

Chelsea Foyer



The Chelsea Foyer at the Christopher is a transitional supportive housing program in New York City developed by Good Shepherd Services for young people between the ages of 18 and 25, inclusive of all gender identities, who are aging out of foster care, homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The Foyer provides up to two years of transitional housing in conjunction with an innovative strength-based Youth and Family Development framework and the trauma-informed Sanctuary Model® to prepare young people for stable housing and economic self-sufficiency. Key program components include psychosocial support, community building, life skills development, educational/vocational services, help securing stable housing, and aftercare. In 2018, 90% of residents at the Foyer had experienced 1 or more traumatic events prior to joining the program.

There is NO dedicated funding stream for the Chelsea Foyer. To operate our program, each year we piece together funding from a number of sources including grants from Federal, State, and City agencies, as well as private contributions from foundations, corporations and individuals.

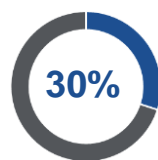
Who We Served September 2020 - November 2020



40 apartment units for 16 RHY, 14 NY3, and 10 community referred youth



70% came to the program “literally” homeless (i.e. in the shelter system or a transitional housing program). Others are at risk of homelessness or imminently losing housing (i.e. aging out of foster care or temporarily staying with friends/family)



of youth served had a history of foster care

44%
Male



56%
Female

* The program serves transgender and gender non-binary youth

Average Age

22
years

Average Length of Stay

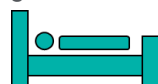
10
months

Why Invest?

In a study conducted by the Center for Innovation through Data Intelligence (CIDI), Foyer residents were compared to a group of individuals who applied for and were eligible for supportive housing but did not receive services. The study found that within the two years after entry, Foyer residents were:

36%

Less likely to stay in a single adult shelter



55%

Less likely to go to jail



Cost per night to house a youth resident at the Chelsea Foyer compared to other situations:



COVID-19 has affected communities and individuals in a variety of ways. At the Chelsea Foyer, we provided residents with the resources they need to thrive even during the pandemic.

COVID-19 mortality rates are **53%** higher for homeless single adults and **11%** higher for homeless families in New York City.

25% of New York City residents are estimated to be food insecure during COVID-19.

41% of Americans reported symptoms of anxiety and depression during COVID-19.

88% of residents had conversations around stable housing to support their transition and **82%** made contributions to their program savings account and progressed in their financial goals.

70% of residents provided with food assistance to prevent food insecurity.

53% of residents attended a mental health session.

Future Focus

The Future Focus philosophy fosters knowledge, commitment, access and opportunity for life-long learning in order to enhance an individual's capacity for self-sufficiency. Residents are supported as they move through five distinct stages of engagement in higher education and career planning: Exploration; Preparation; Application; Registration; and Maintenance.

74% of residents are involved in Future Focus planning or reported a desire to return to school in the future

41% of residents without a college degree are enrolled in college or trade school

29% of residents without a HS diploma are attending a high school or GED program

Out of the **72%** of residents employed:

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 35% | 45% | 13% | 6% |
| Working Full-Time | Working Part-Time | Interning or Subsidized | Temporary or Seasonal |

COVID-19 Effect

47% unemployed at the start of or during COVID

33% of residents engaged in online learning

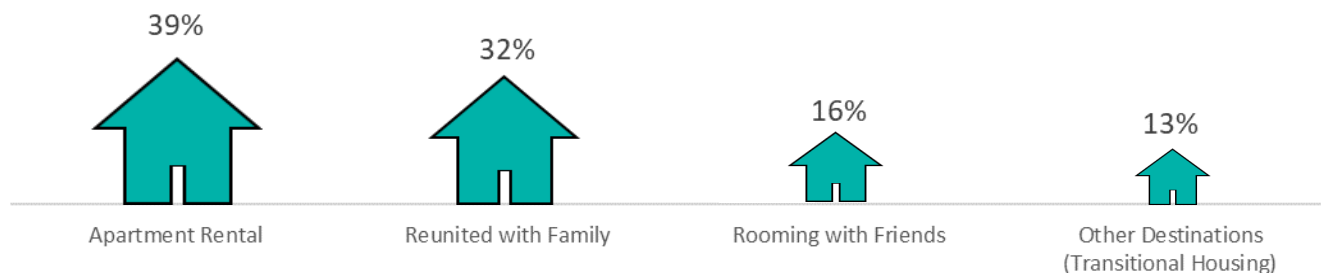
COVID-19 Response

65% received employment assistance

53% received education or technology assistance

Our Impact

Over the last year, 38 youth exited the Foyer, with **82%** securing stable housing in the following locations:



In addition, youth achieved the following outcomes at exit:

Average Savings: **\$158/month**
Average Total Saved: **\$2,438**
Highest Total Saved: **\$14,610**



95% of residents attained a support network



97% of residents had health insurance



Did you know?

All of our youth are required to obtain a job and contribute toward program savings payments (which are later returned to the residents as they plan for discharge).



Alumni Updates

Since the Foyer started, we have served 478 alumni. Of those youth, 206 have completed a survey and report the following:

- **97%** have an income source
- **88%** live in stable housing

According to data collected annually from the National Student Clearinghouse and the Department of Labor, we have found that:

- **78%** of alumni who successfully completed the program are employed one year later.
- **43%** of alumni have attended college during or after their stay at the Foyer.

Good Shepherd Services goes where children, youth, and families face the greatest challenges and builds on their strengths to help them gain skills for success. For more information on Good Shepherd Services, visit our website at <https://goodshepherds.org/>.

For questions about the Chelsea Foyer, please email Elizabeth Garcia, Division Director, at Elizabeth_Garcia@GoodShepherds.org.

For questions about the content of this report, please email Lauren Magee, Program Analyst, at Lauren_Magee@goodshepherds.org.