



TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

PROGRAM HISTORY

Each year, thousands of young people in the United States run away from their homes, may be asked to leave their homes or become homeless. Since 1975, the U.S. government has funded emergency shelter programs for youth contemplating running away or are experiencing homelessness or housing instability to provide for their immediate needs and promote family reunification. Unfortunately, many young people experiencing homelessness under the age of 18 cannot return home.

In order to address the needs of older youth, Congress created the Transitional Living Program for older homeless youth as part of the 1988 Amendments to the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to address a growing need for long-term, supportive assistance that emergency shelter programs were not providing youth. The Family and Youth Services Bureau (FYSB) funded the first transitional living programs in 1990.



The intent of the Transitional Living Program (TLP) is to provide a temporary safety net and an emotional support system for young people experiencing homelessness to transition to self-sufficient living.

FYSB's TLP provides grants to public and private community-based organizations to support intensive street outreach services and the operation of longer-term shelter and support for youth through adult-supervised group homes, family homes, and scattered site apartments for youth ages 16 to under 22 years who cannot safely live with their own families. Services are provided for up to 540 days in most cases, and longer stays may be available for young people who enter the program under the age of 18.

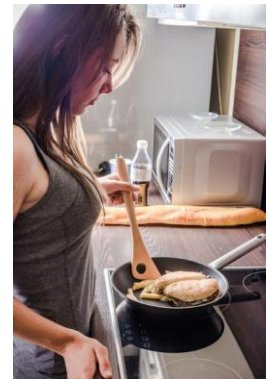
The Transitional Living Program helped 3,402 homeless youth, including those participating in the Maternity Group Homes (MGH) program, transition to life on their own in Fiscal Year 2023.

SERVICES

Grantees are required to offer the following services, either directly or by referral.

Youth-Centered Services Model

- FYSB requires grantees to incorporate a positive youth development (PYD) framework and a trauma-informed care (TIC) approach, which suggests that the best way to prevent risk and trauma is to help young people achieve their full potential. Youth development strategies focus on leadership, skill-building, and community involvement.



FYSB MISSION

FYSB supports organizations that work to promote youth well-being, prevent & end youth homelessness, & support a holistic adolescent approach by fostering collaborative partnerships across communities; leading in partnership with youth & young adults; & supporting data-driven practices.

FYSB VISION

A future in which all our nation's youth & young adults can thrive & achieve safety, stability, & well-being.

Service Coordination Plan

- Refer youth to social services, law enforcement, educational services, vocational training, child welfare, legal services, healthcare programs, affordable childcare, and/or child education programs.



Extended Residential Shelter

- Group homes
- Maternity group homes
- Host family homes
- Supervised apartments

Transitional Living Plan

- Transition plan from supervised participation to independent living or another appropriate living arrangement
- Educational opportunities, such as GED preparation, post-secondary training, and vocational education
- Coordinate with McKinney-Vento school district liaisons to ensure that runaway and homeless youth are provided with information about the educational services
- Money management, budgeting, consumer education, and use of credit
- Parenting skills (when applicable)
- Interpersonal skill-building
- Basic life skills resources, counseling services, and aftercare services
- Job attainment skills
- Mental and physical health care
- Individual, family, and group counseling, as appropriate
- Develop an adequate emergency preparedness and management plan

GRANT AWARD PROCESS

FYSB funds the Transitional Living Program under provisions of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-415), most recently reauthorized by the Juvenile Justice Reform Act of 2018 (Public Law No. 115-385).

FYSB solicits applications for the Transitional Living Program by posting funding announcements on [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) and the [FYSB Funding Opportunities](#) page. Applications are competitively reviewed, and successful applicants receive three-year grants.

In Fiscal Year 2025, FYSB awarded \$41.9M to TLP grant recipients.



Division of Runaway and Homeless Youth

Click [here](#) for a full list of Transitional Living Program grant recipients funded by FYSB.

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