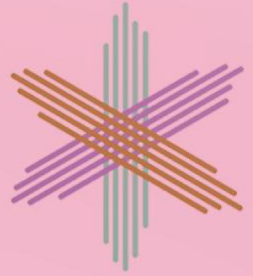


# Host Homes for Youth Experiencing Homelessness



Pilar Barreyro, Associate Director,  
Northeast & Strategic Communications,  
*Point Source Youth*

# POINT SOURCE YOUTH



# POINT SOURCE YOUTH SERVICES



**Advocacy** (Build community support for program, assist with funding meetings)

**Technical Assistance** (Intensive, in-person TA to help with program funding and implementation, hiring/training staff, ongoing support and troubleshooting, connecting with field experts and other providers and access to a growing resource library and program handbooks)

**Evaluation** (Pay youth participants to take surveys on their experiences in the program and well-being at three month intervals, build support for interventions through published quantitative and qualitative data)

# PARTNERS



## Rapid Re-housing

**Jericho Project**, NY, NY (120)

**Bailey House**, NY, NY (30)

**Sheltering Arms**, NY, NY (30)

**Youth Empowered Society**, Baltimore, MD (60)

**Alternatives for Girls**, Detroit, MI (30)

**RAIN**, Charlotte, NC (30)

## Host Homes

**Ruth Ellis Center**, Detroit, MI

**St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center**, Baltimore, MD

**Home of the Innocents**, Louisville, KY

**LGBTQ Center of Durham**, Durham, NC

**Safe Place for Youth**, Venice Beach, CA

**Bill Wilson Center**, San Jose & Santa Cruz, CA

**San Francisco LGBT Center**, San Francisco

**Valley Oasis**, Lancaster, CA

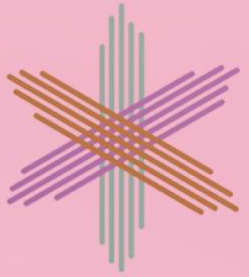
**Hathaway-Sycamores**, Pasadena, CA

**TruEvolution**, Riverside, CA

**Avenues for Youth**, Minneapolis, MN



# How Point Source Youth Can Help



- Host-Guest Matching Process
- Host Applications and Reference Requests
- Budget Assistance
- Staffing and Hiring Processes
- Recruiting and Engaging Hosts
- Youth Applications
- Marketing Materials
- Advising Length of Stay
- Planning and Leading Host Home Trainings
- Connecting Experts and Leaders in the Space

# Host Homes Handbook 2.0



Free PDF available for download  
and order one free hard copy at:

[www.pointsourceyouth.org](http://www.pointsourceyouth.org)

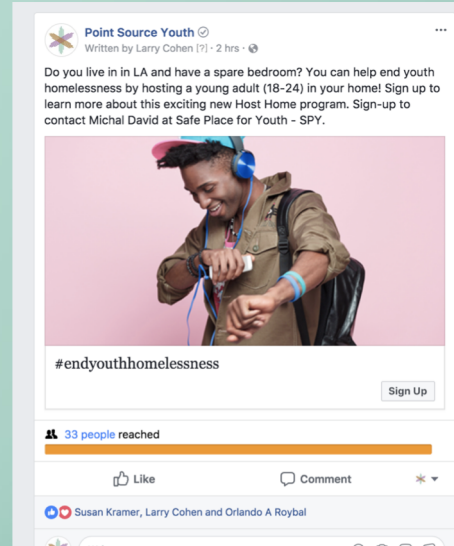
# BEST PRACTICES FOR TRAINING HOSTS



# Engage the Community

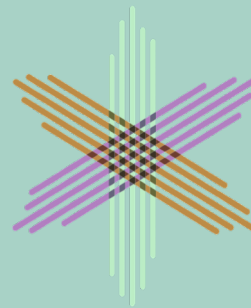


- Volunteers/ Supporters
- Presentations
- Flyers
- Targeted Facebook Ads
- Local Media
- Email Blasts
- Word of mouth

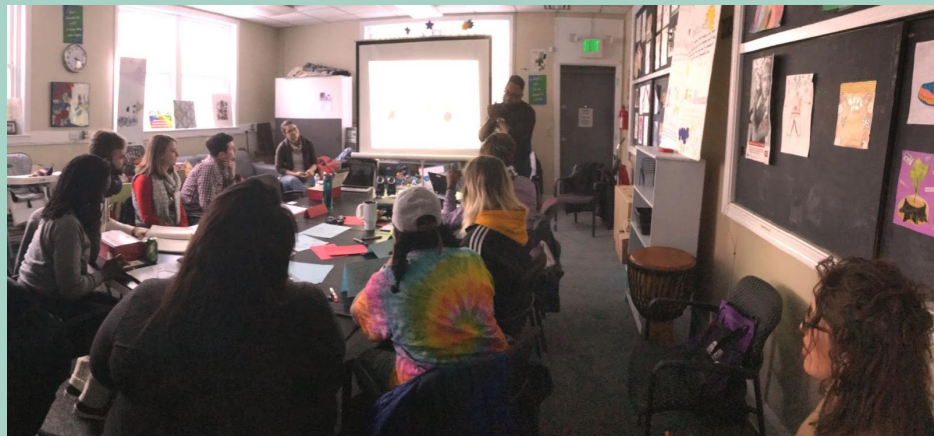




# Respect Folks' Time



- Regular and ongoing host home trainings provide the opportunity for follow up.
- Create a training schedule & be *flexible*
- Weekdays & Weekends
- Training recommendations:
  - 1 day
  - 4-6 hours



