Covenant House Alaska is a miracle. Through all my starts and stops, they are always here and never give up on you.”

— Tony, 19, CHA Youth
WHO WE ARE

OUR MISSION
We serve all youth experiencing homelessness or human trafficking with absolute respect and unconditional love.

OUR VISION
We lead change that motivates our community to end youth homelessness so that Alaska’s young people can grow into the best versions of themselves.

WHO WE SERVE
Since 1988, Covenant House Alaska (CHA) has served more than 30,000 youth experiencing homelessness or human trafficking.

Covenant House Alaska is nationally recognized for the innovative work we do to provide young people everything they need in one place — so they can move forward to a brighter future.
A Youth Engagement Center Reborn

Dear Friends: Covenant House Alaska marked 33 years of service in 2021! And with that milestone, we gratefully look back at all we’ve accomplished together as a community, including the tremendous outpouring of support eight years ago for the building of our Youth Engagement Center (YEC) at 755 A Street.

Whereas we were once limited to the cramped, dark quarters of our previous shelter, we now have 79 beds across all our programs, providing enough open space for youth to grow and flourish into productive and thriving young adults. We envisioned ourselves as a sanctuary where youth can heal, learn and be wrapped in critical services — and since our opening day, that vision has been realized. In fact, in 2021 we have either opened or broke ground on two more programs that demonstrate our commitment to wrap-around services. I am proud to say that in the fiscal year 2021, we broke ground on Bridge to Success and moved our minors into their own residence, affectionally know as the MACK house (Minors Accessing Care and Kindness). There is more information about these programs in this report, but what you need to know is that the opening of these two innovative programs is a large step in achieving functional zero in our community. The past two years have been extremely difficult, but still, our young people remain resilient and determined. Through the pandemic, we have seen incredible progress and many positive transformations.

This Impact Report will give you, our supporters and donors, an earnest look at the work being done here at Covenant House Alaska. We have been tracking the data that gives us a more accurate idea of how our youth fare after leaving the safety of Covenant House Alaska. We want you to know that none of this could have been accomplished without your help. While this year the majority of our funding has come from COVID-19 relief funds, we fully expect to shift back to our normal of being mostly funded by our community and private funders. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of our Alaskan youth.

1,345 different youth received help from CHA last year.

We have witnessed a dramatic change, not just in the number of youth we now serve, but in the innovative ways we now serve them...”

— Alison Kear

1,345 different youth received help from CHA last year.
Alaska has the highest rates of child abuse and neglect in the nation – we see this every day in the young people who seek sanctuary with us.”

— Covenant House Alaska

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Challenge</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39%</td>
<td>Are at high risk of human trafficking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58%</td>
<td>Have experienced domestic violence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Have been in foster care</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Are pregnant or already have children on arrival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>Have disabling conditions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nearly every young person who arrives at Covenant House Alaska has experienced trauma — and they are experiencing more serious challenges than ever before, including sex trafficking, abusive homes, substance abuse and disabling conditions that act as barriers to housing. These adverse childhood experiences put youth at greater risk of exploitation later in life.
We are fortunate to partner with Alaska Native organizations in serving our youth, including Alaska Native Justice Center, The CIRI Foundation, Cook Inlet Tribal Council, and Southcentral Foundation.

Today, almost half of our youth are of Alaska Native and Native American descent. We are seeing an influx of youth coming from rural Alaska to Anchorage as the state economy continues to reopen. (See data below.)

- **41%** ALASKA NATIVE OR NATIVE AMERICAN
- **19%** CAUCASIAN
- **7%** AFRICAN AMERICAN
- **6%** PACIFIC ISLANDER
- **<1%** ASIAN
- **8%** MULTI-RACIAL/OTHER
- **19%** UNKNOWN/NOT REPORTED

**Gender**
- 46% Male
- 40% Female
- 11% chose not to answer
- 3% transgender or gender non-conforming

**Average age of youth who arrive at CHA for the first time**: 19 years

**CHA youth who came directly from or have been in foster care**: 30%
Redefining What a Homeless Shelter Means

On any given night, CHA provides young people with a warm, safe place to lay their heads at our Youth Engagement Center (YEC). But it’s much more than “bread and a bed.” It’s an intentional space where youth can stretch to their greatest potential with art, music, exercise, cultural programs and computer skills, as well as the necessary services like counseling, education and job opportunities.

