



2024-2025 Grant Finalist Summary

YWCA of Palm Beach County – Rapid Re-Housing Program

Impact Focus Area: Family

The Organization:

YWCA of Palm Beach County has been in operation for 107 years, facilitating programs to empower women of all ages and races, assisting low-income families, and vulnerable populations with emergency housing, rapid rehousing and supportive services. As part of a national organization, YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world. We are best known for our domestic violence services providing safety and security for domestic abuse survivors and their children.

The Program:

YWCA Rapid Re-Housing Program (RRH) provides up to 12 consecutive months of tenant-based rental assistance for domestic violence survivors and those facing homelessness. Using a stepdown system, participants share in rental and utility costs as well as security deposits not exceeding 2 months of rent. The duration of assistance is designed to be temporary, providing support until housing is sustained independently. The maximum period to receive assistance often ranges from several months to a year during which time participants will work closely with a Housing Case Manager (HCM) and Economic Empowerment Advocate (EEA) to secure stable housing and build self-sufficiency. The core components of RRH are to help people find housing quickly, help pay for housing and connect families and individuals to services and resolve issues that may threaten housing stability, including conflicts with landlords. The program partners with dedicated landlords and local affordable housing initiatives who understand the population and adhere to RRH program guidelines. YWCA received \$1.8 million in HUD funding for this program but needs to raise a 25% match to receive funds.

How will this program impact Palm Beach County?

RRH is an important component of our community's response to homelessness. A fundamental goal of rapid rehousing is to reduce the amount of time a person is homeless and to provide rent and move-in assistance to help with the costs associated with getting into housing. The amount and duration of this assistance varies, but at a minimum, it is offered for at least 12 months and is sufficient to help participants secure a place to live. RRH helps to end homelessness for women, children, and families and households by finding landlords and apartments in 30 days or less, help pay for housing short-term and/or longer-term and then connect participants to jobs and services increasing their ability to remain housed after completing the program.

Measurable Outcomes:

100% of families will be placed in safe, affordable permanent housing.

70% of families will remain housed for at least 12 months.

75% of families will maintain and/or increase their knowledge in financial literacy and budgeting and will learn key strategies for maintaining self-sufficiency and independence.

How will Impact Palm Beaches grant be used?

\$100,000 will be used to provide permanent housing through rent payments, utility payments and move-in costs for domestic abuse survivors, seniors, veterans, the chronic homeless, and the general homeless population at large.