



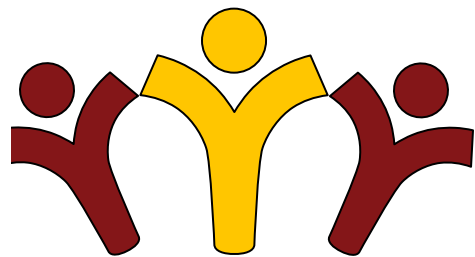
FAIRBANKS YOUTH ADVOCATES
132 10th Ave. (office mailing address)
138 10th Ave. (shelter address)
Fairbanks, Alaska, 99701
www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org
info@fairbanksyouthadvocates.org
907.374.5678

We appreciate your continued support

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.

Follow us at www.facebook.com/fairbanksyouthadvocates | twitter.com/fbxyouth

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



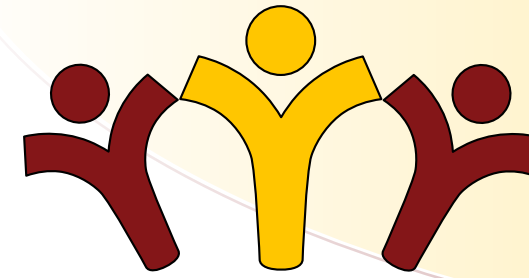
FAIRBANKS YOUTH ADVOCATES

Facilitating life transitions for at risk and vulnerable youth

the
DOOR
is Open!

24/7 Youth Shelter

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



FAIRBANKS YOUTH ADVOCATES

Facilitating life transitions for at risk youth

Transitions



emphatic, "I can't go to the [Rescue] mission because it's filled with people who trigger me; they look like the people who abused me..." Like many of the youth that stay with us at The Door, Michael suffers from past trauma. He realizes there are situations he should avoid as he works toward understanding himself better and securing a promising future.

Age forced Michael out of several therapeutic settings, and he left the last one on his own. He says, "After nine days without shelter, I found you [FYA]." Michael's plans after turning 19 change daily, but he wants to stay in town. He learned that he qualifies for Social Security and recently stopped attending high school in order to focus on finding housing and to be able to work more hours at the job he has had for several years. He met with a housing specialist at Fairbanks Community Mental Health and found an apartment, but he hasn't

secured it yet. Time is tight; he turns 19 soon. Michael concludes, "I still don't understand why someone has to leave [The Door] when they turn 19. Nothing has changed, I'm still a teen. I don't want to be homeless, I don't want to go back to living in a tent."

Transitions for youth can be challenging. When you have a cheering squad rooting for you and providing support and guidance, it gets a little easier. Your generous

support is at the heart of our ability to be here for kids like Michael. Thank You!

Turning 19 years old came with little consequence for most of us. For youth at The Door, the thought of it can be terrifying because it means they can't legally stay with us any longer. While turning 19 is an inevitable transition for all kids, age does not always imply that they are emotionally ready or prepared for independence.

Michael, one of our long time guests recently expressed his dread over turning 19. "I've been in and out of different treatment centers or foster homes since I was 10. My mom left me here [in Alaska] when I was 14." He is

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Looking Ahead...



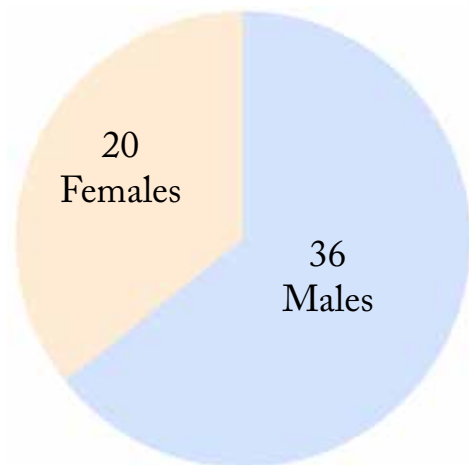
To say that 2014 was an incredible year would be an understatement. Amongst the year's many benchmarks, I have a particular highlight to share. This past summer, you may have noticed

two buildings for sale adjacent to The Door and our FYA office—a little white house and a larger green apartment with a garage. This summer, representatives from the Don and Lois Yochem Estate approached FYA and asked if owning these properties would fit into our agency's future plans.

