



### Dear Friends,

This year, Valley Youth House commemorates 50 years of helping young people achieve the future they desire by forging genuine relationships to support families, ensure safe places, and build community connections. Over the past half century, individuals with a vision and a passion for helping youth have stepped up to make our work possible.

In 1973, the number of runaway youth in the Lehigh Valley was increasing at an alarming rate. A small group of concerned citizens banded together to purchase a small home on Bethlehem's West Side to serve as a youth Shelter. The group hired a young counselor named Gary Stone to serve as the first Executive Director and on March 19th they opened their doors – which have never closed since. Within a year, they had eight employees and housed nearly thirty youth.

Today, Valley Youth House has nearly 500 employees in 14 counties in Eastern Pennsylvania, serving over 12,000 young people annually. The agency houses over 700 youth every night, provides free counseling services to over 3,000 youth and families in their homes or in their schools, and helps over 4,000 youth in foster care prepare to exit care successfully. In addition, the agency offers youth outdoor therapeutic recreation and STEM and Arts programs at Camp Fowler, its summer camp located in Orefield, PA.

None of this would have been possible if not for the vision, passion and hard work of that small group of citizens fifty years ago. To quote Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

We are grateful for the thousands of committed citizens in our community for generously providing the philanthropic support needed to allow Valley Youth House to change the world for those we have served. We stand ready to serve for the next fifty years.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Harrington

President & Executive Director Valley Youth House

Philip C. Gackon

Philip C. Jackson
Chair, Board of Directors
Valley Youth House



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# 2022 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### **OPERATING REVENUE**

Federal	\$4,622,000
State	\$368,000
County	\$26,283,000
Magellan	\$2,060,000
Other service fees	\$1,880,000
Contributions	\$2,129,000
Release of Restrictions	\$1,515,000
Other Operating Revenues	\$90,000
Total Operating Revenue	\$38,947,000

### **OPERATING EXPENSE**

Total Operating Expense	\$38,209,000
Other expenses	\$5,251,000
Program Expenses	\$8,748,000
Compensation and Benefits	\$24,210,000

**Program Income** \$738,000

### **NON-OPERATING ITEMS**

Non-Operating Item Notes:

**Unrealized Investment Losses** (\$598,000)\$140,000

**Net Income** 

(1) Unrealized Investment Losses: A total of \$598,000 in non-program-related unrealized losses were recorded in the agency's Endowment funds in 2022.





Valley Youth House's first site opened on March 19th, 1973, as a youth shelter in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley. The shelter was and still is open day and night, ensuring young people in crisis have access to emergency services and counseling.



Since then, our reach has rapidly expanded to encompass 14 counties across Central, Northeast, and Southeast Pennsylvania. Valley Youth House now has over 300 residential facilities, 433 employees, and on any given night over 700 youth and families have a place to call home.

For 50 years, we have been continuously serving vulnerable youth across Pennsylvania. In 2022, Valley Youth House positively impacted the lives of over 12,000 youth, and we remain committed to building a solid foundation for every youth who comes through our doors.

# MISSION STATEMENT.

Valley Youth House is the catalyst for youth to achieve their desired future through genuine relationships that support families, ensure safe places, and build community connections.

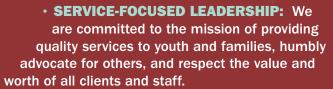
# VISION STATEMENT

We envision a world in which every young person belongs to a nurturing community.

# **5 SERVICE AREAS**

- Prevention
- Emergency Services
- 3 Behavioral Health & Child Welfare
- Independent Living & Permanency Services
- Therapeutic
  Recreation &
  Adventure





• INTEGRITY: We conduct ourselves and our business in an ethical and honest manner, strive for transparency in all of our interactions, and are committed to social justice, equity and inclusion.

 COMPETENCY: Our team is made up of highly-skilled and culturally aware problem solvers that bring creative and innovative approaches to our work.

