

Residential Youth Services & Empowerment Summary

Mission: To provide developmentally-appropriate support services to homeless teens and young adults.

Category: Housing & Support Services

Contact: Carla Houser, Executive Director

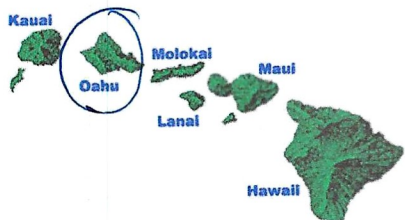
Address: P.O. Box 11662, Honolulu, HI 96828

Grant History: N/A

2025 Request:	\$25,000 for general operating support
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Notes:

- Comprehensive wrap-around services and support for homeless youth ages 18-24.
- Kailua Access Center & Emergency Drop-In Shelter.
- Housing programs, basic hygiene services, 20-bed facility, street outreach program, GED and vocational training, paid internships, mental/behavioral health services, etc.
- 47 employees.



Contact Information:

Carla Houser, Executive Director
1-808-498-5180
PO Box 11662 Honolulu, HI 96828

❖ Amount Requested

Residential Youth Services & Empowerment (RYSE) requests supplemental funding to sup the operation of our multi-faceted youth homelessness program. These programs include but are not limited to street outreach efforts, overnight shelter, access to drop-in services, transitional and long-term housing placement, education and employment courses and connections, behavioral health counseling and connections to higher care, and diversion services (legal assistance) for justice-involved youth. RYSE combines these programs to create comprehensive solutions that work toward ending youth homelessness in our communities and empowering our youth participants to move beyond street-based living into stable and productive futures.

❖ The Need to Be Addressed

According to the 2024 Point in Time Count (O'ahu), there were a total of 4,494 accounted for homeless individuals living on O'ahu island, of whom 217 were youth (18-24). It is vital to note that an additional 647 of the youth accounted for were minors (0-17), many of whom will likely age into the transitional aged homeless youth category, and 461 individuals were counted as unknown, suggesting that the numbers of homeless youth may be higher. Approximately 62% of the 4,494 homeless people in O'ahu were unsheltered, a 17% increase from January 2023. Homeless individuals, especially unsheltered youth, are particularly vulnerable to victimization, including sex trafficking, assault, and property crimes, and are often homeless due to past victimization, such as child abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

Many youth and transitional age experience unique challenges when experiencing homelessness in Hawai'i, including systematic barriers such as disproportionately high rates of discrimination or justice involvement for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders (NH/PI). However, the most significant challenge for youth experiencing homelessness (YEH) is an overall lack of comprehensive resources when navigating their way out of homelessness. Many programs and resources available on O'ahu are designed to cater to homeless individuals without accounting for developmentally appropriate services, shelters, or housing. RYSE designs programs and services specifically tailored to serve YEH and create safe and comfortable spaces and camaraderie among peers as they work toward their desired life goals. RYSE also provides a complete array of wrap-around services to meet youth in their specific phase of homelessness. This modality allows RYSE to assist each individual based on their needs instead of delivering one-size-fits-all services. For example, some youth may be in the phase of exiting street-based

living and just starting on their path away from homelessness. In contrast, others may be employed and unable to afford housing in O‘ahu’s increasingly expensive economic landscape.

❖ How We Meet That Need

RYSE is a non-profit designed to provide a continuum of support that empowers Hawai‘i’s youth to move beyond homelessness. RYSE serves youth participants who identify as homeless and many who represent one or more underserved populations, including Native Hawaiian youth and Immigrant/limited English proficient youth from Micronesia, Samoa, and the Philippines. RYSE also serves many individuals with disabilities, mental health and/or substance abuse struggles, victims of sex trafficking, youth aging out of the foster care system, and youth offenders. Our staff comprises 47 employees trained in Positive Youth Development (PYD) and Trauma Informed Care (TIC), and we have 10-20 volunteers per month. Our core team includes an Executive Director (ED), on-site staff, a board of directors, and an advisory council. RYSE employees are selected based on lived experience and/or understanding of Hawai‘i’s youth and unique needs. RYSE is also supported by a highly qualified and experienced team of case managers, youth care counselors, site managers, outreach coordinators, behavioral and physical health clinicians, and nurses.

