

# SHELTERING HOMELESS YOUTH:

There are an estimated 1,500 homeless youth per night in the Twin Cities metropolitan area. Many of them come from broken homes, some of them are victims of physical or psychological abuse, and others were banished from their families after becoming pregnant or admitting to being homosexual. For these youth, returning home is simply not an option.

Even with this glaring need for transitional and emergency housing, there are less than 20 beds in Minneapolis and St. Paul specifically designated as "age appropriate" and "safe" for homeless youth. So where do they stay? Many squat in abandoned buildings, and some move in with adults who often demand sexual favors in exchange for housing.

Since opening December 5, 1994, **Project Foundation** has provided safe, short-term transitional housing and comprehensive supportive services for more than 500 homeless youth at our South Minneapolis home. Our new, recently renovated, North Minneapolis facility, formerly the **Oak Park Home**, will extend our help to ten more youth per night.

Project Foundation is not a temporary place for homeless youth to sleep. While we provide support to those who ask, we focus our attention on those individuals who committed to their own transition into independent living.

As we look towards the dedication of this home, we're proud that we can share and continue in this building's history of providing housing and support to our community's underprivileged youth.

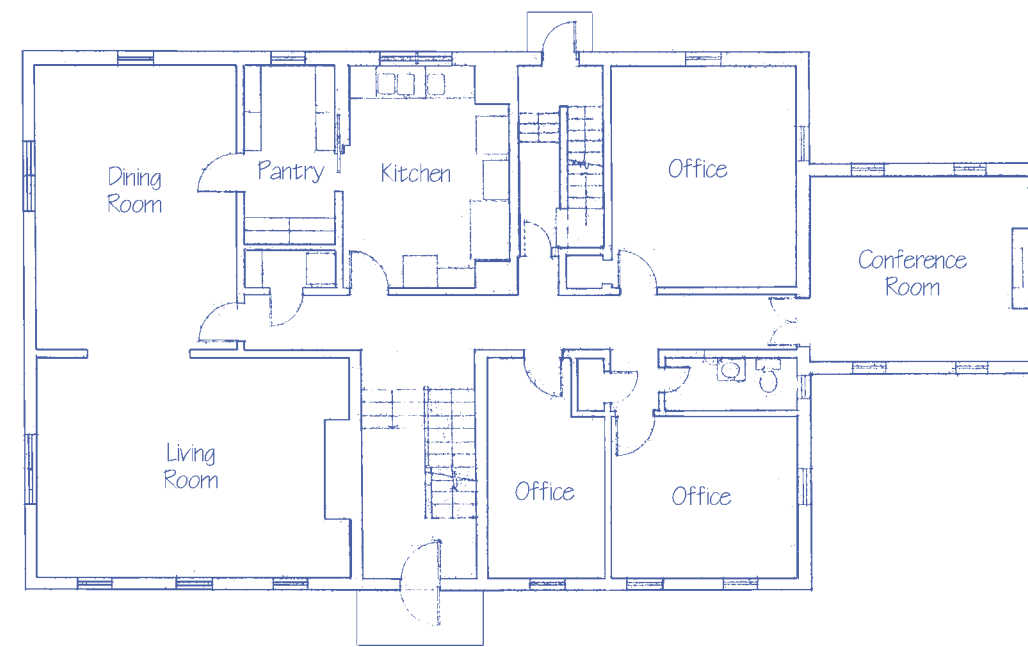


*Dedicated in 1934, the Oak Park Home (formerly named the Jewish Sheltering Home for Children) provided shelter for underprivileged children. After extensive renovations, this home will help Project Foundation to shelter homeless youth and provide comprehensive support to help them to offer them a better future.*



## Facility Improvements & Needs:

When Project Foundation purchased this home in December of 1996, it had been abandoned for almost two years and was in the process of being condemned by the fire marshal. After eight months and more than \$500,000 of renovations, we returned it to its original beauty and modernized in many ways including:



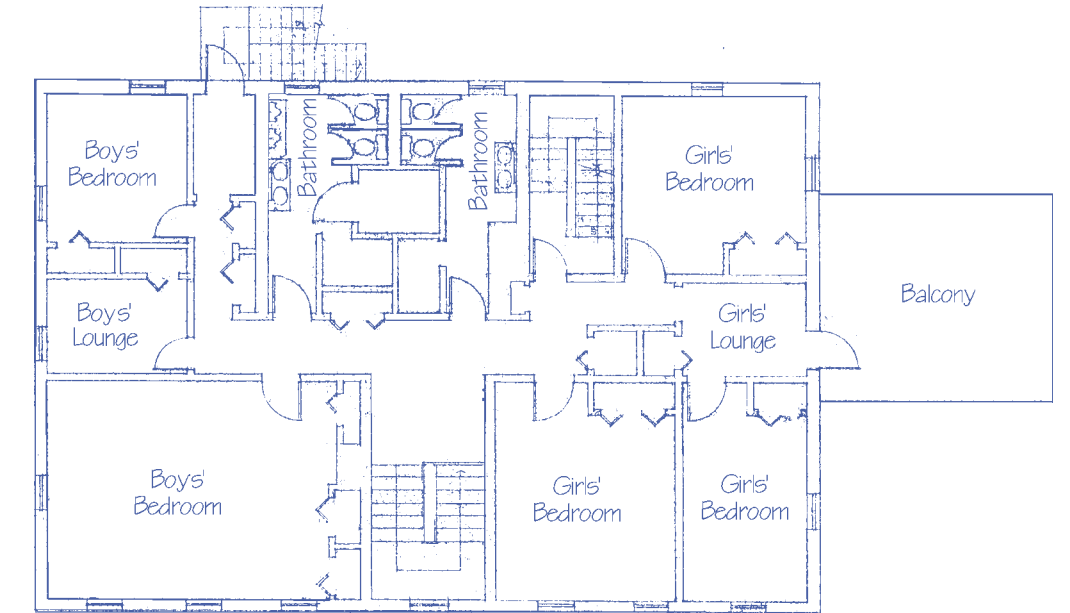
### First Floor:

#### What We Did:

Upgraded kitchen to commercial-level, replace existing heating/electrical and phone systems, repainted walls, upgraded existing flooring, carpeting and replaced windows and ceiling tiles

#### What We Need:

Safe lounging and eating areas for youth, in addition to office spaces for one-to-one case management meetings, training and program development with adequate staff and volunteers to supervise activities.



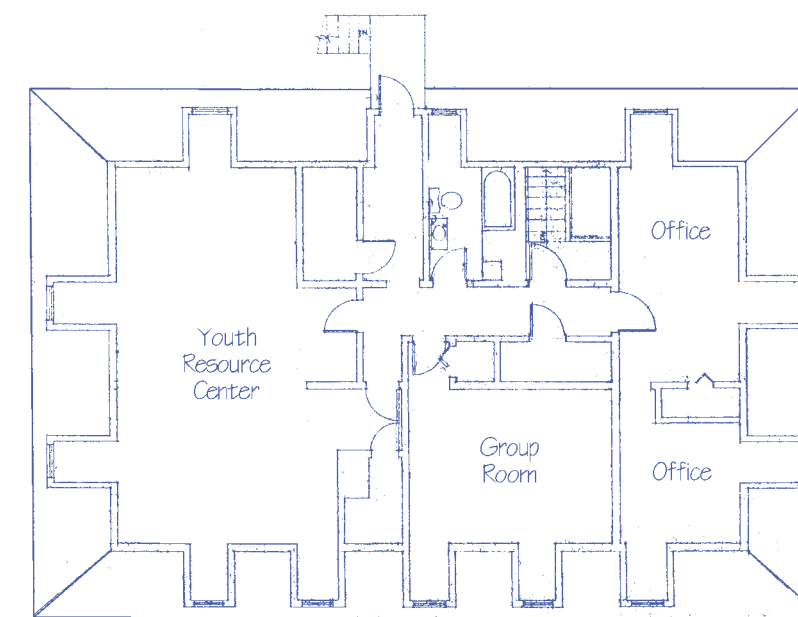
### Second Floor:

#### What We Did:

Replace existing flooring, heating, plumbing, electrical and phone system. Painted walls, renovated bathrooms and replaced windows and ceiling panels.

