

# OPEN DOORS

ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN



YOUR GIFT TODAY WILL OPEN DOORS TOMORROW



1973  
EST.



## Message from our Leadership

At Valley Youth House, we meet young people who are navigating incredibly challenging moments, often feeling that hope is out of reach. Our dedicated staff, our "Hope Keepers," actively bring hope into their lives by listening, reminding them of their worth, and guiding them toward independence. This commitment to care and compassion lights the way forward for the youth and for each other.

This spirit of hope is at the heart of our most ambitious initiative to date: our *Open Doors Endowment Campaign*. This campaign aims to establish a permanent \$25 million endowment fund, securing long-term, sustainable funding for critical resources, innovative programs, and vital capital improvements.

Launched in honor of our 50th anniversary, the *Open Doors Endowment Campaign* is a bold step to ensure Valley Youth House remains a lasting place of safety, healing, and hope for every young person.

Since 1973, individuals with a vision and a passion for helping youth have generously donated to Valley Youth House and together we have impacted nearly half a million lives. We couldn't do this life-changing work without the extraordinary generosity of our community.

We invite you to help us secure the future of Valley Youth House. Your contribution will provide essential, sustainable support and continue transforming lives by keeping hope alive for generations to come.

Thomas R. Harrington  
President & Executive Director, Valley Youth House

Maura Topper  
Chair, Board of Directors, Valley Youth House

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# THE POWER OF PHILANTHROPY

We're grateful to community leaders like you, who have helped Valley Youth House continue to open doors for vulnerable youth and families for over 50 years. However, our work is far from over. Your contributions bring us closer to creating a future where every young person feels safe, supported, and part of a caring community.

The *Open Doors Endowment Campaign* is crucial to building an endowment fund that provides perpetual support for the vital programs and services of Valley Youth House – initiatives that maximize return on investment, transform lives, and have a direct impact on society.

## CAMPAIGN PILLARS:

- CRITICAL RESOURCES:** Emergency needs of youth and families such as food, clothing, transportation, case management, mental health counseling, and emergency shelter and housing.
- INNOVATION & IMPACT:** Continuously evolving cutting-edge, research-based programs to meet the changing needs of youth that deliver life-changing results.
- CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS:** Ongoing repairs and maintenance of properties to ensure warm, welcoming and safe spaces.
- ADAPTABILITY:** Establish a safety net and adaptive capacity to reduce reliance on government funding and effectively respond to financial challenges.



Our vision is to grow our endowment fund to a total cash value of \$25 million dollars. An endowment fund of this size would provide approximately \$1.25 million dollars annually of ongoing funding in perpetuity.

Please give today and leave a legacy for future generations, ensuring the doors of Valley Youth House never close and always remain open to serve children, youth, and families who need it most.

# THE NEED

## ALL YOUTH NEED TO KNOW THEIR LIVES MATTER

Many of the youth served by Valley Youth House have unfortunately experienced significant trauma at no fault of their own. Some youth have been kicked out of their homes or have run away from home to escape physical, sexual, and/or emotional abuse. In addition, human trafficking is far too prevalent in our community. Youth that survive such trauma share common feelings of desperation, fear, sorrow, stress, and loss.

Valley Youth House is uniquely suited to address the evolving needs of young people. Through prevention and intervention, our team helps young people to heal and grow by providing emergency shelter, supplies, and counseling.



**40%  
OF YOUTH**  
who leave foster care  
at 18 experience  
**HOMELESSNESS**  
within a year

**18,000**  
YOUTH & FAMILIES  
ANNUALLY

**86**  
PROGRAMS  
across  
**16 COUNTIES**  
In Eastern  
Pennsylvania

### OUR CORE PROGRAMS

- EMERGENCY SERVICES: STREET OUTREACH, SHELTERS & SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
- LIFE SKILLS TRAINING & HOUSING FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE
- FAMILY-BASED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
- SCHOOL-BASED COUNSELING
- OUTDOOR ADVENTURE AT CAMP FOWLER

### 4 KEY OUTCOMES

- SENSE OF WELL-BEING & CONTROL
- SELF-SUFFICIENCY: EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING
- HEALTHY BEHAVIORS
- FAMILY & SOCIAL SUPPORTS

After spending years in foster care and moving through different home placements, Valley Youth House helped Spencer to break the cycle for himself and his daughter. With the help of a case manager, Spencer secured employment, found an apartment, bought a car, and has a brighter future.



# OUR IMPACT



ON ANY  
GIVEN NIGHT  
**OVER  
600**  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
ARE SLEEPING  
UNDER A  
VYH ROOF

OVER  
**91%**  
OF YOUTH  
SERVED

were able to maintain  
or improve their  
housing stability after  
receiving care

**TWO  
12-BED  
EMERGENCY SHELTERS  
OPEN 24-7**  
365 days a year

**888-468-7315**





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*In 1984, Valley Youth House changed the trajectory of my life by providing a safe space when I became homeless with my three month old daughter. The support and services are invaluable for the communities they serve. Today, I am a teenage mother, engineer, founder and CEO of a technology company, and founder and board chair of a nonprofit.*

– **Salisa Berlen**, Founder & CEO of COI Energy

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### **Gregory Morano and Forrest B. Patterson, Jr. ”**

We are supportive of 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.



### **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.



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.

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*This whirlwind life has led me to return to my hometown to continue my work with the youth and agencies that helped me overcome so many obstacles as a child. I aim to advocate for and support Valley Youth House.*

**Chaunce Holley, BSN, RN**

Retired United States Air Force and Mrs. Pennsylvania America 2023



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# **YOUR GIFT TODAY WILL**

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*Valley Youth House not only opened doors to knowledge and innovation but also instilled a sense of empowerment within me. Knowing that I had a supportive community behind me gave me the courage to reach higher, aim further, and defy the odds stacked against foster youth in academia. With every obstacle that arose, I knew I had an entire network rallying for my triumph.*

— Amah Dunor, Paralegal, Philadelphia Child Welfare Law Department

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### The Farr Family

*"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 firsthand the benefits of these investments!"*

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*I'll never forget - two courageous ladies from Valley Youth House came to my home and took me to a safe place. I'm a living testimony of what Valley Youth House is all about. It's about giving people hope and a second chance at life.*

— Cynthia Y. Mota, Ph.D., Allentown City Councilwoman

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### 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."*

### 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 guide and support those that need it most, and we are thrilled to continue our long-time support of the organization."*



# OPEN DOORS TOMORROW!

## MISSION

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

## VISION

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

**TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT THE OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT:**



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**ValleyYouthHouse.org**

Valley Youth House Committee, Inc. is registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a 501(c)(3) organization, EIN: 23-7178820. Gifts to Valley Youth House are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