RYSE operates the Kawailoa Access Center & Emergency Drop-In Shelter and eight housing programs that provide specialized transitional or long-term housing solutions for youth aged 18-24. The RYSE Kawailoa Access Center also offers drop-in services for young adults and minors (14-17) experiencing homelessness. Kawailoa services include access to hot showers, laundry facilities, hot meals, a food pantry, WIFI, basic hygienic supplies, clothing, and counseling for youth in crisis. The Access Center is a 20-bed facility that serves as a nexus for youth who have decided to enter RYSE programs to become acquainted with our additional programs and services. It is an essential introduction to RYSE programming for youth participants. Additional RYSE programs include Street Outreach to provide youth outside of our shelters with food and access to services, Education and Employment resources through which youth can acquire GED and vocational training, Health and Wellness services that provide access to essential medical and Behavioral Health services, and Diversion resources to help youth navigate judicial conflicts and/or meet specific court mandated stipulations as they advance out of homelessness. Each program works in synchronicity to meet youth's needs in the unique phase of their journeys.

❖ Categories of Clientele & Numbers of Individuals Served By Our Programs

In 2023, the average age of youth served was 20.4 years old; gender demographics were split evenly between males (46%) and females (46%), with six an additional 8% who identified as transgender or non-binary and about a quarter of youth (26%) identified non-heterosexual. About half (47%) of all youth identified in part or whole as Native Hawaiian, which continues to be the highest percentage of any ethnicity served at RYSE. In 2024, RYSE programs served a total of

402 unduplicated youth. Due to the constant fluctuation of youth seeking services, it is difficult to determine the number of youth we will serve annually. Still, RYSE anticipates a baseline of at least 300 youth receiving services in 2025.

Notable program accomplishments for 2024 include the following:

- 107 youth sheltered at the Kawaihoa Access Center; 118 youth utilized drop-in services.
- 140 new youth were engaged in outreach.
- 72 youth were provided diversion services.
- 140 youth utilized or were connected to behavioral health services.
- 58 youth enrolled in our education program, 9 of whom earned a high school diploma or equivalent.
- 94 youth participated in paid internships.
- 15 youth completed a “Money Smarts” (financial literacy) certification course.
- 49 youth participated in an aina-based (land-based) workshop.
- 119 youth are housed in a RYSE-sponsored transitional or permanent housing program

❖ Geographic Region Covered

RYSE serves all seven major regions of O‘ahu Island as designated by the Annual Partners In Care Point in Time Count report. These regions include Region 1 - Downtown Honolulu, Region 2 - East Honolulu, Region 3 - Ewa/Kapolei, Region 4 - Kaneohe to Waimanalo, Region 5 - Wahiawa & North Shore, Region 6 - Upper Windward, and Region 7 - Waianae Coast.

Although program participants must reside in O‘ahu while utilizing services or enrolling in programs at RYSE, it is notable to mention that some travel from neighboring islands to pursue services.

❖ How the Dorcy Foundation Grant Will Benefit Our Organization & Clientele

All funds awarded through the Dorcy Foundation Grant program will directly supplement the daily operation of RYSE programs. Since 2018, RYSE has become a community pillar for YEH, seeking services across the state of Hawai‘i, and it maintains a full roster of participants across our programs. Programs that provide overnight shelter, including shelter and housing, require constant maintenance and a steady income of hygienic supplies and necessities, including bedding, linen, and furniture. RYSE also includes access to essentials, including water, food, laundry services, and Wi-Fi for youth engaged by our street outreach teams, living in our housing facilities, and utilizing our drop-in services. Other RYSE programs include the need for transportation services, educational supplies, and learning tools, including access to computers and/or iPads. Funding will also be allocated to cover necessary expenses such as staff time.

Primary Funding Sources
RYSE Active Grants & Contracts (2025)

1. Office of Youth Services HI State Grant In Aid - 07/1/24 - 06/30/25 - \$133,000
2. Dept of Attorney General US Victims Of Crimes Act - 07/1/23 - 06/30/25 - \$500,000
3. HUD US Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program - Diversion - 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 - \$235,884
4. HUD US Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program - Mobile Crisis 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 - \$275,000
5. HUD US Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program - Guide on the Side 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 - \$245,439
6. HUD US Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program - Permanent Supportive Housing 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 \$474,088
7. HUD US Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program - Transitional Housing Rapid Rehousing 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 - \$188,680
8. HUD US Continuum Of Care Permanent Housing 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 - \$177,652
9. HUD US Continuum Of Care Rapid Rehousing 10/1/24 - 09/30/25 - \$404,620
10. Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention 10/1/22 - 9/30/25 - \$600,000

Form 990

Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

OMB No. 1545-0047

2023

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations) Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public. Go to www.irs.gov/Form990 for instructions and the latest information.