 COLLABORATION: Our emotionally mature staff models warmth and compassion to build genuine connections with youth, families, and fellow team members, and establishes strong partnerships with funders and community stakeholders to ensure future growth.

• **DEDICATION:** Our team operates on a strong work ethic. Our staff members are decisive, tenacious, and get things done regardless of any obstacles that come their way.

# SPOTLIGHTS FOR 50 YEARS



Scott A. Gray

"I am involved with Valley Youth House because I want to be a part of helping young people find a safe,

secure, and confident way to unleash their superpowers to help them develop the skills and confidence to live healthy, authentic, and fulfilling lives."



Cynthia Y. Mota, Ph.D.

"I couldn't have survived without Valley Youth House. I needed someone who was going to say, 'Cynthia, we know what

you have been through. You're in a safe place and we're here to help you.' It provided me with a sense of hope and belonging."



"I became attracted to the Valley Youth House because helping our young grow is one of the most important things we can do as a community. They are our future and those who face difficult challenges deserve our focus. I

can visibly observe the huge impact VYH has and that's important to me."



Kathryn M. Brown, CFP®, ChFC® and family

"My family and I support Valley Youth House because life can be hard and seem unfair. The things that many of us take for granted - a roof over our head, the support of a loving family feel like an impossibility to others. Valley Youth House works tirelessly to help provide that roof and support so the young people in our

community and beyond have the courage and tools to find their own path and define their own success."



### Travis and Joanna Rhodes

"Valley Youth House's Mission is to be 'the catalyst for youth to achieve their desired future through genuine relationships that support families, ensure safe places, and build community

connection.' What better way to impact others for good than to invest time, talent and treasure into an organization who seeks to help youth prosper through relationships."



### **Debbie and Johan Sundlof**

"We're involved in Valley Youth House because we believe all young people, regardless of background and experiences. should have the opportunity to develop into healthy,

self-assured, and industrious adults, VYH provides the programs that guides and supports those that need it most, and we are thrilled to continue our long-time support of the organization."



Barbra Barker with late son. Zacharv

"Valley Youth House and the work it does for families and youth has been in my heart for decades. As a former board member I got to hear many,

many stories from and about young people saved from unfortunate, sometimes horrible circumstances, and about how these youth were helped to positively change their lives through the opportunities, assistance and life training given to them by Valley Youth House. I am proud to be a small part of this organization."



Charles Versaggi, Jr.

"I clearly remember the first night I volunteered at the agency's Bethlehem shelter in

July '76. It was then I realized how lucky I was to be born into a loving, nurturing family that provided structure, direction and role models for my life. From that point forward I decided that I was going to do what I could to help those young people less fortunate than I am."

As we reflect on 50 years of service, we are grateful for these dedicated supporters. In no way is this list comprehensive, but it is representative of the richness of our past and some of the people who played an important role in getting us to where we are today.



### **Chuck Strong and the team at** East Coast Jets. Inc.

"We have been impressed with Valley Youth House and the people within the organization from the day we met them. We

are proud to be a small part that helps them provide the services and opportunities that their clients may not otherwise have."



### **Catherine Collis**

"The reason I chose to work with Valley Youth House is because I know what it's like to grow up as

a gay youth and how challenging that can be. The services and support that Valley Youth House provides not just to LGBTQ+ youth but to all of our youth can be truly life-changing."



Eric B. Luftig

"As Valley Youth House celebrates its 50th anniversary, I am proud to support an organization that has dedicated itself to helping at-risk children realize their full potential.

The team at Valley Youth House has been instrumental in providing the guidance, support, and resources that children need to succeed in life. I remain committed to supporting Valley Youth House and its employees in their efforts to give every child the opportunity to thrive and succeed."



'Valley Youth House provides a caring, safe environment for kids from very diverse backgrounds at critical times in

their lives. We're honored to be involved with the delivery of such critical services to kids in need. Every child deserves the right to feel safe, secure and celebrated. VYH occupies a very special place in our family's hearts as one of our children benefited directly from their mission and we understand first hand the benefits of these investments!"



