



ARISE PROJECT

ENDING HOMELESSNESS FOR LGBTQ YOUTH

HISTORY OF ARISE

The Arise Project was established in 2011 to bring caring professionals together to support the lives of LGBTQ homeless youth in the Twin Cities. In its first year, this nationally recognized initiative connected 431 LGBTQ youth to essential resources and provided housing to at least 130 others. Arise is committed to building pathways toward prosperity and equity for all LGBTQ homeless youth.

SINCE ARISE BEGAN IN 2011

485

Shelter or housing
opportunities provided.

1,686

Connections to
resources made.

\$1,000,000

Dollars raised through
5,000 supporters.

OUR VISION

The Arise Project envisions a Minnesota where all youth, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, have the support and resources they need to reach their full potential. The agencies we partner with provide resources in two critical areas: LGBTQ-specific programming including outreach, counseling, case management, shelter, and housing; and by raising awareness and consensus around the issues faced by LGBTQ communities in our area.

Sadly, on any given night, there are 4,700 homeless youth in the state of Minnesota, 40% of whom identify as LGBTQ. With fewer than 130 shelter beds for youth, many have no choice but to stay someplace unsafe. And often as they come out, they get kicked out – and that’s happening at younger and younger ages.

THE PRESENT

In order to make our funding as sustainable and stable as possible we are engaging other foundations, corporations, and philanthropists to support our LGBTQ communities. In partnership with PFund and the Minnesota Council on Foundations, we’ve launched **Better OUTcomes**, a multi-pronged approach to get more dollars into the hands of LGBTQ leaders, programs, and initiatives, and to change the hearts and mindsets of philanthropic leaders. We’ve invested \$70,000 in this initiative with the goal to raise Minnesota funding levels to the national average and engage a third of Minnesota’s funders in education and development around LGBTQ issues across the state.

Additionally, Arise will launch new innovation grants in 2018 to further our success in creating and strengthening programs and services available to LGBTQ youth.

WHY ARISE WORKS

Arise is an innovator in identifying needs for LGBTQ homeless youth that were previously invisible to our community. Our funded agency partners have found that LGBTQ-specific programming gives these youth a safe, welcoming way to access services that otherwise they would not feel comfortable with. As our friends at Face to Face told us:

“Arise support for the LGBTQ Support Group has indirectly created increased visibility and word-of-mouth about mental health and medical services for LGBTQ young people. We have experienced an increase in Trans and gender-non-conforming (GNC) clients since last summer, both at SafeZone drop-in center and Face to Face’s clinic (where the mental health group meets). Of clients actively seeking outpatient mental health services at the Arcade clinic, 20% identify as transgender or gender-fluid, and 28% identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, pansexual, or queer.”

We are not just funding programs. We’re partnering with nonprofits to learn together and dynamically shift how these agencies work with LGBTQ youth across the board. Arise is leading this mission. We need your help to amplify these outcomes across the Twin Cities.

OUR MULTIYEAR PLAN

Maintain Stable Funding: Arise is the only consistent LGBTQ youth homelessness funder in the Twin Cities.

Build Funding for LGBTQ Organizations Sector-Wide: Despite disparities in health, income, education, and safety, LGBTQ communities are chronically underfunded. Arise works to secure more philanthropic dollars for our communities and issues.

Expand to Other Organizations: Current funds allow us to support six partner agencies. Yet of the 15 United Way youth housing providers, several have indicated they would welcome an opportunity to better serve LGBTQ youth with Arise support.

Expand to Other Issues Beyond Youth Homelessness: LGBTQ communities face barriers in areas outside of youth housing. Arise is positioned to begin addressing additional LGBTQ needs such as safety, health or seniors.

We’re asking for your help to end homelessness for LGBTQ youth in the Twin Cities. Get involved with our work at gtcuw.org/arise.



Greater Twin Cities
United Way
gtcuw.org