A For the 2023 calendar year, or tax year beginning 01-01-2023, and ending 12-31-2023

B Check if applicable: C Name of organization RESIDENTIAL YOUTH SERVICES & EMPOWERMENT D Employer identification number 81-2102826 E Telephone number (808) 498-5180 F Name and address of principal officer: JARED WATUMULL PO BOX 11662 HONOLULU, HI 96828 G Gross receipts \$ 5,380,438 H(a) Is this a group return for subordinates? H(b) Are all subordinates included? H(c) Group exemption number I Tax-exempt status: J Website: www.rysehawaii.org K Form of organization: L Year of formation: 2015 M State of legal domicile: HI

Part I Summary

Table with 3 main sections: Activities & Governance (lines 1-7), Revenue (lines 8-12), Expenses (lines 13-19), and Net Assets or Fund Balances (lines 20-22). Includes financial data for Prior Year and Current Year.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has knowledge.

	Yes	No
3 Did the organization list any former officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	3	No
4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	4	No
5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>	5	No

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization 0		

Form 990 (2023)

Part VIII **Statement of Revenue**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

	(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512 - 514
1a Federated campaigns				
1b Contributions, Gifts, Grants, and Membership dues				
1c Other Amt Similar Fundraising events				
1d Related organizations				
1e Government grants (contributions)				
3,380,495				
1f All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above				
1,604,561				
1g Noncash contributions included in lines 1a - 1f:\$				
h Total. Add lines 1a-1f	4,985,056			

Program Service Revenue	Business Code			
	2a PROGRAM SERVICE REVENUE	624110	39,529	39,529
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9 Total. Add lines 2a-2f.		39,529		

3 Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		43,128			43,128
4 Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds		0			
5 Royalties		0			
6a Gross rents	(i) Real				
	(ii) Personal				
	6b Less: rental expenses				
	6c Rental income or (loss)				
d Net rental income or (loss)		0			
7a Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	6,354	500		
	(ii) Other				
	7b Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses		14,676		
	7c Gain or (loss)	6,354	-14,176		
d Net gain or (loss)		-7,822	-14,176		6,354
a Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	8a	305,871			
	8b Less: direct expenses		95,465		
	c Net income or (loss) from fundraising events		210,406		
9a Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	9a				
	9b Less: direct expenses				
	c Net income or (loss) from gaming activities		0		
10a Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	10a				
	10b Less: cost of goods sold				
	c Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory		0		
11a	Business Code				
	b				
d All other revenue					
e Total. Add lines 11a-11d		0			
12 Total revenue. See instructions		5,270,297	25,353		49,482

Form 990 (2023)

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses				
Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).				
Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX <input type="checkbox"/>				
Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21	0			
2 Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22	0			

3	Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16.	0			
4	Benefits paid to or for members	0			
5	Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	95,960	87,120	6,522	2,318
6	Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)	0			
7	Other salaries and wages	2,076,786	1,885,466	141,153	50,167
8	Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	0			
9	Other employee benefits	192,546	192,546		
10	Payroll taxes	390,882	390,882		
11	Fees for services (non-employees):				
a	Management	0			
b	Legal	0			
c	Accounting	0			
d	Lobbying	0			
e	Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17	0			
f	Investment management fees	0			
g	Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	165,808	73,330	52,457	40,021
12	Advertising and promotion	23,739	23,739		
13	Office expenses	126,794	95,505	29,671	1,618
14	Information technology	0			
15	Royalties	0			
16	Occupancy	627,811	623,971	3,840	
17	Travel	21,625	21,625		
18	Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials	0			
19	Conferences, conventions, and meetings	0			
20	Interest	0			
21	Payments to affiliates	0			
22	Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	57,988	57,988		
23	Insurance	31,660	25,328	3,166	3,166
24	Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
a	PROGRAM EXPENSES	622,712	622,712		
b	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE	52,860	43,860	9,000	
c	VEHICLE EXPENSES	38,618	38,618		
d	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS	6,480		5,661	819
e	All other expenses	9,185	9,129	56	
25	Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	4,541,454	4,191,819	251,526	98,109
26	Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720).				

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Part X Balance Sheet

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

(A) Beginning of year

(B) End of year