

SHELTER SPOTLIGHT

ST. CLOUD YOUTH SHELTER: RENOVATION UPDATE

In August, after a year of major construction and renovation, five youth moved into a newly renovated wing of the St. Cloud Youth Shelter. It was an emotional experience for youth who had been living at the shelter during the construction. For some, it was the first time they had a private bedroom.

Some of the kids shed tears. It was the first time they had ever had a bedroom to themselves. Each bedroom contains a floor-to-ceiling white board giving youth a chance to personalize their space with artwork, inspirational quotes, daily reminders, and personal goals.

“Living in a shelter with up to a dozen other teens can be challenging, especially while healing from the trauma that comes with running away, living outside or in other places that aren’t safe,” said Sr. Program Manager, Dominic Jones. “The new bedrooms provide an immediate sense of safety, privacy, and comfort, creating a better shelter experience.”

Once complete, the renovated building, designed by architects from BKV Group, will feature the latest in “Trauma-Informed Design”. Design elements will include 12 single bedrooms, an open floor plan with clear views of exits, expansive windows with views of nature, and finishes that evoke a residential setting rather than an institutional setting.

DID YOU KNOW ?

An estimated 13,300 Minnesota youth on their own experience homelessness over the course of a year.



Private rooms offer safety and a place to heal.



The \$4.3 million construction continues at St. Cloud Youth Shelter.



AMPLIFY
STRENGTHS

At 180 Degrees we recognize and amplify strengths. Labels like “problematic,” “defiant,” or “troublemaker” limit youth potential. When behavior is challenging, we help youth identify and channel positive traits like “skilled self-advocate,” “creative problem solver,” and “resilient despite adversity”.