



\$55,000 from New York Community Trust To Help Youth At Risk of Homelessness

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New York – To prevent homelessness among some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers, the **New York Community Trust** has awarded \$55,000 to **CSH** to help make sure housing and support services are available for young men and women leaving New York's child welfare and foster care systems.

For over 20 years, CSH has demonstrated how supportive housing improves the lives of individuals and families in need of homes and multiple community services, including healthcare, mental health assistance and employment training.

"By helping young people avoid homelessness and find housing and good support, we can ensure they have a far better chance of getting good jobs and staying safe," said Patricia Swann, program officer at the New York Community Trust.

Supportive housing is often the solution that saves young men and women from a life of chronic homelessness and other hardships, said Deborah De Santis, President and CEO of CSH.

"We know that an alarmingly high number – 40 percent – of children who age-out of foster care become homeless and there is other disturbing data that shows these youth experience high rates of substance use, domestic violence and unemployment," said De Santis. "Supportive housing combines the stability of a home with the services these young people

need to successfully transition to adulthood, significantly reducing their chances of ending up on the streets.”

De Santis pointed to the “Campaign 4 NY/NY Housing,” a pending State and City agreement to create 30,000 homes through supportive housing for New York’s most vulnerable people, as an opportunity for the development of more housing specifically set aside for young men and women ages 18-25, also known as “transition-age youth.”

“We will be using the New York Community Trust gift to make sure transition-age youth supportive housing is a priority throughout New York as the Campaign 4 NY/NY Housing moves forward, and to work with communities and providers to advocate for better, coordinated services for this population of young people,” said De Santis.

CSH will step-up efforts to educate policy-makers and providers about the needs of transition-age youth, ensure quality youth supportive housing, and refine a [“triage tool”](#) that can be used by advocates and services intake personnel to quickly identify youth in New York that would benefit from the services linked to supportive housing.

“Thanks to the caring and generosity of New York Community Trust, we have already begun the process of building a better transition for our youth aging out of foster care and child welfare systems,” concluded De Santis.

See: <http://www.csh.org/resources/the-tay-triage-tool-a-tool-to-identify-homeless-transition-age-youth-most-in-need-of-permanent-supportive-housing/>

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Since 1924, [The New York Community Trust](#) has been the home of charitable New Yorkers who share a passion for the City and the suburbs—and who are committed to improving them. With its donors, The Trust supports an array of effective nonprofits that help make the City and suburbs vital and secure places to live and work, while building permanent resources for the future. The New York Community Trust has assets of more than \$2.5 billion in more than 2,000 charitable funds, and made grants totaling \$141 million. See [**nycommunitytrust.org**](http://nycommunitytrust.org)