



Commitment to our
youth and their
journey



Commitment to the
values that unite our
community



Commitment to
making an impact and
inspiring change



**Covenant
House**
Florida

NEW FACILITY SERVING HOMELESS YOUTH 18-24 OPENS DOORS IN CENTRAL FLORIDA

Orlando, FL – On Thursday, February 29, 2024, Covenant House Florida will open their doors at 12:00 p.m. EST for Leap to the Future—Ribbon Cutting in their new Orlando facility located on 711 N. Magnolia Avenue.

"I am energized by the endless opportunities that are in front of us to continue our mission to serve unhoused and under-resourced youth," says Reneé Trincanella, CEO of Covenant House Florida. "In the last year alone, we realized a critical need to serve youth in this area. Of those who came into our care, 67% had mental health challenges and 43% were survivors of domestic violence."

"We wanted to be closer to where the young people are and in a location that was more accessible to those that needed to use public transportation to reach us," points out Caren Olson, CHF Director of Program Services in Orlando. "In order to grow, we needed to make some tough decisions and decided that we had to focus on what we do best and, in order to do that, we needed a space that would reflect our new direction."

The new Orlando facility will have a drop-in center where youth can have a safe place to rest, have a meal, take a shower, change into clean clothes, do laundry, and access safe storage for their belongings. Staff will also help youth with housing assessment, job search, educational support, life skills, access to food pantry and more additional support in working towards their goals.

The ribbon cutting will be a great opportunity for community members to meet staff and volunteers and learn about all the programs and services that will enable CHF to serve more young people.

According to Olson, any young person between ages 18 and 24 who is unhoused or without stable housing is welcome. They do not need anything to take advantage of CHF services.

"And that's just a quick sampling of what we have to offer youth," assures Olson. "We hope you will come to the ribbon cutting and learn more about the full scope of our programs and services."

"We moved our mission and programs here with the intention to deepen relationships within our community," says Trincanella. "We aim to bring awareness to issues of homelessness, join partners together who share the mindset of addressing social determinants of health, prevent recurring incidents of homelessness, and ultimately end youth homelessness."

About Covenant House Florida

Covenant House Florida, with shelters in Fort Lauderdale and Orlando, serves young people experiencing homelessness up to age 24 by providing emergency shelter, counseling, case management, therapy, health services,

Covenant House Florida is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization EIN 59-2323607

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www.covenanthousefl.org



family reunification, substance abuse treatment, pregnancy prevention, teen parenting education, job readiness training, transportation assistance, transitional housing and education.

To learn about Covenant House Florida Orlando's programs and services, contact Caren Olson, Director of Program Services (407) 748-1481, colson@covenanthousefl.org or visit the agency's website at www.covenanthousefl.org