Morgan Dumont, MBA

"My 'why' for joining the board comes down to knowing that the resources and work that Valley Youth

House does is changing the lives for the youth that we serve and ultimately will make the world and the communities we serve a better place."



### Jacqueline Renner, MBA

"The youth that Valley Youth House serves will help shape the future of our communities. They deserve our support to

make their future the best that it can be. That's why I volunteer with the Valley Youth House."



### **Lesley and Timothy Fallon**

"Valley Youth House has been a cornerstone of our family's philanthropic efforts for three generations, and its mission has remained a constant source of inspiration for us. My mother was

the first to introduce me to the organization, and my husband's involvement on the board and as board chair only strengthened our commitment to its cause. When it was my turn to serve as board chair, I felt a deep sense of responsibility to ensure that VYH continued to provide the critical services that so many young people rely on. And when our daughter lived in Philly, she too became involved with VYH, serving on the board of governors and helping to raise awareness of its mission. For all of us, VYH represents a beacon of hope and opportunity for young people in need, and we are proud to be part of its community of supporters."



### Michael Gausling, MBA

"I am a Board member and a donor. I volunteer because VYH is such a wonderful community of staff and volunteers that do such great work serving the most

vulnerable youth in our region. It's inspiring that everyone at VYH strives to be inclusive, responsive, and resilient as we build on our foundation for the next 50 years to serve our youth and their families with the very best programs possible."

# SPOTLIGHTS (ONTINUED



**Janis M. Thomas** 

"I was fortunate to work for a company that encouraged employee community involvement. Through my experience as VYH Board member and Chair, I

experienced firsthand the love and value the organization provides to youth and their families. As a result, I am proud to be a Catalyst Society member."



**Gregory E. Deavens Independence Blue Cross** 

"The way the vision for Valley Youth House has expanded over the years mirrors what we have come to understand in the health care business. To have healthy, safe communities

— and healthy, safe young people — we have to address a wide variety of conditions that can stand in the way, from physical health and safety to emotional well-being."



Philip C. Jackson

"First you choose to serve and who better to serve than the youth of our community. Valley Youth House enables me to help

those that need us the most."



**Laurie Hackett** 

"The incredible team at VYH is inspiring, intentional and passionate about their mission. To volunteer alongside

them is an honor as, together, we work to bring hope, healing and happiness to kids!"



**Jim and Patti Deutsch** 

"Patti and I have been honored to have been associated with Valley Youth House in one way or another for over three decades. That has given us a firsthand view of the excellent work that VYH has done in making life better for youth at risk across many parts of Pennsylvania. Continuation of that work is critical for the development of children throughout our communities."



Kerry, Alexa and Patrick Cahill

"Valley Youth House is an amazing organization supporting and inspiring homeless and foster care youth and their families to achieve their hopes, dreams and visions. I'm

thankful my family is part of this community."



### **Richard Brooks**

"I've always believed, from the time I was a small boy, that God would give me the opportunity to place my thumb print on this Earth. I've done just that for over 40 years through my development corporation. I have

been very blessed. I recognize that I have an obligation to pass my blessings on. I've discovered that I am able to do that through Valley Youth House, helping to create a positive, healthy environment for young people across the Lehigh Valley and beyond. As Sister Mary Lauretta so poignantly wrote, 'To be successful, the first thing to do is fall in love with your work'".



Tom Salvaggio,

"It's a privilege to work with Valley Youth House and increase the impact they create for vulnerable youth and families in our community. Their support enables over 12,000 young people to have a safe, healthy,

and fulfilled future. To help establish a solid foundation from which a successful life can thrive is a mission we enthusiastically champion."



Mark, Penelope and David Tervalon "We support Valley Youth

House because we want to help every child have the opportunity to reach their potential."



John T. Yurconic "Valley Youth House

continuously amazes me with the positive impact they have on young people facing

significant challenges in life, never giving up on a child. The help they provide our youth unleashes the potential others could not see!"