#### What We Need:

Comfortable, separate sleeping areas for male and female clients in addition to separated socializing areas with adequate staff and volunteers to insure their safety around the clock. In addition, we wish to welcome each youth upon entry with any needed clothing, coats, shoes, hygiene items, and various gift certificates.



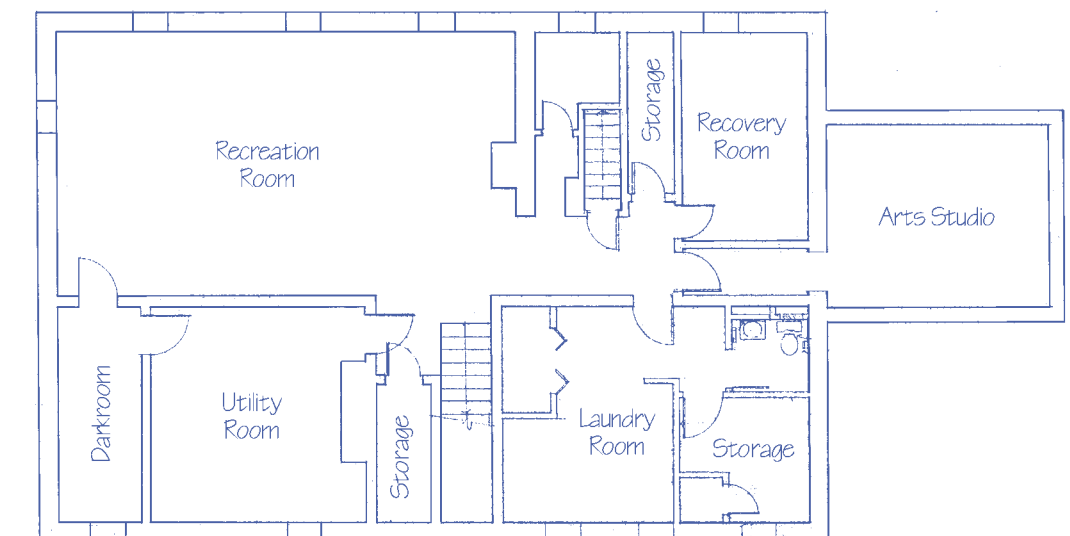
### Third Floor:

#### What We Did:

Replaced existing carpeting, ceiling panels, heating, electrical and phone system, painted walls, replaced windows, replaced flooring and installed wiring for a youth computer lab.

#### What We Need:

A clothing closet with fairly new, clean clothes: coats, hats, mittens, shoes, and undergarments. A computer and resource center for the youth with donated computers/printers, software, internet and computer instruction. In addition, we need to provide the youth with volunteers to assist in preparation college applications/financial aid and scholarship information as well as job training, role-modeling, interviews with youth and assistance in filling out job applications. Finally, in the counseling center, we need to provide youth with qualified psychological assessments, one-to-one and group counseling.



### Basement:

#### What We Did:

Replaced windows, floors, ceiling and wall panels, replaced furnace, water heater, purchased/installed three washers and dryers, replaced existing heating, and electrical systems and installed a new phone system with additional lines.

#### What We Need:

Recreational spaces as well as having adequate paid and volunteer staff to supervise activities for youth including: arts and crafts area, photography end dark room, recovery room for "twelve step" programs, exercise equipment, ping-pong and pool tables, and sound and light system.



You are cordially invited to attend open house.

Sunday, October 19, 1997, 1 - 4pm

at Project Foundation North  
1708 Oak Park Avenue North, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Food and Refreshments will be provided.

For directions and to R.S.V.P., please call April Couillard, 612/522-1690

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