Collaboration is crucial to CHA’s mission of ending youth homelessness. Inside our building is a community within a community, where lives are changed with help from our on-site partners who provide everything a youth will need under one roof: healthcare, high school classes, cultural workshops, GED preparation, job readiness, drug and alcohol abuse counseling, suicide prevention, mental health services and life skills training. All our partners have space at the Youth Engagement Center, so no youth falls through the cracks.

OUR PARTNERS
- Alaska Native Justice Center
- Anchorage School District
- Alaska Behavioral Health
- Choosing our Roots
- The CIRI Foundation
- Cook Inlet Housing Authority
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- National Crisis Response Canines
- Nine Star Education & Employment Services
- Southcentral Foundation
- United Way
- Volunteers of America

VOLUNTEERS
Volunteers embody the mission of Covenant House Alaska. Year in and year out, they tirelessly give their time to mentor young people and help provide critical services. Volunteers help serve food, sort donations, maintain our facilities, lead art, recreation and music groups, and are consistent role models for our young people. Last year, 165 volunteers gave over 1,611 hours of service to the young people of Covenant House Alaska.
The Journey Begins: Street Outreach and Services

CHA’s Street Outreach team meets at-risk youth where they are, on the streets, and then builds trusting and safe relationships with them. Inside our facilities, youth receive immediate medical attention at our Wellness Center operated by South Central Foundation, critical mental health and substance abuse counseling, as well as a warm meal, a hot shower and dry clothes. 360 vulnerable young people received help through our Outreach and Drop-In services last year.

We help youth ages 13 to 24 who have been trafficked, have fled physical, emotional and/or sexual abuse, have been forced from their homes, and who have aged out of foster care.

“I was alone and so scared before I came to Covenant House Alaska. I imagined something like a gym with rows of bunk beds, lots of noise and chaos, but this place is so much better than I could have ever hoped for.”

— William, 19, CHA Youth
Youth Engagement Center (YEC)

**25** day average length of stay

**43,469** meals served

**221** youth served

**20** youth obtained HSD or GED

**39** average daily youth census

**574** visits to wellness center

From the Streets to Stable Housing

Youth experiencing homelessness are not hopeless. They are resilient and working hard to achieve success everyday — like stable jobs, diplomas and secure housing. At our 40-bed YEC, young people get the support and guidance needed to reach their full potential. Here, they receive job training, counseling and educational services — and most importantly, the love and guidance some have searched for their entire lives. Last year, 221 young people gained not only shelter and services at the YEC but also a realization of all the opportunities that lay before them in life.

“My mom and I moved every few months before I came to Covenant House Alaska. After a while here, my grades started to get way better. I felt rested and healthy and cared for, and I realized I wasn’t the loser I thought I was. I just needed what everyone needs.”

— Dillon, 19

CHA youth
Learning to Fly: Transitional Living Programs

Rights of Passage is a 25-bed, dorm-style transitional living program for youth ages 18-24 who are looking to gain stability. Located at the Dena’ina House (a partnership with Cook Inlet Tribal Council) in downtown Anchorage, youth learn to hold down jobs, pay rent, save money, balance a budget, and cook healthy meals. Residents receive individualized guidance and support from staff and mentors during this eighteen-month program as they prepare for independent living.

Covenant House Alaska also serves pregnant teens and young parenting mothers who are experiencing homelessness at Passage House, a home in Anchorage which can house up to 5 mothers and their children. Here, young moms learn positive parenting skills, how to find and sustain jobs while being a single parent, and how to live a healthy lifestyle—both for themselves and their children.

