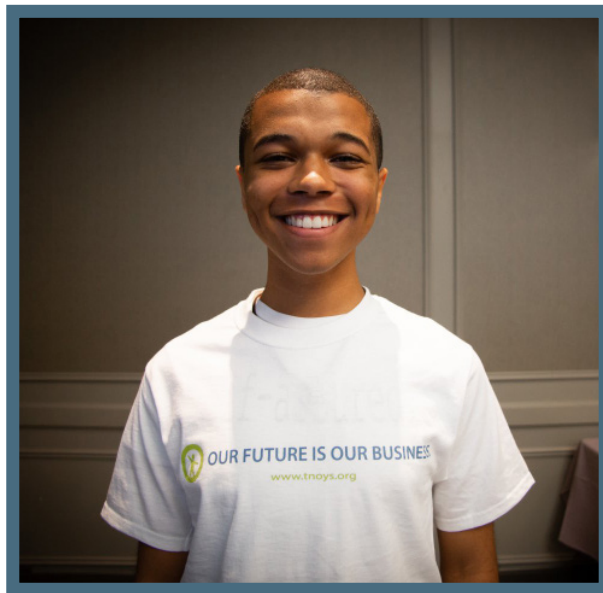


Texas Network of Youth Services

2018

Annual Report



TNOYS

TEXAS NETWORK OF  
YOUTH SERVICES

THEIR FUTURE IS OUR BUSINESS.

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

# Executive Statement

In 2018, TNOYS continued much of the important work that we and our members have been engaged in for several years, but pushed to expand that work and make it even more meaningful.

Perhaps the best example is our effort to assist Texans who were impacted by Hurricane Harvey. As we closed out 2017, we reflected on the efforts of TNOYS and our members to respond to the urgent needs of youth and families who were affected when the storm hit Houston and the Gulf Coast earlier that year. We were inspired to do more to support recovery for those impacted by Harvey, and in 2018 we kicked off our Safety Nets for Students and Families and Strengthening Safety Nets projects, which are providing critical longer-term support. While our initial work to assist in the immediate aftermath of the storm was important, we recognize that there are lingering issues that must still be addressed in those communities and are excited to be moving forward with that work in 2019.

Another area where we made significant progress, and expanded on longstanding work, is the facilitation of opportunities for youth voice. TNOYS has had a demonstrated commitment to youth-adult partnerships since its inception, but in 2018, we made an even stronger commitment through the formation of a formal Young Adult Leadership Council that is comprised of young people with lived experience. This group of youth and young adults who have received services through our member organizations helps to drive and enhance TNOYS' work, as well as to influence the direction of youth services in Texas and beyond. It has been incredibly inspiring to engage with these youth who have been through so much, yet are driven, not just to succeed, but to help others by making Texas' services, systems, and communities stronger.

To many providers in the state, TNOYS is perhaps best known as the host of our Annual Conference on Services to Youth and Families. We are proud to have continued to offer this valuable opportunity for education and inspiration to those in the youth services field for over thirty years. In 2018, we expanded on this convening role by hosting our first-ever nonprofit leadership conference. This important event was very well-attended and well-received and has presented a new opportunity to provide high-quality training opportunities for nonprofit executives.

In addition to all of this, we have continued to: offer high-quality professional development opportunities to strengthen the skills of those serving youth and families across Texas; convene providers, policymakers, and other thought leaders to share best practices and learn from each other; and translate the latest research into policy and practice. We are excited to share a snapshot of these activities with you in this year's report.

This was a year where partnerships were especially important to achieving our goals, and we are grateful to the many individuals and organizations who made all of this work possible. As always, we are especially grateful to the outstanding organizations that make up our network's membership. Thank you for the important work that you do. We look forward to continuing to deepen and expand our efforts together in 2019.

Sincerely,



Christine Gendron  
Executive Director

# POLICY



“IT’S IMPORTANT THAT WE ALL UNDERSTAND THAT YOUTH VOICE IS CRUCIAL HERE. THERE IS GOING TO BE NO PROGRESS IF WE AREN’T GETTING DIRECT INFORMATION FROM YOUTH. THAT’S THE REASON I’M HERE TODAY.”

