

YOUNG WOMEN & YOUNG FAMILIES

- **Young Women's Housing Support**
- **Parents Yes Program**
- **Targeted Family Support**

Young women and young families have unique needs which require a specialised response.

Young Women's Program

The Young Women's Program supports young women 12-25 years who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. This program provides brief intervention and planned support addressing issues using a feminist framework and a gendered analysis approach. BYS workers support young women to recognise and respond to the gender-based issues which impact their lives.

The impacts of domestic and family violence (DFV) continue to be pervasive amongst young women supported by BYS. Being able to provide safe accommodation for young women through women only properties allows young women the opportunity to address a range of issues and needs in an environment which is safe and supported. The Young Women's Support Workers have continued their commitment to providing a safe group space for young women on Fridays to come together to connect with other young women and workers. The program enables young women to learn new skills, participate in art activities and encourages self-care. This group runs year-round with up to eight young women attending most weeks.

Location: Greenslopes, Qld

- In 2017/2018 the Young Women's Program supported 200 young people

Young Families Program

The Young Families Program supports young families to obtain and sustain tenancies, in addition to a specialised parenting support program focused on enhanced parent-child relationships. The enhancement of these relationships often enables children and parents to stay safely in their homes and decreases the impact of past traumas as well as the risk of future harm. Workers provide a wide range of support, services and activities through groups and home visits. Planned support is tailored to each individual young family.

The Young Parents Group provides a child friendly space for young families with a focus on decreasing social isolation. This group provides transport to all attending and is a closed group for referred families. For many young parents the thought of leaving the house with young children, navigating public transport and possible judgment from the public is a nightmare and a very good reason to not leave the house.

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Young families can attend for four terms and are offered a wide range of different skill building opportunities. These groups focus on areas such as relationships, food and nutrition, self-care, communication, and child development.

Location: Fortitude Valley, Qld 4006

- In 2017/2018 the Young Families Program supported 272 young people and accompanying children

Program Goals

The Young Women and Young Families team are committed to:

- Increasing the efficacy of the therapeutic trauma and attachment-based work we do with our clients. We have an ongoing commitment to professional development and aim to increase the use of these evidence-based interventions in our practical work.
- Understanding the gendered nature of domestic and sexual violence and taking an empowering, feminist approach to working with young women.
- Providing culturally responsive practices, through a commitment to critical reflection, engagement with community, and training.
- Utilising a trauma-informed approach with young people accessing our services which allows young people to feel safe.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Fundraising and Donations

Funds are urgently needed to help us meet the gap between government and grant funding and the growing demand for our services, including for:

- Emergency accommodation for young people and young families in crisis
- Therapeutic physical and social activities to support health, wellbeing and family connections
- Self-defence workshops
- Child care support
- Home Essentials and Home Set Up Kits for young people and young families transitioning from homelessness into their own home e.g. linen, kitchenware, small essentials, furniture, whitegoods, appliances etc.

Donations of vouchers or gift cards are always welcomed and truly appreciated, such as:

- Kmart gift cards to purchase essential baby items or basics such as underwear and footwear (please note we cannot accept vouchers/gift cards that are redeemable at retailers supplying alcohol e.g. Coles Group and Myer gift cards)
- Vouchers/passes for family activities such as mini golf, cinema gift cards, bowling, indoor trampolining etc.
- Vouchers/gift cards for beauty and wellness services e.g. massage, facial, manicure, pedicure, hairdresser etc.

Volunteering

Due to the nature of the work we do and respecting the privacy of the young women and families being supported in these programs, there are currently no volunteer opportunities on site or working directly with young people.

Other ways you can support through volunteering your time include:

- Running a collection drive for toiletries or baby items 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)

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

ALUEL'S STORY

[Aluel's Story on YouTube](#)

Nine years ago, Aluel came to Australia from South Sudan with her family. At eighteen, she left home, seeking practical support from BYS to establish an independent life. Then things got scary ...