Daniel K. Fitzpatrick, CFA, **Citizens Bank** 

"Citizens and Valley Youth House both believe that in order to have thriving communities, you must

first invest in young people, especially those at risk. We support initiatives that lift people up be it through job training, financial literacy, or youth empowerment - so that our local economies also succeed."



Alexandra Shade, **First Generation** "As the President of First

Generation, I have been proud to support Valley Youth House for many years. I, personally,

am passionate about their mission and tireless work to help at-risk children and youth build bright futures which, in turn, strengthens our own."



### **Corning F. Painter and Dorothy Penney**

"We support VYH for three reasons. First, Valley Youth House helps young people in difficult situations come through their youth with an education, a measure of

stability and confidence for the future. Second. Valley Youth House is a well-run organization: you can be confident that your money will be well spent. Third, Valley Youth House is gaining scale and broadening its impact."



### **Molly Russin**

"I got involved with Valley Youth House based on this one fact: The downward direction of a young person's life can be reversed by the

presence of just one caring adult. I serve on the BOG of Valley Youth House so that I can be one of those adults, as we work to end the cycle of homelessness and hopelessness among the youth of Philadelphia and SE PA."



### **Patrick Garay**

"I support VYH because I believe in their mission, and I have seen firsthand the positive impact that the skilled and dedicated team at VYH has on youth in need of support. VYH

meets these youth where they are and as they are and provides for them a safe and nurturing place to learn and thrive."



#### Steve and Jeanne Follett

"Jeanne and I fully support the mission of Valley Youth House and its many successful initiatives structured to not only help over 10,000 youth during times of personal and family crisis but also to help educate and prepare these youth to successfully navigate

life's future challenges."

# SPOTLIGHTS (ONTINUED



Richard C. Liu, MPH

"After learning 40% of homeless youth identify as LGBTQ+, I could not stand by and allow this to continue to happen. As a gay man and especially after the difficult

experiences I had as a teenager coming out of the closet, I really felt in my heart Valley Youth House was the right place to share my time, talent, and treasure."



Phillip St. James, M.A. Sanofi U.S.

"We're privileged to partner with Valley Youth House to increase the impact provided to youth and families in our community. Their effort to prepare our

young people for a fulfilling future in the STEM space at Camp Fowler is but one of the many remarkable programs that offers hope to those who need it. The experiential learning received leads to an increase in appreciation and knowledge of STEM that is so essential in school and beyond offering equitable opportunities to thrive in life."



**Maura Topper** 

"Valley Youth House is an important organization to me as it is full of incredible team members who

are leaning in to the fullest extent possible to help youth across the state. For many young people without the support networks or resources to thrive, the VYH team strives to provide youth with the support and confidence to continue to grow as people and members of their communities, while providing valuable skills and knowledge."



James (Jim) W. Hoolehan, PE Penntex Construction

"Being a newer partner to Valley Youth House, I find myself continually amazed as I learn about the many

ways the team supports youth and families across the community. Their work is challenging, requires remarkable dedication and makes an incredible impact. Working alongside the team through construction management of the Carter Family Center at Camp Fowler, it is evident they have the right people in place and are a very well-run organization. I'm honored to have the opportunity to support them and look forward to continuing to be inspired as I deepen my connection to this vital community resource."



### Michael, Priscilla and Steven Gigler

"When I was encouraged to learn more about Valley Youth House, I took my then 22-year-old son, Steven, along with me to tour the 8th Avenue

Shelter. My eyes were opened to the impact we can make by providing a support system and life skills development that allows youth to achieve their desired future. Upon leaving the shelter my son turned to me and said "thanks dad", I said for what... He said 'for providing me with the foundation and support to be me.' That was all the inspiration I needed to jump in with both feet and support the mission of Valley Youth House."



# Forrest B. Patterson, Jr. and Gregory Morano

"I am supportive of the Valley Youth House because of the tremendous work the

organization does to make a difference in the lives of vulnerable kids, all of whom deserve a safe and stable environment to grow and thrive."



