12-24, including but not limited to a community housing building as well as scattered sites with an emphasis on pet friendly housing as well as housing for young parents, that provide homeless youth immediate access to housing and resources. These resources include mental health professionals present that provide help receiving emotional support animal documentation as well as individual and group therapy, caseworkers that are open for communication on people that should not be present for safety reasons (parents, ex-spouses, abusers, etc.) as well as help with resource navigation with an emphasis on confidentiality, as well as live-in emotional support staff who would assist with medication management and provide a safe space within the building. These staff will be trauma informed and NARCAN certified, providing increased support for more vulnerable people including an individualized check in system that works for each YYA.

The resource navigation aspect of caseworkers' jobs would include assistance transitioning into the rapid rehousing program, where youth would have access to their own units, as well as group living models and models appropriate for YYA with dependents. The YYAs in the rapid rehousing program would have access to a wide array of services, including roommate matching services, transportation to NA/AA meetings as well as jobs and educational environments, and classes on life skills specifically pertaining to living alone. These YYAs would have access to the same caseworkers, emotional support staff, and mental health professionals that they worked with in the transitional housing program to ensure continuity of care and that they retain trust with their support system. Housing available would exist across the county so that YYAs can live in the environment that is best suited to their health as well as the environment closest to their support system, job, and education. All units within the TH-RRH program will be ADA accessible.

## **Permanent Supportive Housing**

Overview : PSH is a non-time-limited, permanent housing subsidy combined with a high level of

supportive services. It is a model that is most effective when combined with a Housing First approach and is typically designed for folks with the highest needs, long experiences with homelessness and a household member with a disability.

#### Key Elements:

- Youth would pay a percentage of their income towards rent for an indefinite period
- Units can be site-based (e.g., lease up a bunch of units in an apartment complex) or be scattered site (e.g., youth choose unit in the community)
- Eligible populations: Categories 1, 2, 4
- May be an opportunity to serve youth who are disabled but do not meet chronic homeless definition

#### **Ithaca YHDP Description:**

Permanent Supportive Housing with both site-based and scattered site housing units will be available to ensure that homeless youth are able to choose the best housing option for their specific needs. This housing will be non-time limited, available to YYA starting at age 12 and without aging out after YYAs are over 24, as well as low barrier, prioritizing a housing first model for YYA with the highest needs, including but not limited to those with long experiences of homelessness as well as physical disabilities, intellectual disabilities, and/or chronic mental health issues. These units will be affordable, providing subsidized housing that is not income based, but instead calculates rent based on the specific circumstances of each YYA. These units would ensure the safety of the residents by providing wrap-around care including but not limited to caseworkers, mental health professionals, emotional support staff, and doctors, but not including security guards to ensure that Ithaca's commitment to restorative justice is upheld. Units offered would include pet friendly housing, housing for YYAs with dependants, as well as

YYAs who prefer group living with available roommate matching services. These youth will also have access to transportation to and from their jobs, education, NA/AA meetings, medical appointments, and any other necessary services. Housing available would exist across the county so that YYAs can live in the environment that is best suited to their health as well as the environment closest to their support system, job, and education. All units will be ADA accessible.

## **Supportive Services Only**

Overview: SSOs are a project type where YHDP funds only pay for services, not housing assistance. Examples are outreach services, diversion services, drop-in centers and communitywide or specific partnerships between services. SSO projects can also be used to improve or increase the capacity of a community's Youth Coordinated Entry System.

Key Elements:

- Outreach services identify young people experiencing unsheltered homelessness and help them access crisis and long-term housing
- Diversion offers services that help youth find alternate solutions to shelter/crisis housing or other housing.
- Eligible populations: Categories 1, 2, 4

### **Ithaca YHDP Description- Drop-In Center:**

A drop-in center within Tompkins County will provide community building experiences, experiences for joy and learning, as well as necessary resources for homeless and housing insecure YYAs. These services include but are not limited to providing specific days for specific resources to ensure organization such as mental health professionals, medical professionals, and

housing navigation; providing a space to congregate and feel safe; providing classes to teach YYAs necessary life skills as well as foster their talents in cooking, music, art, etc.; providing necessities such as clothing and hygiene essentials; holding holiday dinners for YYAs to foster a sense of community and inclusion; providing a space for performances so YYAs can showcase their talents; providing a study space with academic help as well as textbooks, strong Wifi, tech support, a printer, and resume help; full time staff to provide emotional support as well as resource navigation and assistance scheduling necessary appointments; holding NA/AA meetings; and providing transportation. All of this work will be done with an emphasis on confidentiality to ensure the safety of all YYAs.

### **Ithaca YHDP Description-Coordinated Entry:**

An improved Coordinated Entry system for YYAs in Tompkins County will include a more thorough list of resources for YYAs that is updated regularly, at least once a month, that employs staff to communicate with YYAs about their position on the list as well as resources available to them at that time. YYAs will be contacted by the same staff members every time to ensure continuity of care as well as staff who are well informed about the YYAs they are assisting. These staff, if wanted by the YYAs, can advocate and contact resources on their behalf as well as assist in filling out paperwork to allow decreased barriers to entry. These staff will also communicate regularly with the organizations and caseworkers on the list that provide resources as well as educational institutions in the area to ensure that everybody working to help fight and end youth homelessness in Tompkins County is aware of the available opportunities as well as ensuring that the YYAs on the list are provided the best care possible. All of this work will be done with an emphasis on confidentiality to ensure the safety of all YYAs.

### **Ithaca YHDP Description-Outreach:**

The outreach program will hire staff to provide necessary resources to unsheltered homeless YYAs, including connections to housing developments and programs. Kits will be developed

with basic necessities that staff will have at all times and will be available for homeless youth. These staff will have training on housing developments and have direct connections with the staff of the developments to help the YYAs enter housing programs. The staff will have specific regions they work with in order to develop trust with communities and youth, ensuring continuity of care. These staff should be familiar with the area, with the culture of Ithaca and the resources that exist, and have lived experience in order to provide the best quality of care. Once youth are within a housing development, outreach workers will continue connections with the YYAs they work with so that youth are not cut off from their support systems. These staff will help with more than just necessities, as they will also help with emails and requests to landlords and roommates, navigating the intricacies of housing situations. All of this work will be done with an emphasis on confidentiality to ensure the safety of all YYAs.