

# Suitable Living Environment

## *The Door - Emergency Youth Shelter*

### State of Alaska

## Project Profile

### SNAPSHOT

**Activity Type** – Public Facilities

**Beneficiaries** – Homeless youth in Alaska

**Project Total** – \$1,090,722

**CDBG Funds** – \$847,000

**Leverage** – 1:0.29

**Key Result** – A new shelter facility for homeless youth

**Words of Advice** – Select a small team that can make quick decisions!

**More Information** –

<http://www.fairbanksyouthadvocates.org/emergency-youth-shelter/>



Exterior and interior images of the completed Shelter.

### PLACE

With a population of approximately 32,000, Fairbanks, Alaska is the largest city in the states' interior region, and the third-largest city overall. Despite its size, Fairbanks still faces the issue of youth homelessness every year.

### PEOPLE

Youth come to The Door, a 24/7 youth homeless shelter operated by Fairbanks Youth Advocates, from all over Alaska for a variety of reasons. Influencing factors include family dynamics, mental health issues, substance abuse, neglect, and abuse.

### PROJECT

The Door provides homeless, near homeless, and other marginalized youth a safe place to sleep, home cooked meals, clothing, supplies, and connections to community resources to help youth find stability. For many years, Fairbanks lacked a suitable homeless youth shelter. Construction for the new facility began in 2012, and in April of 2014 the shelter opened with the capacity to house 11 youth. Over the course of that same year, 71 different youth sought shelter at the Door. Today, the facility has been authorized to house 12 youth.

### PARTNERS

Volunteers serve alongside paid staff to assist in maintaining the shelter's multiple services and programs. In addition to CDBG funding, donations from the community allow for staff to provide for the youths' immediate needs.

**Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)**

*Serving Low- and Moderate-Income Persons and Neighborhoods in the U.S.*