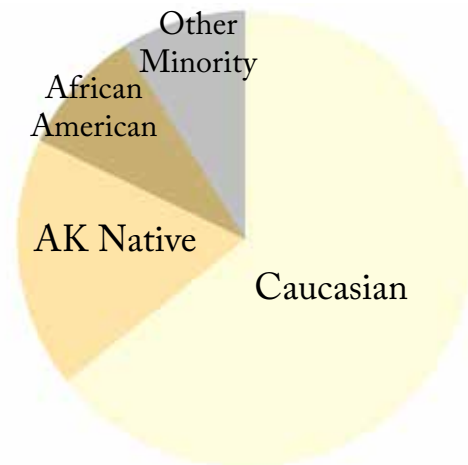
Looking Back...

In 2014, we served **56** kids between April and December. During that time we learned a little more about homeless kids who visit The Door.

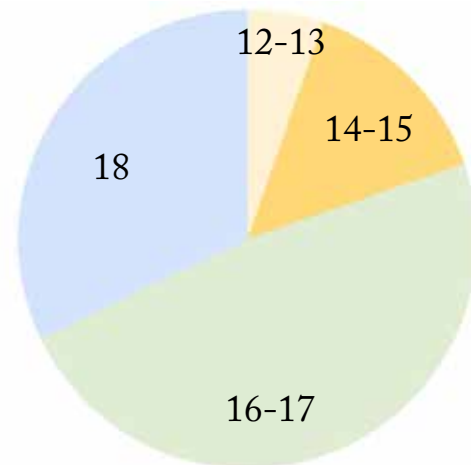
- 2 were pregnant
- 2 had children of their own (not in the shelter)
- 12 had been in foster care
- 17 had been in mental health treatment centers
- 26 are living with a disability
- 31 were enrolled in school, 13 were not



Gender



Ethnicity



Ages

The answer from our governing board was a resounding **YES**, since we had been dreaming and planning about our future growth.

This offer was a miracle. In contrast to funding operating costs, the Estate gift is earmarked to broaden our programming to accommodate future growth.

We are deeply humbled and honored by this incredible gift and our governing board is dedicated to ensure the donor's intent is honored.

~ do justly, love mercy, walk humbly

Maule

Special thank you to Don and Lois Yochem

Where were the kids living before coming to The Door?

- 13 were on the street
- 31 were with parents
- 7 were with relatives or other adults
- 4 were in foster care

Thank You

Our 2014 Donors

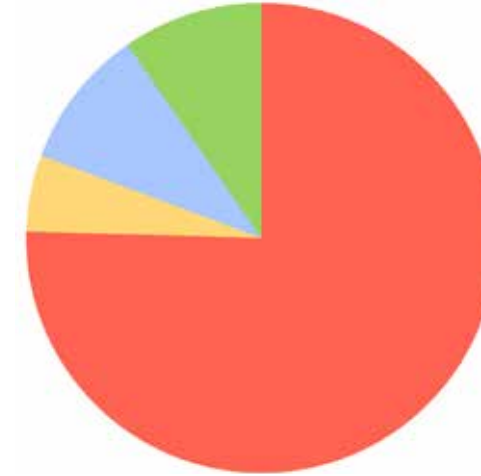
We can do what we do, only because of you. The best superlatives do not adequately express our gratitude to all of you who supported and helped the youth in our community in 2014. As we continue to grow in 2015, we invite you to be part of the new experiences that await us.

22 Organizations

22 Businesses

12 Churches

172 Individuals



The West Valley Challenge was a success!

A huge round of applause to the 2015 Senior Class who challenged the community to match their donation of \$5000. Forty-five individuals and 1 business brought the total donation to \$10,350. Thank you to North Star Community Foundation for facilitating this event!



WV Class of 2015



North Star Community Foundation

One Homeless Night - Sept. 11, 2015

Our annual fundraiser where participants "sleep out" in Fairbanks for one night. Help us raise funds and increase awareness about youth homelessness. Join us for fun, games, contests and food. Individuals, families, groups, and business teams are all invited to participate. For details see our website: www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org/sleepout

Sleep Out: Sign up and rally your family and friends to sponsor you.

Become a Sponsor: Financially sponsor the event or someone who is sleeping out.

Thank me do you for letting Youth Voices do laundry!

Volunteering

Laquawna Baker, one of our youth workers has accepted a position with us as a Volunteer Coordinator. She will be solely dedicated to our amazing and much appreciated volunteer base!



"There are two potential outcomes of volunteering...being a blessing to someone else and being blessed by the experience."

Laquawna Baker



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