### **Wes and Sharon Schantz**

"We're blessed to have such a strong local organization like VYH which provides a nurturing environment, mentoring, and solid foundation for so many youths and their families. We are proud to be part of the VYH community and enjoy

supporting their many successful initiatives."



#### Victaulic

"Victaulic is proud to be amongst the many community organizations who champion, invest, and support the Valley Youth House; and we look forward to being a catalyst for many years to come. Together we are building safe places,

community connections and a better tomorrow for families and youth in their time of need."



### Rich and Eileen Wuerthele, Crayola

"At Crayola, our mission is to help 'parents and educators raise creatively alive kids' which translates to raising happier, healthier, more successful children. Eileen and I as well as

Crayola are such big advocates for Valley Youth House because we are all working together to nurture human potential. We all want safe, healthy, happy children that are poised to grow and be successful in life."



### Alma Scott-Buczak, SHRM-SCP, SPHR

"I am really delighted to be with Valley Youth House. Throughout my years as a volunteer in different organizations, I've always gravitated to organizations that

support young people, families, and youth who are struggling with some of the most difficult problems in our society. Valley Youth House is a wonderful organization. It has great leadership, it has an incredible staff and wonderful young people that it is helping to get the most out of this world."



# Thomas R. Harrington and family

"My motivation to serve youth came from the example set by my mother, who was a counselor and social worker who focused her practice on serving

marginalized people – women fleeing domestic violence, gay men facing the AIDS epidemic, and recent immigrants trying to learn English and navigate a new country. It was in her honor that my sisters and I have established the Jane E. Harrington Permanent Endowment Fund to provide summertime activities for homeless youth residing at our Emergency Shelter. Looking back, I realize that my mother's example of service to others has to a large degree shaped who I am."



### David Gilgoff

"The Valley Youth House staff achieved my vision of providing a variety of high quality services to all of the children and youth

who sought assistance."



### Diane and Michael Molewski

"We are proud to support Valley Youth House. Their work makes profound

changes possible in the lives of young people in the Lehigh Valley and beyond."



Todd A. Shamash Capital Blue Cross "For half a century, Valley Youth House

Valley Youth House has committed itself to building better futures for young

people by nurturing genuine family relationships that build safer, stronger communities. That's why we at Capital Blue Cross so enthusiastically support Valley Youth House. Its mission matches our own: Every day we go the extra mile to help improve the health and well-being of our members and the communities in which we live."



#### **Anne Baum**

"Valley Youth House saves lives – pure and simple. When kids find themselves on their own, disconnected from support systems or in crisis, Valley Youth House is there to provide a safe place with caring people that changes lives for the better.

Valley Youth House has built a community of caregivers, resources and facilities that rise to the occasion when kids are in need. Whether it's through a week at Camp Fowler, school based behavioral health programs, shelters or community outreach, Valley Youth House gives kids a safe haven that makes them stronger. Thank you, Valley Youth House, for making our community stronger!"



#### Michael Stackow

"The staff of Valley Youth House are tireless advocates for youth and their work has helped so many succeed as young adults. I want to do what I can to allow those staff to continue to do this outstanding work.

because all children deserve the opportunity to safely find their own path to a fulfilling life."



**1973** ▶ Gary Stone appointed as first Executive Director. Shelter renovations are completed and the Lehigh Valley Shelter officially opens on March 19, 1973 in Bethlehem

# YEARS OF LIFE-CHANGING PROGRAMS



**1978** ▶ David Gilgoff is appointed as the Executive Director

**1999** ► The Street Outreach program, The Synergy Project, begins operations





**2002** ► The Bucks County Shelter opens in Warminster, PA

1971 The Valley Youth House Committee is convened, officers are chosen and a statement of purpose is adopted

1972 The Lehigh Valley Shelter is purchased

1975 Valley Youth House becomes a member agency of Lehigh County and Greater Bethlehem Area (now Northampton County) United Ways

