



HOPE CENTER ADMISSION

The purpose of Hope Center is to increase the safety of unaccompanied homeless youth by providing them with safe, non-judgmental, temporary shelter. Once at the shelter, staff, and volunteers will work with each youth on the following tasks:

1. Complete a comprehensive assessment of each youth to identify their needs
2. Assist youth with returning home or with developing a plan for obtaining safe stable housing if returning home is not an option
3. Help youth re-connect with school or with other educational opportunities
4. Assist youth with finding employment as applicable
5. Connect youth with resources to meet their needs which may include medical and dental care, substance abuse counseling, and/or mental health counseling

Staff will conduct an assessment for admission. Youth who meet the following eligibility criteria may be admitted to the shelter overnight:

- Runaway and homeless youth ages 0-17 who identify as female and their children of any age and gender. We will need to obtain permission from a parent/guardian/legal custodian.
 - * All youth experiencing homelessness can be referred to Hope Center for help with homeless resolution. We will connect them with Open Door Youth Services and appropriate resources.

Youth who may be inappropriate for admission to the shelter overnight:

- Youth coming directly from a State correctional facility
- Youth who have a court ordered placement elsewhere
- Youth with active suicidal ideation/intention or active psychotic symptoms
- Youth who do not consent to voluntary admission
- Youth with pending felony charges of a violent nature (e.g., assault, battery, etc.)

Referrals for shelter services are accepted from the following sources:

- County Department of Human Services and Child Welfare Agencies
- Law Enforcement
- Schools
- Community Based Youth Serving Organizations
- Youth Self-Referral
- Parents, Guardians, Legal Custodians of the Youth, and Other Sources