- ALEX POLK, YOUNG ADULT PARTICIPANT AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE STATEWIDE WORKGROUP ON YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

- ✦ Launched new Statewide Workgroup on Youth Homelessness, providing a space for state agencies, statewide organizations, and local entities to collaborate on efforts to strengthen services and supports for Texas’ homeless youth.
- ✦ Co-facilitated a statewide workgroup alongside DFPS staff to draft a report with recommendations to the Texas Legislature on how to best move forward on SB 1758, a bill aimed at better supporting transition-age youth.
- ✦ Through a series of meetings, webinar trainings, and communications, provided analysis and guidance for youth service providers on how the new federal Families First Prevention Services Act will impact their work and how they can prepare for implementation.
- ✦ Served on the Supreme Court of Texas Children’s Commission’s Statewide Collaborative for Trauma Informed Care and helped draft the blueprint for implementation of trauma informed care in Texas.
- ✦ Drafted a robust legislative agenda to advance the priorities of youth and providers during the 86th Texas Legislative Session.

# PRACTICE



“I LOVED HAVING YOUTH INVOLVED IN EACH WORKSHOP [AT THE CONFERENCE]. IT WAS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF WHAT I DO, AND HEARING THEIR PERSPECTIVES WAS ENLIGHTENING.”

- 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT

- ◆ Continued to facilitate the Emergency Shelter Task Force, which provides representation, networking, and support for Texas' emergency shelter providers.
- ◆ Wrapped up the Recovery Through Participation initiative on integrating youth engagement and trauma-informed care, ultimately reaching 171 individuals from 71 Central Texas organizations with training and networking opportunities.
- ◆ Hosted the first-ever Leading Through Change Conference, providing high-level leadership training and professional development for executives in the nonprofit sector.
- ◆ Offered 40+ training workshops for hundreds of participants at our Annual Conference in June. Hosted 31 virtual and in-person trainings and events throughout the year, exposing over 2,000 attendees to topics, including crisis intervention, youth engagement, policy changes impacting youth services providers, and more.
- ◆ Thanks to grant funding from the Rebuild Texas Fund, launched the Safety Nets for Students and Families project, a collaborative effort between TNOYS, Texas Homeless Network (THN), and partners in the education field to support school personnel who are tasked with identifying and assisting students who remain homeless in the wake of Hurricane Harvey.
- ◆ Released a report with findings from extensive interviews and research on the youth services landscape in Houston. Merged several Houston-based initiatives into a new Houston Area Partners for Youth workgroup to implement recommendations in this report.
- ◆ Launched a statewide provider directory, a resource that lists a variety of services available to Texas youth, including STAR counseling, drop-in centers, emergency shelters, and more.



# PARTICIPATION



“THIS EXPERIENCE WAS EVEN MORE INSPIRATION TO MAKE CHANGES IN MY COMMUNITY STARTING ONE POLICY AT A TIME.”

- CHARLES BATISTE, YALC MEMBER,  
COMMENTING ON THE YALC KICKOFF

- ✦ Fully integrated youth as partners and participants in our Annual Conference, with a track specifically for them to learn alongside providers and other conference participants, and opportunities for them to participate in the conference planning process.
- ✦ Contracted with young adults who have lived experience with foster care and/or homelessness to advise on TNOYS' work, serve as trainers and consultants, and help facilitate meetings to strengthen planning and coordination between key stakeholders.
- ✦ Launched the Young Adult Leadership Council, which incorporates youth voice into TNOYS' and our members' work and provides leadership opportunities for young adults who have experience with foster care, homelessness, juvenile justice system involvement, or other at-risk situations.
- ✦ Hosted for the 32nd year PEAKS Adventure Camp, which uses a traditional camp setting to help youth develop leadership skills and adult partners value youth contributions.
- ✦ Created and released a video, "My Voice Matters," to help legal professionals better understand how to give youth a voice in the child welfare system.