1977 A contract is signed with Lehigh County Office of Children and Youth Services for short-term emergency foster care

1978 Valley Youth House begins the Peer Outreach Program (now Adolescents and Families Together)

1984 The 3,000 square foot addition to the Lehigh Valley Shelter chaired by Edward Donley (former Air Products Vice President) is completed

1989 The Family Preservation Program starts and signifies a change in mission by working with children under 12 years of age

1991 Valley Youth House begins the Family Intervention Program (FIP)

1994 Valley Youth House becomes a Licensed Mental Health Provider

**2004** Valley Youth House purchases Camp Horseshoe

**2005** Office opens in Philadelphia for housing programs

**2016** Opening of Patti's House in West Chester, PA, a Supervised Independent Living Site, generously founded by Patricia Walsh









**2017** ▶ Office opens in York County



**2020** ▶ PBS televises a virtual summer camp called "It" Camp! Live from Camp Fowler"



**2009** ► Valley Youth House acquires contract for Achieving Independence Center (AIC) through Philadelphia DHS



**2015** ▶ Office opens in Dauphin County and #CouchesDontCount campaign is established



**2016** ▶ Project Silk Lehigh Valley opens in Allentown as a safe haven for youth identifying as LGBTQ+

2006 ► Linny and Bealle Fowler generously name Camp Fowler

2009 Office opens in Luzerne County
Grand opening of the Fleming Pool and Patio at Camp Fowler

**2011** Office opens in Lancaster

2012 Offices in Chester and Delaware County open

**2013** David Gilgoff retires as President & CEO

**2016** Thomas R. Harrington appointed as President & Executive Director

**2020** All residential programs and emergency shelters remain open during the Covid-19 pandemic

**2021** Patricia Walsh generously purchases the Sasso House, supporting female-identifying trafficked youth The Camp Fowler Cabin Campaign concludes

2022 School-Based Counseling programs expand to serve over 50 schools in the Lehigh Valley

Catalyst Adventure Learning establishes year-long learning opportunities that promote connection, reflection and growth



2022 ▶ Leadership
Valley Youth House
development program
begins with its first class of

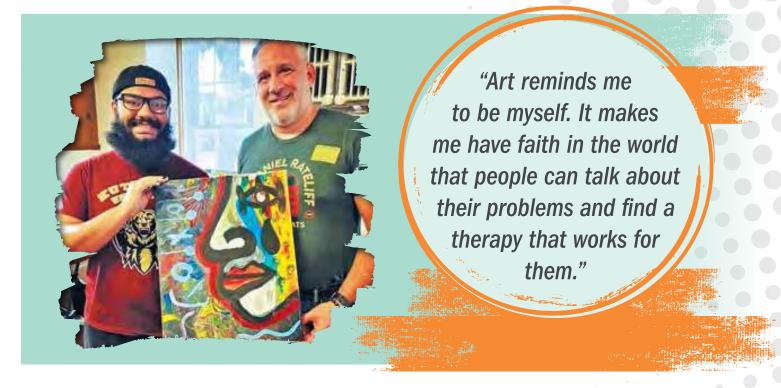
2023

Valley Youth House celebrates Golden Anniversary



446,000
LIVES IMPACTED
OVER THE PAST
50 YEARS

# MIGUEL'S STORY



Miguel's journey with Valley Youth House began in our Lehigh Valley Shelter, where he stayed as a resident. Miguel was struggling with anxiety and depression, and feeling angry at the world. Miguel's counselors could sense his frustration and began brainstorming other ways to help him process the complex emotions he was feeling. During one of their sessions together, his counselor decided to break out a variety of art supplies, and asked if Miguel would paint with them. As soon as he picked up the brush to begin painting, he finally felt relief.

During his time experimenting with art at Valley Youth House, Miguel began to find and develop his own artistic style, and utilize art as a coping skill during difficult times. He told us that while he has high hopes for his future as an artist, he recognizes that he might encounter challenges. "During those troubling times, I have to push through and use the coping skills I developed while at Valley Youth House," he told us.

