



Residential Youth Services & Empowerment

A photograph of a green building with the word 'RISE' mounted on its wall in large, colorful, stylized letters. The building is surrounded by lush tropical vegetation, including banana trees and other green plants. A concrete path leads towards the building. The sky is bright blue with scattered white clouds.

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Aloha,

I'm pleased to share with you RYSE's first informational annual report, that highlights the exceptional work that our staff continuously performs to support Hawaii's most vulnerable youth. I'm proud of our team and it has been a privilege to lead this organization for the past five years from its foundation in 2018 to the exponential growth we've seen in 2021-2022. This year has been one of growth and transformation. Ending youth homelessness is more than just providing a bed. Our housing programs go far beyond providing a safe place to sleep, by creating a loving, supportive community that empowers our young people to dream big and not be afraid to "fail." By providing supportive services including behavioral health, education, employment, and medical care, we empower our youth to make decisions that help them continue their upward mobility. There is no one-housing-model-fits-all approach to ending youth homelessness, but thanks to our generous community support, we now have five uniquely different, developmentally appropriate, affordable housing choices for youth, with more to come in 2023.

Looking forward, our next project addresses the high concentration of Native Hawaiian youth currently sleeping unsheltered on the Leeward coast. We are developing truly affordable housing for youth located on the west side of Oahu, where we will be able to provide shelter as well as opportunities and support to succeed.

Finally, workplace wellness is integral to the work that we do. It can be difficult and challenging, and we will continue to advocate for equitable, living-wage salaries for all community-based organizations.

As we grow, so does our gratitude for all who supported us in moving our young people off the streets for good. Thank you for joining us in this journey to end youth homelessness on Oahu. Sincerely,

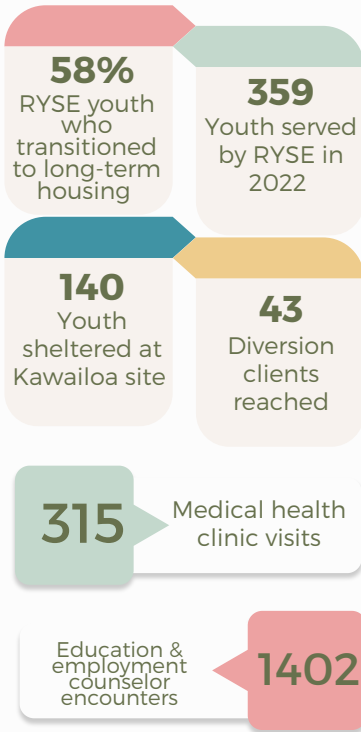
A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carla Houser". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Carla Houser, Executive Director



THE WORK

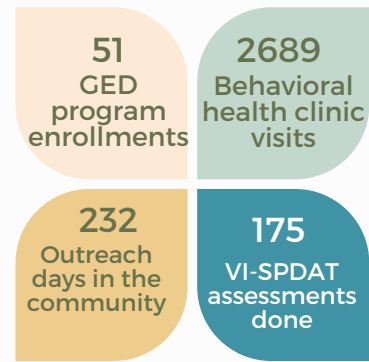
Empowering Hawaii's street youth to move beyond homelessness



This year RYSE was able to significantly expand its behavioral health services, grow its long-term housing; inventory, and expand the outreach department to include youth diversion within the criminal justice system. In 2022 RYSE provided nearly 8,000 nights of safe, sheltered sleep at our emergency youth shelter and were able to help 58% of RYSE residents transition into more appropriate, supportive housing. We continue to provide outreach services 24/7 and operate a youth access center that is open 365 days a year. Our wraparound services provided include: health clinic, behavioral health clinic, education and employment support, and judgment-free outreach to the houseless community across Oahu.



Nights of safe, sheltered sleep provided



FATIHA & DOMINIQUE



For over three years, international artists Fatiha Kheddaoui Curran and Dominique Meyer Gere have been volunteering at RYSE to provide art therapy to RYSE youth. In crisis and emergency situations, providing basic needs like food and shelter are paramount. but at RYSE, we also know that helping young people end their homelessness requires a holistic, wrap-around approach. Monthly art therapy courses include creating original visual mixed-media pieces, mural painting, field trips to the art exhibits, and participating in the Honolulu Museum of Art installations. Pictured above: RYSE youth embroidering the Nomadic Art Net; Fatiha and Dominique at Rebecca Louise Law's "Awakening" installation.

HIGHLIGHTS

Youth Homelessness Decreases By 23%

The annual Partners In Care Point-In-Time count showed a drastic drop in youth homelessness for 2022, showing the impact of supportive services and appropriate housing for young people experiencing homelessness.

Expansion of Services

RYSE expanded its behavioral health program significantly, adding 76% clients and providing over 1,500 support encounters. Diversion was added to the outreach team's services, allowing RYSE to work with young people involved in institutions and incarceration. The housing team added another supportive site in Honolulu with six more beds.

