



Residential Youth Services & Empowerment

Newsletter

JULY 2026

Building More Than Housing: Bluewater Mission Creates Community



At RYSE, we know that ending homelessness requires more than a roof overhead, it requires community. That's why we're so grateful for partners like [Bluewater Mission](#), a nondenominational church in Honolulu whose commitment to walking alongside young people continues to make a lasting impact.

Over the years, Bluewater Mission has supported RYSE youth in countless ways, from hosting sailing excursions, pickleball and basketball outings, and delivering meals to our shelter, to opening their hearts and homes to young people ready for the next step toward independence.

Two years ago, Bluewater expanded that commitment by purchasing two neighboring homes with one goal in mind: creating safe, supportive housing where young adults can thrive. One home includes two fully independent studio apartments reserved for RYSE clients, along with additional shared living spaces where residents are supported by ministry leaders who

live alongside them. Their second home serves as a vibrant Young Adults Community House, where weekly dinners, small groups, and gatherings foster meaningful friendships and a true sense of belonging.



The partnership is especially personal for Youth Pastor Connor Hendrix, a former RYSE case manager who witnessed firsthand how difficult it can be for young people to secure stable housing, even after they're ready to live independently.

"Housing is only one piece of the puzzle," Connor shared. "Community is what helps people stay housed and continue moving forward."

That vision has already transformed lives.

One resident earned his driver's license, purchased a car, secured steady employment, and has become an active member of the Bluewater community. Another former RYSE youth found safe housing that enabled her to reunify with and gain custody of her younger sibling.

Most recently, another young resident has found the stability and encouragement to pursue a brighter future while sharing her creativity and positivity with those around her.

For Bluewater Mission, this partnership has become something even greater than housing.

"We are so blessed to partner with RYSE," the team shared, "but are even more blessed by the friendships and community that have been created in these homes."



Volunteer Day at Hale Koko

Help Us Welcome Families Home

Community Painting Day at Hale Koko

Saturday, August 8 | 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM | Hale Koko

Together, we can transform a house into a home. ❤️

712 Birch Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813
For more information and parking details contact info@rysehawaii.org

RYSE Residential Youth Services & Empowerment

Last month, volunteers rolled up their sleeves to help clear out Hale Koko, preparing the home for its next chapter.

Now, we're inviting our community back to help put on the finishing touches.

On **Saturday, August 8**, volunteers are invited to join us from **8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.** for a community painting day as we refresh the home with a new coat of paint and prepare it to welcome young families transitioning out of foster care.

Every brushstroke helps create a space that feels safe, welcoming, and filled with possibility, a place where young parents and their children can begin building stable, independent lives. Whether you can stay for an hour or the entire morning, we'd love to have you join us.

Volunteer Details

-  **Saturday, August 8**
-  **8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**
-  **Hale Koko**

RSVP Required

Please register in advance to info@rysehawaii.org so we can plan for parking and have enough paint and supplies for all volunteers. Parking instructions will be shared after you RSVP.

[RSVP Here](#)

Tee Off for RYSE at the Pacific Club's 175th Anniversary Golf Tournament



A promotional poster for the 175th Anniversary Golf Tournament at The Pacific Club. The background features a golf club head and a golf ball on a green. The text is in gold and white. It includes the tournament name, date, time, registration fee, and details about the event.

175TH ANNIVERSARY
GOLF TOURNAMENT
The Oahu Country Club

 Monday, August 3, 2026
 Shotgun Tee Time from 11:10 AM

Registration
\$350
per player

Includes golf, cart, pupus, and awards reception at The Pacific Club, plus fun at no additional cost!

 Limited to first 96 entrants | Max usable handicap: 28
4-Person Net Best Ball | Committee-assisted pairings

 Sponsorship opportunities available.
For details, please contact Paul Vierling at paul@alohacc.com.
*50% of proceeds benefit the RYSE Youth Program (Windward O'ahu)

Looking for a fun way to give back this summer?

We're honored to share that RYSE has been selected as a beneficiary of a portion of proceeds from The Pacific Club's 175th Anniversary Golf Tournament, taking place Monday, August 3 at Oahu Country Club.

Whether you're a seasoned golfer or simply looking for a great day on the course, your participation helps make a difference. Proceeds from the tournament will directly support

RYSE's mission of empowering youth experiencing homelessness with housing, resources, and opportunities to build brighter futures.

It's the perfect opportunity to enjoy a day of golf while supporting two great organizations making an impact in Hawai'i.

Contact **Paul Vaerling**
Growing Together
Paul@AlohaCC.com

There are some days that remind us why we make room for experiences outside of our regular routine.

In Case You

Recently, our youth spent the morning at [Ho'okua'aina](#) learning how to pull kalo, talking story, and getting completely covered in mud. It was one of those days where everyone was present, laughing, and just enjoying being together.

Needless to say, we've already been asked when we're going back.



Building Brighter Futures

Congratulations to our very first RYSE cohort on graduating from the ReUse Hawai'i training program!

Over the past several weeks, these young adults have built valuable hands-on skills, gained confidence, and invested in their future. We're incredibly proud of everything they've accomplished and excited to see where this next chapter takes them.

Mahalo to our partners at [Re-use Hawaii](#) for believing in our youth and creating opportunities that lead to lasting careers.

Celebrating Culture

It was a good day to learn, connect, and celebrate culture.

Our staff and youth had the opportunity to attend the [2026 National Hawaiian Convention](#) this year, and we're so grateful to the Hawaiian Council for making it possible through scholarship support.

Mahalo for investing in experiences that inspire, empower, and connect our youth with community.



Behind the Work

As Executive Director of RYSE and Chair of the Planning & Housing Committee for Partners in Care's O'ahu Continuum of Care (CoC), Carla Houser works not only on the frontlines of youth homelessness, but also at the systems level helping shape housing strategy across the island. Each month, she'll share a brief update on what's happening in the CoC and what it means for our community.

Community Planning Update

Key Takeaways from the Planning & Operations Committee



1. Disaster Preparedness

Providers are strengthening emergency response plans and improving support for volunteers who staff emergency shelters.



Why it matters: Better preparedness means faster, more effective support during emergencies.



2. Strengthening Outreach

Partners are improving coordination to connect more people experiencing homelessness with housing and services.



Why it matters: Stronger collaboration helps people access help sooner.



3. Better Data, Better Solutions

Efforts are underway to improve how homelessness data is collected and shared across O'ahu.



Why it matters: Better data leads to smarter decisions and stronger community solutions.

[Learn More Here](#)



WE ARE HIRING

More info at: rysehawaii.org/jobs

We're Hiring!

Join a team dedicated to making a real impact in our community. At RYSE, we're always looking for passionate, driven individuals who are ready to support and empower youth across O'ahu.

If you're looking for meaningful work where you can grow both personally and professionally, we'd love to hear from you.

[Apply Here](#)



Sent by Residential Youth Services & Empowerment

[Click here](#) to [unsubscribe](#) from this list

Join Us! Together We All RYSE