Miguel now volunteers at Valley Youth House, inspiring other youth to utilize art as a positive coping skill and means of self expression. He has no plans of slowing down, and hopes to enter more art shows, and host a solo show as well.

(HE(K OUT SOME MORE OF MIGUEL'S ART BY VISITING HIS INSTAGRAM: DABSTRACTMIGUEL

# MEET AMELIA

Amelia currently resides in Valley Youth House's
Chester County Supervised Independent Living
(SIL) program where she is thriving. Amelia
graduated high school in June of 2022 and
began her college career at West Chester
University. Her passion for helping
others has led her to study psychology,
and upon graduation, she hopes to
become a caseworker and work with
children. The life skills she has learned
from Valley Youth House have helped
her balance classes, assignments, and
working part-time at the West Chester
University bookstore. With the help and
collaboration from Valley Youth House

"We are so
proud of Amelia's
accomplishments and
enjoy working with
her!"

Over 93% of
youth in our life
skills programs felt
more confident in
their daily living skills
upon exiting the
program

have become top-notch, and she is working towards obtaining her driver's license and purchasing a car. Amelia is a shining example of how even in the toughest of circumstances, there is always hope for a brighter future.

staff, Amelia's leadership skills

# MEET ASH

"I learned to be
myself and to have fun!
I've made such amazing
friends and I'm proud that
I've made this much
progress."

Meet 17-year-old animal lover,
Ash, who has been receiving life
skills from the Valley Youth House
Adolescents Achieving Independence
(AAI) program since August of 2022. This
program provides out-client assistance to
current or recently released youth in foster
care through job training programs, weekly
individual life skills counseling and recreational
activities focusing on life skills development.
Ash has enthusiastically participated in many
groups and events including the Anime Group,
Thanksgiving Banquet, Movie and Cookie



"I'm really
committed to this
dream of mine, so
that's why I'm working
my hardest."

Group, Vision Board Group, and their all time favorite, the Itty Bitty Kitty cat rescue. During their time in the program, Ash's creativity, kindness and strength have blossomed and they've learned so much about themself.

The future is bright for Ash as well, and with the help of Valley Youth House they are preparing for high school graduation. After graduation, Ash has hopes of traveling to Europe and is utilizing the skills learned at Valley Youth House to plan and save for the trip.



AJ'S STORY

AJ had never imagined that he would end up homeless, let alone caring for three children. However, life had dealt him a tough hand, and he found himself struggling to provide for his family. A case manager from Valley Youth House's Rapid Rehousing program (RRH) connected with AJ and helped his family move into a hotel until a local shelter had an opening. When AJ and his children were relocated to a shelter, AJ could finally breathe a sigh of relief--he was now able to stabilize, regroup and focus on his family's future.

Case managers helped AJ navigate housing and social services and after many months of budgeting, life skills training and apartment searching, AJ's family was finally able to move into a place of their own. Despite some setbacks, AJ knew deep in his heart that reverting back to old behaviors would put his family at risk of becoming homeless again. He decided to make important changes in his lifestyle and started focusing on the right things in his life again - like his children.

# With the help of the Rapid Rehousing program, AJ was able to turn his life around.

He is now working on obtaining his Associates Degree and has started studying for his driver's permit. The journey to finding a home wasn't easy, but AJ learned that sometimes the greatest challenges can lead to the greatest rewards.



The Catalyst Society is named in honor of informed leaders and committed donors who believe in furthering the mission of Valley Youth House to be the catalyst for young people to achieve their desired future. Through a dedicated partnership and planned giving commitment of \$25,000 or more, Catalyst Society members serve as Valley Youth House ambassadors and share the vision of a world in which every young person belongs to a nurturing community.

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# (ONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY







# BUILDING (OMMUNITY (ONNECTIONS THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Back in 1945, John Walson opened an appliance store in Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania, called Service Electric. This store would eventually pave the way for a revolutionary invention. In 1948, Walson built an antenna on a nearby mountain and connected a cable from this antenna to his store and a few local homes. With this simple act, Walson invented cable TV.