Aloha United Way ALICE Collective Impact Award

RYSE is part of the ALICE Initiative with AUW and Hawaii Community Foundation to develop and implement programs that impact safe and affordable housing by piloting a Tiny Village in Waianae for houseless youth.



Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project

RYSE is committed to a coordinated community approach to ending youth homelessness, and is Oahu's largest recipient of YHDP funding.

Hawaii Pacific Health Nurse Aide Program

Seven youth graduated from the inaugural Nurse Aid Program intensive course in collaboration with Hawaii Pacific Health and Liliuokalani Trust. The free program provided eight weeks of training in a professional setting, including childcare and stipend, and graduates received job placement.

W.K. Kellogg Racial Equity Award

In partnership with Kawailoa organizations Partners In Development Foundation, Hawaii Youth Correctional Facility, Hale Kipa Inc., Kinai Eha, and Olomana School, the Kawailoa: A Transformative Indigenous Model to Replace Youth Incarceration, proposal won the \$20m grand prize from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.



Financial Data

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022



FUNDING & SUPPORTERS

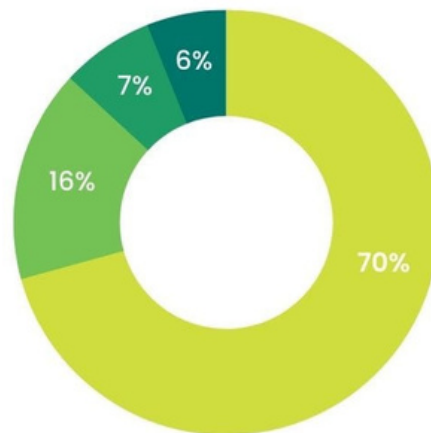
Financial support from Federal, City & State and generous private donors has made significant impacts to our organization and more importantly, our vulnerable youth. The investment to our mission to provide a continuum of support that empowers Hawaii's street youth to move beyond homelessness, is deeply valued.

Thanks to this funding, we have been able to provide a safe and inclusive environment for our youth in need, offering critical services to help them overcome challenges and thrive. Through this support, we have been enabled to deliver comprehensive programs, including counseling, mentorship, education, life skills training and recreational activities, all of which have positively influenced the lives of the young individuals we serve.

2022 Funding

Funding Sources

- Federal
- City & County
- Private
- State



3.9M

In grants pending for
2023

16

New employees joined
RYSE in 2022

11%

Overall increase in
company growth

OUR TEAM

STAFF

Executive Director: Carla Houser, Grants Administrator & Office Manager: Liz Hamasu. Site Manager: Charisse Kupahu, Site Coordinators: Christy Cruz, Kahanu Ah Puck. Director of Communications: Aliantha Lim. Director of Housing Services: Robert Daley, Youth Housing Case Managers: Kanela Kamahalohanuilai, Candace Beirkortte, Angelika Taylor. Housing Navigator: Erik Ryan. Case Manager: Bernadette Pada. Education & Employment Counselors: Audrey Duque, Rome Loreda. Outreach & Diversion Program Manager: Nemesis Nichols. Lead Outreach Coordinator: Katherine Saneewong. Community Engagement Coordinator: Kela Pulawa. Street Outreach Team: Michelle Rains, Gabe Freitas, Joshua Jensen, Juan Hernandez. Behavioral Health Clinic Manager: Dana Lucio. Behavioral Health Coordinators: Mary Adams, Andre Fraticelli. Youth Care Counselors: Ann Allen, Leilani Vaimoui, Juan Baker, Mahealani Raymond.

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PHOTOS COURTESY: JASON LEES, FATIHA CURRAN

WHAT WE DO

We envision a community where there is no youth homelessness. Residential Youth Services and Empowerment is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization operating a youth access center and shelter services in Kailua, Oahu. Our goal is to provide safety and help youth get off the streets, so that they can live and thrive as healthy, happy young adults.

SERVICES

Access Center: open 365 days a year, including free food, hot meals, laundry, showers, WiFi and computers, lockers, case management and support services. **Housing:** 25-bed emergency shelter, four supportive and affordable housing sites, and long-term, developmentally appropriate housing placement.

Education & Employment: GED and driver license help, vocational training, college enrollment, tutoring, and job opportunities.

Outreach & Diversion: meeting youth in the community to provide support and alternatives to incarceration.

Behavioral Health: in-house professional team providing mental health support.

Medical Healthcare: we partner with community organizations to provide non-emergency clinic hours.

NEED HELP NOW?

CALL/TEXT 808-861-6606 ANYTIME

rysehawaii.org



Residential Youth Services & Empowerment
42-470 Kalanianaʻole Highway, Building 6
Kailua, HI 96734