In October 2018, Covenant House Alaska took over a program previously run by Catholic Social Services. The Charlie Elder House is a supportive home setting for young men ages 16-19 who are experiencing mental health challenges and homelessness. Here we help teenage boys prepare for independent living in a safe, supportive environment.
Expanding Access to Education — One Size Fits One

We have dramatically expanded the range of our high school programs so that youth can achieve their education in a variety of ways, from onsite ASD classrooms to the nationally-recognized JAG (Jobs for America’s Graduates) program. It’s never too late for youth to earn a degree for a lifetime of independence. Thanks to our partners — Nine Star, United Way, AT&T, the Anchorage School District, and the Annie E. Casey Foundation — for helping us empower our youth with education.

39 YOUTH GRADUATED FROM OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS WITH A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED IN 2021

257 WERE ENROLLED IN ON-SITE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

241 YOUTH OBTAINED CREDITS
What Happens After Youth Leave Covenant House Alaska?

Our ultimate goal is to help each young person move forward positively in their lives, with education, stable employment and secure housing. We are starting to track what happens to youth after they leave Covenant House Alaska — and it is encouraging news. Our data shows that youth are able to keep their jobs and stay in secure housing after they move forward from our programs.

Your support is truly making the difference in their lives — and breaking the cycle of homelessness.
New Model of Care

Four years ago, Covenant House Alaska was named as the Lead Agency for Anchorage’s Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP), an opportunity through the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This program calls on communities to develop innovative, outside-the-box solutions to tackle homelessness. After a youth-led planning process, Covenant House developed two YHDP projects.

The first project, Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), quickly houses youth experiencing homelessness in apartments instead of in shelters. Step-down rental assistance is offered over 12 months as youth get on their feet. The second is Permanency Navigators, who provide long-term, 100% mobile support as they help youth find housing and navigate community resources. Through relentless engagement, they help young people accomplish everything from small tasks, like obtaining IDs or filling out forms, to big goals, like getting the right apartment and finding meaningful employment. Navigators walk alongside youth through successes and failures with the consistency young people need in a caring adult.

2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- 50 youth gained housing
- 466 young people were connected with a Permanency Navigator
- Navigators helped young people complete 8,654 tasks or goals related to housing, education, employment and health.
Matthew’s Story

Through the YHDP Program, one man was able to exceed expectations. Here is the story of Matthew:

Raised in New York by his mother and father who originated from Barbados and Haiti, they attempted to give Matthew a better life. As they struggled to adapt to the “American Dream,” so did Matthew. Matthew experienced depression, hopelessness, and generational trauma from an abusive and broken home. “I had to grow up fast, really fast,” he said of his early years.

Later, Matthew found himself wanting to escape the trauma his family had experienced for so many years, Matthew decided to move across the country. With the money he had from a family inheritance, Matthew landed in Anchorage, Alaska. Once in Alaska, Matthew found himself walking from the airport with nowhere to go. After 20 miles and no food Matthew had ended up at Providence Medical Center. There he was able to access information about Covenant House Alaska.

As soon as he arrived to Covenant House Alaska, Matthew hit the ground running. Within two weeks, YHDP connected him with our partners at Safe Harbor. While at Safe Harbor, his determination to succeed only manifested. Eager to work and the desire for a better life, Matthew landed his first job. While working his first job, the staff with YHDP continued their work and assisted Matthew with securing housing through the Rapid Rehousing Program.

The “aha” Moment...

As soon as Matthew moved into his apartment he decided it was time to secure better employment opportunities. He found himself applying at Carrs grocery store. There he worked as a baggage handler, drive up delivery service, and then was offered a position as assistant store director, all while walking to work!

Creating a budget plan and saving his money, Matthew was able to pay for Driver’s Educational School. He obtained his Driver’s license and continued to save money. With the continued support from his Permanency Navigator at Covenant House Alaska, Matthew was ready to purchase his first vehicle.

Today, Matthew has shown the resilience to overcome depression, hopelessness, and generational trauma and would like to help others through these experiences “I want others to know that creating independence and taking risk to have a better life is ok”.

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Innovative Next Steps:
Model of Care

MACK House

In September of 2021, we opened Minors Accessing Care and Kindness (MACK) House, a residential facility for 13-18 year olds within our programming. Moving minors out of the Youth Engagement Center and into their own residential home allows our amazing direct care staff to cater an experience that is best suited for the specific needs of developing children.