As time went on, Walson's passion for innovation never stopped. His cable system continued to grow, and in 1955, reached close to 100,000 households in Pennsylvania's Lehigh Valley. Walson's pioneering efforts in cable TV did not go unnoticed and in 1979, he was recognized by the U.S. Congress and National Cable TV Association. Upon his passing in 1993, Walson left behind a legacy that would continue to impact the world of television. Before his passing his son, John E. Walson, Jr., stepped into the leadership role at Service Electric Cable TV & Communications (SECTV), and under his guidance, the company continued to thrive and expand its services.

After nearly 50 years in business, Service Electric's dedication to the community went beyond technology, and in 2002, a meaningful partnership between SECTV and VYH began. Walson, Jr. always spoke of his love for his family and how proud he was of them. He dreamed of a better world where young people are given a true chance to succeed.

# THROUGH THEIR ONGOING PARTNERSHIP, SE(TV HAS GENEROUSLY DONATED TIME, RESOUR(ES, AND FINAN(IAL SUPPORT TO HELP VALLEY YOUTH HOUSE POSITIVELY IMPA(TTHE (OMMUNITY.

Over the last 20 years, SECTV has provided more than three million dollars to VYH. SECTV's commitment to bridging the digital divide and empowering at-risk youth demonstrates their profound understanding of the transformative power of connectivity and their dedication to nurturing the potential of young people in the community.

Today, in the third generation of leadership, John M. Walson, III, and SECTV proudly celebrates 75 years of providing quality television programming and reliable high-speed internet service to the Lehigh Valley, Wilkes-Barre, and Hunterdon County, NJ. Together, VYH and SECTV are building community connections that make a difference.



John Walson at Service Electric Co.



The invention of cable TV brought local sports, news and events to subscribers



John E. Walson, Jr. expands the business and PenTeleData is created by five partners, including Service Electric Cable TV.



In 2015, upon the passing of John E. Walson, Jr, Valley Youth House names their Golf and Pickleball Tournament in his memory



VYH is grateful for the countless media coverage opportunities Service Electric has provided to help spread awareness about our impactful mission.



Last year, SECTV donated \$50,000 to the Camp Fowler Cabin Campaign, enabling high-speed wireless internet across the camp.



# DONOR IMPACT REPORT





\$359,594 in non-monetary gifts & services

TOTAL = \$14,619,761

# WHO GIVES TO VYH?



Donors 848



Gifts **2,019** 



Individuals **\$778,938** 



Businesses & Community
Organizations

\$1,329,784



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\$1,444,818



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John E. Walson, Jr. Memorial Golf & Pickleball Tournament: RAISED \$357,549



HOLIDAY GIFT DRIVE: RAISED \$41,555 to provide hundreds of youth with a happy holiday



TEDDY BEAR TOSS: 8,480 teddy bears donated by the PPL Center and LV Phantoms



Annual Southeast Golf Tournament RAISED: \$321,105

# **VALLEY YOUTH HOUSE LOCATIONS**

# A(HIEVING INDEPENDENCE CENTER

1415 N. Broad St., Suite 100
Philadelphia, PA 19122
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800 N. York Rd., Bldg. 22 Warminster, PA 18974 P: 215.442.9760

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P: 570.704.0626 F: 570.704.1440
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ValleyYouthHouse.org



**Imagine a world** in which every young person belongs to a nurturing community. A world in which every young person has a safe place to call home, and a support system that cheers them on through every step of their journey, no matter the obstacles. At Valley Youth House, that is our vision and our driving force. We are the only agency in the region

dedicated exclusively to the

**VYH** positively impacts the lives of over

annually in Pennsylvania. needs of children and youth experiencing homelessness with a continuum of services, from in-home and school-based therapy, to street outreach and shelter. By making a donation, you can help us reach more youth, and change more lives.

















