

Youth Services Network 2025 Legislative Agenda

1. **Homeless Youth Act (Bill # TBD):** \$14 million annual increase to the base for the Homeless Youth Act

4,876 youth (10-24) are without a place to sleep **tonight** in MN! Together, we will change that, invest in the MN Homeless Youth Act! The time to end youth homelessness in MN is now!

The Homeless Youth Act will:

- Reduce Risk of Sexual Exploitation
- Prevent involvement in the Criminal Justice System
- Prevent adult homelessness
- Improve employment and education success

2. **Safe Harbor, (Bill # TBD):** Sustain the one time increase of **\$0.875** allocated in 2023 and 2024. And an additional increase of \$20 Million - \$9 Million for sustaining and expanding street outreach, emergency shelter and housing; \$2 Million for sustaining and expanding Safe Harbor Regional Navigators and \$9 Million for Safe Harbor Supportive Services.

No Minnesotan is for sale, our youth are priceless! Safe Harbors specializes in supportive services, shelter, and housing for survivors to heal from the trauma of sex trafficking.

Safe Harbor will:

- Provide survivors with safety and trauma-informed care that meets their unique needs
- Prevent further victimization
- Create healing - mental health, substance abuse counseling, and wellness
- Create opportunities for employment and education success

3. **Administrative and Policy Change to MN Statutes**, section 16B.98, subdivision 5, paragraph (a), clauses (1) and (2), and 16C.05, subdivision 2, paragraph (a), clause (3) final grant recipients from a competitive grant process may incur eligible expenses based on an agreed upon work plan and budget commencing July 1, 2023, prior to an encumbrance being established in the accounting system and grant execution.

These are critical funding sources for nonprofit providers across the state providing critical services, shelter and housing. Therefore, services are intended to continue without interruption.

4. **Support for the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless Legislative Agenda** – \$300 Million in one time emergency shelter capital funding which will create, preserve and enhance day and overnight shelters.

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