# Staff

**Christine Gendron**  
Executive Director  
**Rachel Brownlie**  
Program Coordinator  
**Ann-Charlotte Proffitt**  
Development and  
Outreach Manager

**Lauren Rose**  
Director of Public Policy  
**Lyric Wardlow**  
Youth Specialist  
**Beth Duke**  
Administrative Specialist

# Board

**Joel Levine, Chair**  
**Kellie Stallings, Vice Chair**  
**Erin Whelan, Treasurer**  
**Melissa Opheim, Secretary**  
**Dr. Julie Strentzsch**  
**Celeste Garcia**  
**Richard Singleton**  
**Allicia Frye**

**Christa Rose**  
**Candreas Jones**  
**Leslie Bourne**  
**Jeffrey Reed**  
**Kym Olson**  
**Robert Ellis**  
**Charles Rotramel**

# YALC

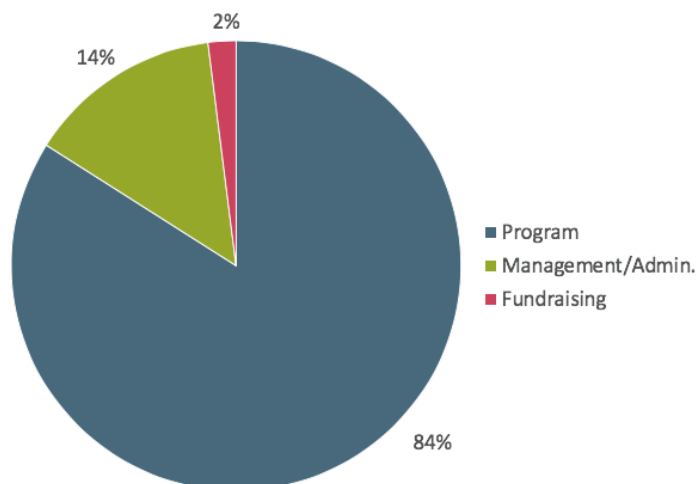
**Charles Batiste**  
**Kyra Burton**  
**Justin Hayward**  
**Skylar Younger**

**Angel Carroll**  
**Bryce Jackson**  
**Kenyon Harris**  
**Roxy Wood**

# Member Organizations

ACH Child & Family Services, Fort Worth; Alternative Resident Management Services, Goldthwaite; Angel Reach, Conroe; Andrews Center, Tyler; Baptist Child and Family Services, San Antonio; Boys Haven of America, Beaumont; Buckner, Beaumont; Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, Amarillo; CCD Counseling, Denton; Central Texas Table of Grace, Round Rock; Central Texas Youth Services, Belton; Children's Aid Society, Wichita Falls; City House, Inc., Plano; Colorado County Youth & Family Services, Columbus; Community Healthcore, Longview; Connections Individual and Family Services, New Braunfels; Covenant House Texas, Houston; Deep East Texas Council of Governments, Jasper; East Texas Open Door, Marshall; Ebby House, Dallas; El Buen Samaritano Episcopal Mission, Austin; El Paso Center for Children, El Paso; Family Service Center of Galveston, Galveston; Greater San Marcos Youth Council, San Marcos; Gulf Bend MHMR Center, Victoria; Gulfwinds RTC, Bay City; Harmony Family Services, Abilene; Harris County Protective Services for Children and Adults, Houston; Hearts with Hope Foundation, Spring; High Sky Children's Ranch, Midland; Hope's Path, Spring; Houston Community College, Houston; Houston reVision, Houston; Jonathan's Place, Garland; K'Star, Marble Falls; LifeWorks, Austin; Montrose Center, Houston; Orphan Care Solutions of Texas, Spring; Our Friends Place, Dallas; Parks Youth Ranch, Sugarland; Pegasus Schools, Lockhart; Promise House, Dallas; Rainbow of Love Adoption, Missouri City; Reissa Foundation, Austin; Roy Maas' Youth Alternatives, San Antonio; SAFE Alliance, Austin; Salvation Army YARC, Houston; SCAN, Laredo; STARRY, Round Rock; Stepping Stones RTC, Houston; Step Onward Foundation, Austin; Texas Council of Child Welfare Boards, Austin; Texas Homeless Education Office, Austin; Upbring, Austin; Thru Project, San Antonio; Twin City Mission, Bryan; Williams House Emergency Shelters, Goldthwaite; World Youth Foundation, Houston

# TNOYS Expenses



# TNOYS Income