Read the full story here: https://covenanthouseak.org/mack-house-opening/

Bridge to Success

In June, Covenant House Alaska broke ground on its historic and innovative plan to build 22 micro-unit apartments for youth experiencing homelessness.

Read the full story here: https://covenanthouseak.org/groundbreaking-interview/
Our Anti-Trafficking Work

Serving young people who have experienced human trafficking is a daily reality of our work at Covenant House Alaska. According to a national study conducted by Loyola University New Orleans, in 2016, 28 percent of youth experiencing homelessness in Anchorage are victims of human trafficking. With our partners, we served 82 victims of human trafficking last year.

While Covenant House Alaska has been an authority in this area for many years, in 2021 we formalized this work in the creation of our anti-trafficking team: ANCHOR Team. This team works alongside the FBI and our other anti-trafficking partners to empower young people to exit human trafficking situations.

We also work with the following agencies onsite at the Youth Engagement Center to bring help and hope to these young survivors of the most heinous crime — sex trafficking:

- Alaska Native Justice Center
- AWAIC (Abused Women’s Aid in Crisis)
- STAR (Standing Together Against Rape)
- FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation)

“Law enforcement has told us that within 48 hours of finding themselves on the street, 1 in 3 youth will be approached by traffickers attempting to recruit them.”

— Josh Louwerse, CHA Program Director
WHERE YOUR DOLLARS GO

Our private donors provide **65 percent** of our funding. We work to ensure every dollar you donate to Covenant House Alaska serves the children we care for as efficiently as possible. In fact, **87 cents of every dollar you donate goes directly to funding our programs** to help the most vulnerable in our community. How do we do that? CHA has a proven track record of raising money through partnerships and private funds. Recognizing the scarcity of resources, especially in the current economic climate, we understand the importance of building partnerships to reduce duplication of services. We make the most of the resources we receive in order to wrap our youth experiencing homelessness in services and meet their basic needs. (See financials on the right.) That is how we opened the doors to our new Youth Engagement Center in 2013 with no debt. Together with our Board, CHA is committed to expanding our operations and have developed sustainable funding to make that happen.

**FY2020* Costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MISSION &amp; YOUTH PROGRAMS</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Engagement Center</td>
<td>$3,941,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Programs: Rights of Passage &amp; Passage House</td>
<td>$1,815,540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street Outreach &amp; Crisis Care</td>
<td>$314,960</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employment &amp; Education</td>
<td>$577,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Model of Care Funding</td>
<td>$1,196,525</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,845,854</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUPPORTING SERVICES</th>
<th>COST</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>$1,281,319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising and Special Events</td>
<td>$606,461</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,887,780</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*FY2021 figures pending*
“Now that I can’t go to the mall to hang out with friends or go to the movies or even see my friends at school, I have realized that there actually are fun staff and other residents to hang out with in the building. I used to think I had to get out of the building to have a good time and be around friends, but now I see that I have friends all around me at Covey.”

-Damian, 19

Weathering COVID-19

We are serving more youth for longer durations—at less cost per resident. Why is this important? The longer a youth receives compassionate guidance, job training, education and counseling services at Covenant House Alaska, the better the outcome. We are working to make youth homelessness rare, brief and non-reoccurring.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

AMY MILLER, CHAIR — PROVIDENCE HEALTH & SERVICES
CAROL GORE, VICE CHAIR — COOK INLET HOUSING AUTHORITY
JUDITH CROTTY — WELLS FARGO (RETIRED)
DASH TOGI — COVENANT HOUSE ALASKA
DENALI KEMPPEL — MCKINLEY CAPITAL MANAGEMENT, LLC
ERIC CAMPBELL — BDO, USA, LLP. (RETIRED)
JULIE FATE SULLIVAN — DOYON SHAREHOLDER
CARL SWANSON — DAVIS CONSTRUCTORS (RETIRED)
KURT PARKAN — CONSULTANT
KATE SLYKER — GCI
LISA RIEGER — COOK INLET TRIBAL COUNCIL
MAUREEN MOORE — GCI
MIKE MILLS — DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP
CARLETTE MACK (NON-VOTING) — COVENANT HOUSE INTERNATIONAL

