

HOUSING SERVICES

- **Housing & Tenancy Support**
- **Young Men's Wellbeing Group**
- **Windsor House**
- **Sandgate House**
- **Phoenix House**

Housing & Tenancy Support

Brisbane Youth Service's Housing & Tenancy Support team manages 26 units of transitional housing for young people and young families across Brisbane and provides intensive outreach support to young people in Brisbane Youth Service tenancies, and to young people who are experiencing homelessness or housing instability in the community.

Young Men's Wellbeing Group (New!)

Many young men supported by BYS experience social isolation, low self-esteem and mental health issues. Many have been survivors and/or perpetrators of domestic violence and often lack positive male role models in their life. This can lead to uncertainty around key issues and principles regarding violence, power and control.

The Young Men's Wellbeing Group is a nine-week program aimed at helping young man to achieve:

- Personal growth and self-awareness
- Sense of self-worth and validation
- Skill development in communication, conflict resolution and healthy relationships
- Education, awareness and accountability regarding violence, power and control
- Emotional literacy
- Support, connections and sense of belonging
- Community engagement helping to address social isolation for young men with experiences of homelessness and housing instability

Windsor House

Windsor House is an immediate/crisis response 24/7 accommodation program and is often the first refuge for vulnerable young people experiencing homelessness. Young people access this service when they are unable to remain at home due to concerns for their safety, or when they are sleeping rough or couch surfing. Young people who stay at Windsor House are provided with intensive case management to support them to achieve stability in their lives. The program has seen an increase in young people gaining employment, traineeships and re-entering education, as well as an increase in young people exiting the program to private rental options.

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Location: Windsor, Qld 4030

During 2017/2018, Windsor House accommodated 27 young people:

- 5 currently residing
- 3 young people had two stays
- 12 young people successfully transitioned to supported or independent housing, including 4 who returned to family
- 10 of the young people were aged 15 years and required longer stays due to limited accommodation options for transitional housing for 15-year olds

Sandgate House

Sandgate House is a medium term, living and life skills program that supports young people to enhance their abilities to work toward independent accommodation. The 24/7 program responds holistically to the needs of young people, so they can access affordable accommodation and opportunities for personal development, including education and employment. This is achieved through a case management approach where young people are empowered to take responsibility for their own development by setting and achieving personal goals and maintaining a healthy and productive lifestyle in order to sustain stable, safe and long-term accommodation in the future.

Location: Sandgate, Qld 4017

During 2017/2018, Sandgate House accommodated 14 young people:

- 4 currently residing
- 6 young people successfully transitioned to supported independent accommodation or private rental.

Phoenix House

Phoenix House is a transitional six-month program which provides young people with the foundational skills of maintaining a tenancy while staffed 24/7 with youth workers. The program supports young people to develop the life skills and capacity to live independently and actively facilitates sustainable change, acknowledging change takes time, commitment, patience and insight. Phoenix House staff particularly focus on mentoring young people around goal setting, problem solving, conflict resolution, time management, informed consent, communication and personal responsibility for choices/ actions. Young people build and practise their skills in a shared living environment which addresses issues such as hygiene, health, cleaning, cooking, shopping and budgeting. A 24/7 supported environment provides a safe home environment where they can unpack and work through personal challenges, adversity and trauma.

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Location: Carina, Qld 4152

During 2017/2018, Phoenix House accommodated 23 young people:

- 5 currently residing, with an average stay of 115 days per person
- 11 young people successfully transitioned to supported or independent housing including five who returned to family

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Fundraising and Donations

Funds are urgently needed for Smarten Up grants and resources to support young people to overcome barriers to engaging in education or training, such as:

- Homework support/tutoring services
- Text books, stationery and uniforms
- Laptops
- Fees and excursions
- Public transport fares

Birthdays and holidays can be a difficult, lonely time for many of the young people being supported by our Housing Services programs, especially for those disconnected from family. Donations towards or vouchers for experiences or gifts are always welcomed and truly appreciated, such as:

- Cinema gift cards
- Theme park passes e.g. Dreamworld, Movie World, Sea World, Wet 'n' Wild
- JB Hi-Fi, KMart etc. gift cards (please note we cannot accept vouchers/gift cards that are redeemable at retailers supplying alcohol e.g. Coles Group and Myer gift cards)

Volunteering

Due to the nature of the work we do and respecting the privacy of the young people being supported in these programs, there are currently no volunteer opportunities at any of the above sites or working directly with young people.

Other ways you can support through volunteering your time include:

- Running a collection drive for toiletries or non-perishable food items and packing them for delivery to our Fortitude Valley Hub at 42 McLachlan Street
- Running a 'winter warmer' collection drive for blankets, scarves, beanies and socks and packing them for delivery to our Fortitude Valley Hub at 42 McLachlan Street
- Registering a school/year/class team in The Courier Mail Bridge to Brisbane to fundraise for Brisbane Youth Service
- Sleep out type event where staff and students fundraise for Brisbane Youth Service by getting sponsored to 'sleep rough' for a night, perhaps in your assembly hall

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Contact Us

admin@brisyouth.org

(07) 3620 2400

PO Box 1389, Fortitude Valley Qld 4006

www.brisyouth.org

If you would like to discuss fundraising projects or ideas with us, please contact our Fundraising Coordinator:

- (07) 3620 2428 PT: Tue-Thu
- partnerships@brisyouth.org

Connect With Us

Facebook - [@brisyouth](https://www.facebook.com/brisyouth)

Twitter - [@BrisYthService](https://twitter.com/BrisYthService)

Instagram - [@brisyouth](https://www.instagram.com/brisyouth)

LinkedIn - [@brisbane-youth-service](https://www.linkedin.com/company/brisbane-youth-service)

JOSH'S STORY

Josh's Story on YouTube

Three years ago, Josh was on the streets. Now he is finishing Year 12, getting the qualifications he needs to become an electrician ...

