



We are helping youth who transition out of the foster care system to get their first apartments. Aged out youth often have very little income, no credit, and no rental history. Getting an apartment on their own at age 18 is difficult at best. Teens who age out of foster care might stay in unhealthy or dangerous situations in order to avoid being homeless. Providing safe, stable, supportive housing will be a significant first step towards helping aged out youth achieve their goals and transition into adulthood.

We have a parcel in Muskegon that is zoned for multifamily residential purposes. It is walking distance from both the community college and the tech school in Muskegon and it is also near a busy commercial area and bus route. The location is ideal as it provides so many opportunities for employment and education, with or without the youth having their own transportation.

We have built the first duplex containing 2 apartments. We will build as many as 7 duplexes, accommodating up to 14 youth who have transitioned or are transitioning out of foster care.

The apartments will be located on the same property together with a support family who will live next door. The support family will be available to help with things that parents would often provide to their young adult children. This will include things like having a place to go for holidays, help with budgeting, school and employment advice and support, as well as providing the oversight role of property manager. We believe this is the best of both worlds for youth who crave their own space and independence but still also need support and connection.

After 2 years in the program, youth will have:

- \$2400 available toward first and last month rent (\$1800 program fees) and security deposit (\$600) at their next apartment (besides your own savings)
- Furnishings they can take with them (bed, couch, table, dishes, pans)
- Rental history and utility payments to help build their rental and credit history to be eligible to rent a new apartment
- A budget that supports paying a rent payment and being self sufficient