2021 EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM
ALISON KEAR — CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
CALLIE BENJAMIN — EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR FOR THE CEO
JOE HEMPHILL — CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
ANGELA HOUSTON — CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER
HEIDI HUPPERT — CHIEF PROGRAM OFFICER
LAURA MELBOSTAD — CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

“Every time we reach a trafficked child on the street, or care for a sick teen in our Wellness Center, or help an abandoned youth find a job, you’ve made an impact. It is amazing what can be accomplished when the community joins together.”

— Alison Kear, CHA CEO

The CHA Executive Leadership Team. From left: Melbostad, Huppert, Houston, Hemphill, Kear (Not pictured: Benjamin).
FY2021
Covenant House Alaska
Financial Overview
## Program Dashboard
### FY2021 through June 30

### TOTAL BEDS PER NIGHT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Beds</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Engagement Center</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rights of Passage</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passage House</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary’s Place</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Elder House</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanency Navigators*</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Re-Housing*</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Total youth served from December 2018 through June 2021

### INSTANCES OF SERVICE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FY20 Total</th>
<th>FY21 YTD</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Youth Engagement Center</td>
<td>1,675</td>
<td>1,674</td>
<td>106%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rights of Passage</td>
<td>636</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>105%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passage House</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>105%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary’s Place</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>105%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Elder House</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>105%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permanency Navigators*</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>105%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rapid Re-Housing*</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>105%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### TOTAL YOUTH SERVED

#### Overall Agency by Program

**unduplicated**

- **Youth Engagement Center (YEC)**
  - Overall Instances of Service: 838, 712, 85%
  - Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Conditions: 411, 325, 79%

- **Rights of Passage (ROP)**
  - Overall Instances of Service: 58, 50, 86%
  - Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Conditions: 25, 19, 76%

- **Passage House (PH)**
  - Overall Instances of Service: 19, 20, 105%
  - Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Conditions: 1, 2, 200%

- **Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)**
  - Overall Instances of Service: 52, 45, 87%
  - Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Conditions: 16, 14, 88%

- **Permanency Navigators (PN)**
  - Overall Instances of Service: 417, 486, 117%
  - Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Conditions: 146, 220, 150%

- **Street Outreach & Drop In (SOP)**
  - Overall Instances of Service: 12,979, 8,723, 67%
  - Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Conditions: 5,192, 3,701, 71%

### Youth Served, unduplicated:
The true number of youth representing the density of demand. One youth served does not mean one instance of service.

### Instances of Youth Served with Disabling Condition:
Tracks the overall, duplicated number of times we served clients with an existing Disabling Condition. This number shows the true impact of the demands of clients with Disabling Condition.
Financial Dashboard
FY21 through JUNE 30

**REVENUES**

YTD % of budget: 98%
YTD: $10,957,482
FY21 BUDGET: $11,182,633

**EXPENSES**

YTD % of budget: 100%
YTD: $10,122,109
FY21 BUDGET: $10,110,636

**REVENUE SOURCES**

- **Corporations**
  - Secured: $671,224
  - FY21 Budget: $1,020,519
  - %: 66% 0% 34%

- **Individuals**
  - Secured: $814,375
  - FY21 Budget: $805,264
  - %: 101% 0% 0%

- **Foundations**
  - Secured: $1,509,360
  - FY21 Budget: $2,097,330
  - %: 72% 0% 28%

- **Special Events**
  - Secured: $437,180
  - FY21 Budget: $700,000
  - %: 62% 0% 38%

- **State Grants**
  - Secured: $893,604
  - FY21 Budget: $1,003,645
  - %: 89% 0% 11%

- **Federal Grants**
  - Secured: $4,755,534
  - FY21 Budget: $4,177,137
  - %: 114% 0% 0%

**CASH ON HAND**

Goal: 30 days
Actual: 42 days
Variance: 12 days

**FISCAL PLAN**

Secured: 98%
High confidence: 0%
Difference to budget: 2%