Services for Homeless & At-Risk Youth

Safe Place for Youth supports youth, ages 12-25, to transition off the streets and into stable housing and employment. Trauma-informed care, positive youth development and low-barrier programs offered at Safe Place for Youth are seen as a first step to engage homeless youth into a continuum of supportive services. Safe Place for Youth uses a therapeutic approach that is responsive to the developmental needs of youth, which helps young people build trust, a stronger sense of self, and regain control over their lives.

Drop-In Services
Provides a safe location where youth can access a range of supportive services to meet basic survival needs, improve physical and mental health and emotional wellbeing, and experience a caring connection. Services include:

- Housing referrals
- Return home travel
- Case management
- Food & snacks
- Hygiene products
- Clothing
- Internet
- Counseling & support groups
- Health education
- Education & career development
- Pregnant & parenting support
- Transportation
- Health screenings
- Sleeping bags
- Bus tokens
- Mail & phone services
- HIV Testing
- Art & music groups
- Creative writing
- Crafts
- Yoga
- Pet care

Case Management
The Case Management team works with youth to develop individualized plans to address short and long-term goals toward greater stability. These include assistance to enter emergency shelter, apply for identification documents, health benefits, school enrollment, pre-natal care and extend guidance in decisions on stable housing, family reunification, drug rehabilitation, pregnancy, life skills, education and jobs.

Health & Wellbeing
Holistic mind and body programs encouraging youth’s self care are available on-site through Venice Family Clinic’s health screenings, information and referral services. Other programs include HIV testing, health education groups, yoga, therapeutic art, creative writing, music and mindfulness groups, individual and couples counseling, crisis intervention and Department of Mental Health referrals.

Education & Employment
Education and employment readiness and career development services offer youth important life skills that aide youth in transitioning off the streets. An on-site Education and Employment Counselor, helps youth navigate their educational pursuits, employment prospects, and career development needs. Youth can pursue their GED in a self-paced curriculum, complete their high school diploma and research college options. Resume development, job search, interview preparation and skills based workshops strengthen their path toward self-sufficiency.

Street Outreach
Outreach teams engage one-on-one with youth at risk for or who are experiencing homelessness in Venice, building relationships and trust while providing street based case management and survival services. Items provided include snacks, hygiene packs, socks, and HIV/STD safety kits as well as linkages to emergency shelter, mental health and physical care, showers, lockers and on-site services at Safe Place for Youth.