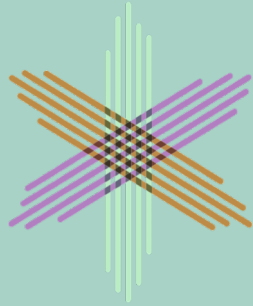
St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center  
Baltimore, MD

# Addressing Community Needs



- Developing a common ground for participants. You, young folx & common themes:
  - Assertive Communication
  - LGBTQ 101
  - Power & Privilege
  - Trauma & Resiliency
  - Adultism
  - Biases

# Creating Dialogue



- Opportunity for Questions
- Group Discussion Activities
- Check for Understanding
- Conversations with former participants

# Ongoing Support



- Monthly host dinners allow folks to discuss challenges, successes, and provides an opportunity for continued training.
- Refresher topics:
  - Assertive communication
  - Conflict resolution
  - Goal setting & support

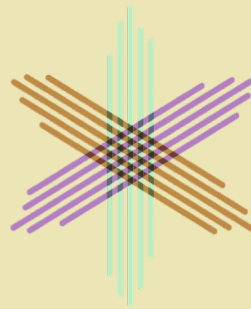


# EQUITY PRACTICES



# Equity Practices

## Keys to Success



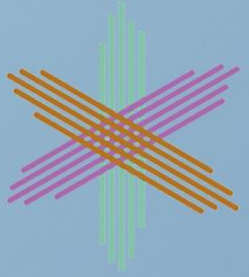
- Low barrier housing/housing first
- Case management centers resources for youth, especially for LGBTQ youth & youth of color
- Host Stipends
- Required host trainings include a focus on supporting trans youth, LGBTQ youth, youth of color, intersectionality, as well as addressing white privilege

# YOUTH LEADERSHIP



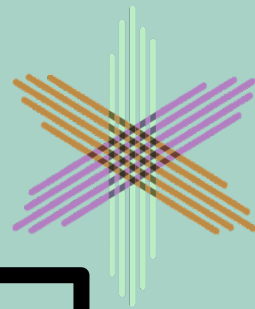
# Youth Leadership

## Keys to Success



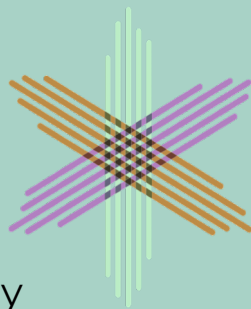
- Youth Advisory Boards
- Youth on hiring committees for agency staff (program managers, case managers, etc.)
- Youth selection of hosts as part of matching process
- Youth & Host contracts
- Peer Movers & paid positions



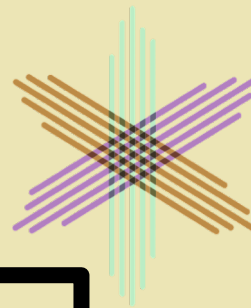


# DATA FROM HOST HOME PILOTS

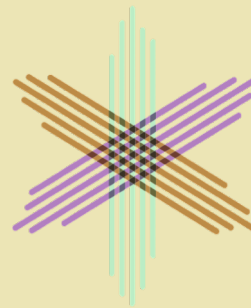
# What the Data Shows



- Early Results From Host Home Pilots
  - Need for long term job/ vocational training
    - Participants are accessing jobs, however mostly part time, temporary
  - Stable access to food
    - Ensuring folks are applying for EBT and SNAP benefits and receiving support for assessing nutritional food
  - Sleep stressors
    - Although their environment has changed, participants still have trouble falling asleep
  - Need for agency approach
    - Participants feel well connected with wraparound staff support (not just from the HH program employee)
    - Staff x HH Participant Communication is the key to success!

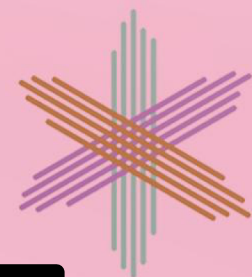


# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**



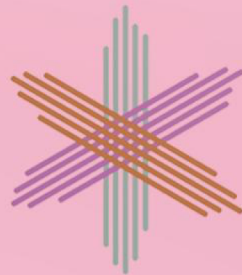
- What are the protections and oversights that are in place to ensure that as best as can be--we have a safe and secure and affirming environment for the youth in host homes?
- Why should there be diversity amongst host homes?
- What happens if a host has a vacation or needs to go out of town while hosting a youth?
- What does it mean to have youth choice?
- How are host homes different from foster care? How do host stipends differ from foster care payments?
- What if there's conflict between hosts and youth?





# TAKEAWAYS

# Don't Recreate the Wheel

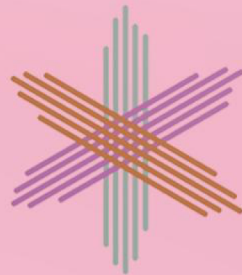


Take advantage of the wealth of knowledge built up on host homes nationally

- Monthly Group & Individual Meetings
- PSY can connect you with other agencies successfully implementing host homes now
- Host Homes Handbook 2.0
- Real time problem solving



# SAVE THE DATE



**1st Annual Southern Symposium on  
Solutions to End Youth Homelessness  
September 16 & 17, 2019  
Atlanta, GA**

# CONTACT US!



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