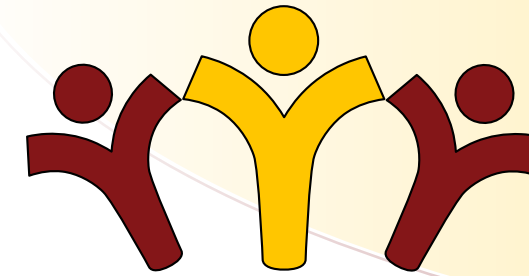


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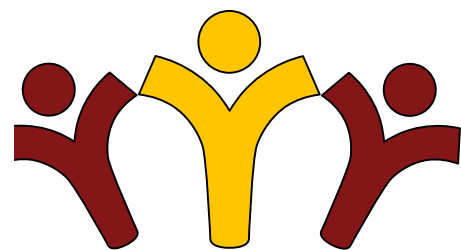
# FAIRBANKS YOUTH ADVOCATES

*Facilitating life transitions for at risk youth*

*We appreciate your continued support*

Follow us at [www.facebook.com/fairbanksyouthadvocates](http://www.facebook.com/fairbanksyouthadvocates) | [twitter.com/fbxyouth](https://twitter.com/fbxyouth)

*Fairbanks Youth Advocates is a 501c3 non-profit, governed by a board of directors. All contributions are tax deductible.*



# FAIRBANKS YOUTH ADVOCATES

*Facilitating life transitions for at risk and vulnerable youth*

Fairbanks Youth Advocates believes that providing assistance at critical times in the lives of young people is vital to their present and future well being.



We are licensed by the State of Alaska as Residential Child Care Facility with a specialization in Emergency Shelter Care.

## The DOOR

*For teens in need of a safe place*



### Mike's story

I stayed at the shelter off and on for awhile. I was living at home, but sometimes I struggle with depression and me and my mom don't get along so good during those times—so I stay here until we can work it out. Staying here means I can keep my job, because I can get enough sleep. I try to encourage the younger guys because I know they need good role models. I try to help them stay sober and stay safe if they're not.

The staff help us maintain a well-balanced life, and give us words of wisdom so that we don't give up on ourselves. They help us as if we were one of their own. Being homeless makes you really depressed, but here we are not looked down upon, instead we are helped so we can one day come out of this. I really appreciate the workers at the "Safe Place" that have helped me.

*This youth now has an apartment, a good job, and his daughter is in his life now—an important piece that was missing for him.*

## Transitions

On April 3rd we transitioned from staffing for 11 hours of care to 24 hours of care. That tripled our expenses. We went from...

- 2 gallons of milk to 10 gallons of milk
- 0 loads of laundry per week to approximately 15 to 20 loads (including laundering donated items)
- 7 three-hour volunteer shifts per week to 20 four-hour volunteer shifts per week
- Self-serve microwavable meals and snacks to serving home cooked meals daily
- 2 rolls of toilet paper to... well, you get the idea!
- No utilities to electric bills, fuel bills, and water, water, water!

We value YOUR continued support. You are such an important partner in this endeavor in keeping kids safe when they find themselves alone.



## A Community Project



I love giving tours of *the DOOR*, our brand new shelter for homeless teens. As I walk from room to room with visitors, I am reminded of how much YOU've mattered. "Oh yes, the bed quilts were

homemade, they each have encouraging messages sewn into them...did you see the tie-dyed

pillowcases?—a Sunday school class gave those... oh yes, the art on the walls was all donated by the artist...and the storage room? hundreds of pairs of jeans—all collected by kids in the community!" And the tour goes on.

YOU are the heart of this home we call *the DOOR*. We are so proud to be part of such a caring community. Because of you, the kids say, "This feels like a home."

~ *do justly, love mercy, walk humbly*

*Mayer*

## Volunteer Voices

"I am encouraged every time I volunteer, encouraged to contribute, and encouraged to give of myself. While not all of my tasks directly involve the youth, I believe that when I work, help, laugh, or talk, I can make a little difference in the life of these teens.

My job is not hard, and sometimes it is busy, but listening, laughing, caring, cleaning floors, and keeping food coming is something anyone can do. I hope that the flow of volunteers will continue as the awareness of this vital shelter service spreads..."

~ Claudia Pierson, volunteer

"What keeps me coming back? The knowledge that by simply being there as a volunteer the doors can stay open for youth who need a safe place."

~ Anonymous volunteer



~ Volunteer Claudia Pierson

## We Get By With A Little Help From Our Friends...

### Garage Sale

Thanks to all who brought and donated items for the garage sale...it raised over \$800.

### City Serve

Thanks to the 40+ volunteers who helped with CityServe, especially Pastor Andy, Blake LLC, Boys & Girls Home of AK, Midnight Garden Fairy and family/friends. We have a new look!

### Credit Union 1

Wowza! The Credit Union 1 "Member's Appreciation Day" and fundraiser raised \$13,000 for *the DOOR*! Thank You to Credit Union 1 and their members!



### North Star Community Foundation & West Valley High School

The Class of 2015 has challenged NorthStar Borough residents to match their donation of \$5000 for FYA. The challenge is being administered by the North Star Community Foundation via their online portal at [www.nscfundalaska.org](http://www.nscfundalaska.org).



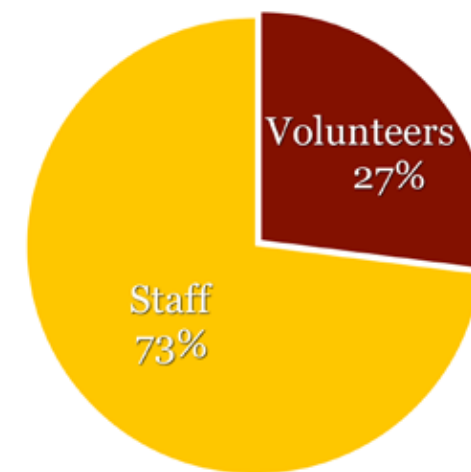
### Fred Meyers Community Rewards

Sign up for the program by linking your Rewards Card to Fairbanks Youth Advocates. Search for us by our name or by our number (87829). Then, every time you use your card, Fred Meyers donates to FYA. See [www.fredmeyer/myfredmyer](http://www.fredmeyer/myfredmyer)



## We Love Our Volunteers!

We can only provide the critical services to the youth in our community because of our tremendous community support. This is exemplified by the team of volunteers that help our agency thrive. Where would we be without you! You contribute 27% of our total working hours.



We are seeking to grow our Board, consider joining us.

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~ New volunteer training

## Upcoming Events

### Today

Follow us on Facebook for frequent updates on what we're up to!

### Our Annual Fundraiser! September 13: One Homeless Night

Participants spend a night outside to raise funds and increase awareness about youth homelessness. To participate or sponsor an individual or team, see One Homeless Night at: [www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org](http://www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org).

## Youth Voices

*"It feels more like a home than a shelter..."*

*"We have a lot of fun here. We watch movies and play games, talk about interesting things. We all hang out and have a good time. We eat dinner together. Some of the staff hang out with us. Lots of times we all play video games."*